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Boston University
CLASS OF 1985  The 135-member first-year class at BUSM includes 41 women, 94 men, 18 members of minority groups and 41 members of the Six-Year Program, according to the BUSM Office of Admissions. The 135 were selected from among 6,300 persons who completed applications.

Thirteen Modular Medical Integrated Curriculum (MMEDIC) students are in their first year at BUSM. These students, chosen for the program after having completed two undergraduate years, received early instruction in the basic medical sciences, integrated with undergraduate science studies. This curriculum permits them to pursue various electives, including some clinical experiences, as early as the first year of medical school.

An additional four students have entered the M.D.-Ph.D. program, administered jointly by the School of Medicine and the Division of Medical and Dental Sciences of the Graduate School. This program is designed to enable students to earn both degrees in five to seven years of study. There currently are 14 students participating in this program.

THREE NEW FACULTY MEMBERS  Three biochemists have joined the School of Medicine's Division of Psychiatry faculty and the Department of Behavioral Sciences, according to Lyle Miller, Ph.D., chairman of the Department. They are Nicholas Catsimpoolas, Ph.D., a research professor of psychiatry (biochemistry) and a professor of biochemistry; Louis J. Traficante, Ph.D., an associate research professor of psychiatry (biochemistry); and Ann L. Griffith, Ph.D., an assistant research professor of psychiatry (biochemistry).

With the addition of these new scientists, Miller said, the Department's research and clinical capabilities will be greatly expanded. They will concentrate their efforts in several major areas, especially in the biochemistry of neuropeptides. The researchers will investigate neuropeptide production, degradation of neuropeptides, and the implications for behavior and psychopathology. Neuropeptides, Miller noted, are "the wave of the future in understanding how the nervous system works."

Before joining the BUSM faculty, Catsimpoolas held faculty positions at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and at Loyola University School of Medicine in Chicago. He also was head of the Protein Research Laboratory of the Central Soya Company in Chicago. A native of Greece, Catsimpoolas
received his Ph.D. degree in biochemistry at the University of Tennessee Medical Units in Memphis. He is the author of more than 130 scientific publications, the editor of 11 books, and is on the editorial boards of Separation Science and Technology and Electrophoresis. He also is editor-in-chief of Cell Biophysics, and is a member of several scientific organizations. He has chaired four international conferences.

For the last five years Traficante has been associated with the Neuropsychopharmacology Research Unit of the Department of Psychiatry at New York University Medical Center and Bellevue Psychiatric Hospital. He has supervised and worked closely with psychiatrists on a variety of problems relating to biochemical mechanisms underlying psychiatric disorders. Traficante also has been the primary investigator in studies on therapeutic drug monitoring and clinical response for several psychiatric drugs, and has investigated methods of influencing nonresponder metabolic pathways in vivo. He received his Ph.D. degree in biochemistry from Rutgers University.

Griffith, who has spent the last seven years at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Biophysics Laboratory, has pioneered developments in cell separation techniques. Her areas of expertise also include protein biochemistry with special emphasis on analytical and preparative separation methods. She received her predoctoral and postdoctoral training at the University of Illinois Medical Center, where she received a Ph.D. in neurosciences. She has received three travel awards to attend biochemistry and biophysics meetings abroad, and has been a speaker at two international conferences. She is the author of nearly 50 publications and three book chapters, and is the managing editor of Cell Biophysics.

ARThRITIS RESEARCH BOOSTED BY $1.8 MILLION IN GRANTS The Multipurpose Arthritis Center and the Arthritis Clinical Research Center, both under the direction of Alan S. Cohen, M.D., recently received three grants totaling approximately $1.8 million.

The first is a three-year competitive $1.5 million renewal award, one of the major grants in the nation awarded by the National Institutes of Health. This award will substantially increase the Center's resources and program development, according to Cohen, the Conrad Wesselhoeft Professor of Medicine.

The NIH also awarded a $317,250 Institutional National Research Service grant for a continuing program to train young physicians and scientists as academic investigators in rheumatology.

The Arthritis Center also has been awarded $25,000 by the National Arthritis Foundation for the third year of a three-year grant to help support ongoing research activities on the causes of arthritis, methods to alleviate pain, and arthritis health-care research. The grant also helps support education and training. The Arthritis Center is one of approximately 45 Clinical Research Centers of the National Arthritis Foundation in the nation.

OMA RECEIVES FUNDING FOR STUDENT PROGRAM The School's Office of Minority Affairs this month received a grant of $125,000 from the Health Resources Opportunity Programs for the
first year of a three-year program. The award will help support recruiting and retention of minority students to the School of Medicine, and will help fund individual student tutoring and National Board Review sessions. After the first year, the Office will submit a continuation proposal for funds for the additional two years of the program.

ASSEMBLY, ANNUAL DINNER
HIGHLIGHT ORIENTATION

Discussions on career choices in medicine, primary care medicine, as well as the Alumni Association's annual orientation reception and dinner highlighted orientation activities Aug. 31 to Sept. 2 at the School. Medical Center Director Richard H. Elgdahl, M.D., Dean Sandson, and William F. McNary Jr., Ph.D., associate dean for student affairs, and Spencer Frankl, D.D.S., dean of the Goldman School of Graduate Dentistry, were among the BUMC administrators who addressed incoming medical, dental and graduate students at the traditional welcoming assembly in Bakst Auditorium Aug. 31. Associate Dean John McCahan, M.D., presented a brief review of the BUSM curriculum.

Other orientation activities included informal meetings with faculty advisors and presentations by BUSM and GSGD student representatives.

ALUMNI ASSOC. AND SCOMSA
TO SPONSOR AWARDS CEREMONY

The School's Alumni Association and the Student Committee on Medical School Affairs (SCOMSA) are cosponsors of the 1981 Awards Ceremony for Students and Faculty, to be held Thursday, Oct. 29, at 4:30 p.m. in Bakst Auditorium. A reception in Hiebert Lounge will follow the ceremony.

William F. McNary Jr., Ph.D., associate dean for student affairs, will preside over the program, which is open to all BUSM faculty, students and friends of the School of Medicine. Three prizes to outstanding students will be presented, and three additional awards, established by the Class of 1954 as part of their 25th Reunion Gift to the School, also will be presented.

If you plan to attend the event, please call the BUSM Alumni Office at x6046 (247-6046) by Oct. 23.

BLOEM AND MELTZER JOIN
BUMC HEADQUARTERS STAFF

Medical Center Director Richard H. Elgdahl, M.D., recently made two new appointments to the Medical Center headquarters staff. Kenneth D. Bloem, formerly associate administrator of the Lahey Clinic Medical Center, was appointed assistant director of BUMC, and Neil M. Meltzer, who was previously administrative resident at the Lahey Clinic Foundation, was appointed assistant to the director.

ANNAS, GLANTZ CO-AUTHOR BOOK
ON HEALTH PROVIDERS' RIGHTS

George J. Annas, J.D., M.P.H., an associate professor of law and medicine at BUSM and chief of the Health Law Section at the School of Public Health, and Leonard H. Glantz, J.D., an assistant professor of health law at BUSM and associate director of the SPH, are co-authors of The Rights of Doctors, Nurses and Allied Health Professionals, the most recent
addition to the American Civil Liberties Union Handbook Series.

The book, recently published in hardcover by Ballinger Publishing Co., and in paperback by Avon Books, is written in a comprehensive, question-answer format that includes information about such topics as licensing requirements for health professionals, regulations regarding human experimentation and research, emergency medical care, patient confidentiality, and the rights of the dying patient. Also featured in the handbook is current information on physician advertising and compensation, a sample copy and discussion of the "Living Will," and a glossary of commonly-used legal terms.

Barbara F. Katz, J.D., associate counsel to the University of Massachusetts Medical Center, also is a co-author of the book. Annas, a nationally-recognized authority on medical ethics, wrote The Rights of Hospital Patients, published in 1975 by E.P. Dutton.

TWO CME COURSES Several BUSM faculty members will participate in two continuing medical education courses to be held in October. David Segal, M.D., an associate professor of orthopedic surgery, is course director of "The Fourth Annual Course on Fracture Treatment and Functional Bracing," to be held Oct. 23 to 24 at the Marriott Hotel in Newton. Ten additional faculty members also will take part in the program, which will feature discussions on the physiology of bone healing, the complications of functional bracing, and a videotape presentation of functional brace application.

N. Paul Rosman, M.D., a professor of pediatrics and neurology, is course director of "Learning Disabilities--A Life-Time Disorder," to be held Oct. 31 at the Copley Plaza Hotel. Faculty members from Tufts University, Harvard Medical School and the University of Utah College of Medicine will join BUSM faculty members in this program, which offers discussions on learning problems in intellectually-gifted children and genetic factors in learning disabilities.

For further information or to register for these courses, contact the BUSM Department of Continuing Medical Education at x5602 (247-5602).

STEAD AND BEESON FEATURED IN FIRST WATERHOUSE PROGRAM A film on Eugene A. Stead Jr., M.D., and Paul B. Beeson, M.D., who made important contributions in the areas of infectious diseases, the circulatory system and medical education, will be featured as the year's first Benjamin Waterhouse Medical History Society's "Leaders in American Medicine" program, to be held Wednesday, Oct. 14, at 4:30 p.m. at the Countway Library of Harvard Medical School. Discussants will include Stead, a professor of medicine at Duke University, and Beeson, a professor of medicine at the University of Washington. Both Stead and Beeson are Distinguished Physicians of the Veterans Administration. George Thorn, M.D., a member of the BUSM Board of Visitors and the Hersey Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physics at Harvard Medical School, also will participate in the discussion. The program will be preceded by refreshments served at 4 p.m.

The "Leaders in American Medicine" series is funded by a grant from the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation, administered by the Boston Medical Library.

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Influenza and pneumonia immunizations are now available at the Employee Health Service for all BUMC employees, according to Constance C. Cornog, M.D., director of the Health Service and an assistant professor of socio-medical sciences and community medicine at BUSM. The influenza immunizations will be free, but there will be a $5 charge for the pneumonia immunizations. Employees receiving Medicaid will be covered for the pneumonia immunization.

While encouraging all employees to receive the immunizations, Cornog noted that individuals with cardiac problems, diabetes or chronic health problems run a higher risk of infection and should make a special effort to be immunized. She also recommended that employees over the age of 55 receive the pneumonia immunization. Employees who are hypersensitive to eggs should not receive the influenza immunization, Cornog said. Employees should refer questions about possible reactions to the immunization to the doctor or nurse before receiving the immunization.

As the air traffic controllers strike continues, national and regional news media remain focused on the air traffic controller study conducted at the Medical Center over a five-year period. C. David Jenkins, Ph.D., director of the Department of Behavioral Epidemiology and a principal investigator of the study, appeared on WQTV-Channel 68's "Boston Live" show on Aug. 26, and on WSBK-TV, Channel 38's "Tom Larson Show" on Aug. 27. Jenkins also is the subject of a three-page article in the Aug. 31 issue of People magazine, and he has participated in a number of area radio shows concerning the strike.

Paul H. Black, M.D., and Joseph J. Vitale, M.D., have recently participated in the Medical Center's Health Journal segment on WRKO's "Morning Magazine" program. Black, director of the School's Hubert H. Humphrey Cancer Research Center, discussed topics related to cancer, and Vitale, associate dean for international health and a professor of pathology and of socio-medical sciences and community medicine, talked about nutrition. Both segments aired earlier this month.

A free concert under the direction of Murray Lefkowitz, Ph.D., a professor of music at the University, will be held Oct. 23 at 8 p.m. at the University's Marsh Chapel, 735 Commonwealth avenue. The concert, one of the School of Music's "Early Music" series, will feature the William Lawes Consort of Viols, harpsichordist Mark Kroll and guest artists. It is being presented in conjunction with the New England Renaissance Conference.

Richard S. Neiman, M.D., an associate professor of pathology and director of the Hematopathology Laboratory at the Mallory Institute of Pathology, has recently returned from a four-week visit to the Republic of South Africa, where he was the guest speaker of the South African Society of Pathologists....John E.
Madias, M.D., an associate professor of medicine, is the author of "Holtez monitor electrocardiography in the management of patients with ischemic heart disease," which appeared in a recent issue of Primary Cardiology. Research studies completed by James R. Sorenson, Ph.D., an associate professor of socio-medical sciences and community medicine, were quoted extensively in "Predicting Risk is Not Enough," an article on genetics counseling, which was featured in the August issue of Sexual Medicine Today. Philippe B. Bricout, M.D., an assistant professor of radiology (radiation medicine), is the co-author of an article entitled "Importance of Myelography in Early Diagnosis of Spinal Epidural Disease" which appeared in a recent issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association. Albert Politoff, M.D., an associate professor of physiology, recently was on WUNR-AM radio. He discussed Huntington's disease and the "Center Without Walls," a joint program of University Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital created last year for the study of the disease.

NEWS & NOTES is a regular monthly publication of the Office of Informational Services. If you have news of interest to the School of Medicine community, call editor Susan Saperstein, x5606 (247-5606), or write to her at the Office of Informational Services, P-600 (720 Harrison Avenue, Boston, MA 02118). Marge Dwyer is managing editor.

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