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From the Director's Desk

Congratulations to those of you who have been accepted into law school, graduate school, and medical school. Among the places some of you will be heading off to next year: Harvard Law School, UT Law School, Baylor Law School, SMU Law School, Virginia Medical School, Southwestern Medical School, Baylor Medical School, UT Galveston MD PhD. Program, Baylor Dental School, Yale University Graduate School, MIT Graduate School, Princeton Graduate School, and more. Wow.

Just as impressive: two CVers have been invited to participate in Teach for America.

And the accolades continue:

- 1) Fourteen students, including many CVers were selected to participate in the Archer Internship Program next year from UTD.
- 2) UTD nominated 4 students to be Goldwater Scholars in the STEMS fields. We just learned that two were winners (Abi Raj and Truc Do) and one was awarded Honorable Mention (Elizabeth Hanacik).
- 3) Saskia Versteeg was awarded a Udall Scholarship for the second year in a row.
- 4) Angie Johnston was awarded a National Science Foundation Scholarship in Psychology.
- 5) Allison Beatty was awarded a Critical Language Initiative Scholarship from the State Department for studying Mandarin this summer.

Senior thesis/project presentations will be delivered throughout April in the lounge. We will post a schedule in the lounge.

Under the auspices of the National Merit Scholars Program in the Honors College, we are planning a series of breakfasts and lunches in the fall with faculty. These will be small gatherings (under 10 people), aiming to bring faculty and students together to discuss research and career opportunities.

In the fall, we also are planning to purchase tickets for selected cultural events such as the opera and the symphony for CV students.

Be sure to update your honors records with Valerie before leaving for the summer.

Cheers...Dr. H





From Valerie

Web Registration

All students should check their enrollment appointment details in Orion for the date and time they can begin registering.

CV Registration

Summer registration = April 2

Fall registration = April 9

CV BBQ

Sunday, April 15

Senior Poster presentations

Fridays (April 6, 13, 20, 27):

Noon - CV Lounge

Mondays (April 9, 16, 23, 30):

4:00 pm - CV Lounge

*"I'd like to invite
anyone who would
like to do longer
term academic
planning to stop
by for a talk"
- Dr. Dow*

From Doctor Dow

Our scholarship season is coming to a close, and we are waiting to hear back from the Fulbrights, Goldwaters, and Borens. But this is a great time to begin to plan for next year. Lots of the most interesting competitive scholarships have due dates in early to mid- Autumn. I'd like to invite anyone who would like to do longer term academic planning to stop by for a talk. This could include internships, study abroad, scholarships, and preparation for life after UTD.

Just send me an email at dougdown@utdallas.edu.

Printing

1. Every user has a 15 page quota at the beginning of the semester
 2. Once you bring in a ream of paper to Valerie, you will be given a coupon that gives you 500 pages of print credit. You can then click on Details under your print quota, log in, then go to "Redeem Card" to redeem your print card
- If you have already brought in a ream of paper, please see Valerie.
Keep bringing in reams and trading them in for print cards!



Give Me A Reason

Katelyn McWilliams

After the fury of Valentine's Day, I recently remarked to a friend how glad I would be when red and pink disappeared from retail centers and grocery stores. Imagine my dismay when I walked into Wal-Mart the next day to discover hearts and teddy bears supplanted by chocolate eggs, Easter bunnies, and fluffy chicks! After passing the lavishly festooned aisle, I crossly began to think how routine this occurrence had become. Those same shelves had hosted stocking stuffers and Christmas candy just months earlier, and even those products were preceded by cute little Halloween pumpkins and garishly elaborate costumes. This phenomenon, while not surprising, disheartened me. Once a bastion of tradition and celebration, holidays are now commercialized, exploited, and used as a justification to indulge!

Business major Chris McClure accurately described the situation when he said, "It's all the free market. If people are going to allow companies to turn holidays into giant profit orgies by buying all the worthless crap, can we really expect the companies to say no?" It seems as if the holiday-commercialization relationship produces a snowball effect. People want tangible holiday goods, so companies produce. A wealth of available merchandise pressures people to buy. Manufacturers react to this increase in demand by making more worthless holiday junk! The cycle continues indefinitely while the true meaning of celebration has been sucked out of the commemorated occasion.

Do we celebrate Christmas for the birth of Christ, or the presents? Is Easter a celebration of rebirth or a chance to shamelessly consume egg-shaped candy? It seems as if this culture takes refuge in the mere act of celebration, crying "Give me a reason to pamper myself!" no matter the justification. Take, for example, Spring Break. An unknown phenomenon in Eastern cultures, this American tradition sets aside a week for goofing off and indulging. This is not to say I oppose Spring Break; by that point in the semester, students *definitely* need a respite from academia! However, most view this recovery week not as a chance to recuperate but as an opportunity to go wild. Most students return from Spring Break more exhausted than when they left!

As if that weren't enough, here at UTD we take our atmosphere of revelry to the next level with yearly Springapalooza. Defined as the "Spring Break After Party," Springapalooza invites students to additionally indulge after a week of goofing off. Granted, I enjoy frozen yogurt and blackjack as much as the next person, but do we need the additional distraction? It's hard enough to recommit after Spring Break; how are students supposed to get serious again when presented with additional opportunities to indulge? It seems as if this culture can no longer celebrate a special occasion without blowing their revelry way out of proportion!

"Once a bastion of tradition and celebration, holidays are now commercialized, exploited, and used as a justification to indulge!"

Edited by: Kelsey Drake

What CV Needs Next

Waqas Haque

When I was applying to the Collegium V program last year as a senior in high school, I was both skeptical and intrigued by the program. Most universities that I was applying to had honor programs for a specific discipline or major, but not for the general student body.

With my freshmen year almost complete, I can say that this program does a tremendous job of furthering the general education of its members. The CV classes that I've taken have opened me up to many themes of life I had never before considered.

And even for the rest of the CV student body, the program hooks us up with networking opportunities, social events, and life-changing classes. But I think it will take new types of initiative to make CV an even more precious program in the future.

First, the Collegium V program should introduce research-based opportunities to students. I understand that we as students should be zealous enough to email professors we would like to research for, whether that's in the natural or social sciences. But it would be such a relief for many of us if CV gave us an opportunity to immediately get started with research. An intensive class that introduced CV students to various research methodologies would be great. An opportunity exclusively for CV students to research with a certain professor would attract lots of applications. My friends down at UT Austin are part of the Freshmen Research Initiative, which lets over six hundred undergrads perform publishable research in mini-teams.

Secondly, CV needs to cater more to pre-health students. Look, I know that we've got an HPAC program meant to act as a catch-all for our future doctors. But their role is primarily to advise students. It's akin to the game of chess, where you have the mind that can think of the clever move, but still need the hand to move those pieces. Let's get the CV program to act as that piece-mover by emphasizing service and shadowing. Considering how many NS &M and BBS students we have (based on 2010 data) in the CV program, you can tell how much benefit this would provide.

School	Students
Arts and Humanities	25
School of Management	22
Interdisciplinary Studies	6
Natural Sciences and Math	150
Brain and Behavioral Sciences	45
Engineering and Computer Science	100
Economic, Political and Policy Sciences	32
Undeclared	10

Although I don't know exactly how the logistics would work out, here's a plan:

- In terms of shadowing, get somebody higher up in the UT Dallas hierarchy to get in contact with clinics, hospitals, and other health-related institutions to create shadowing programs. Compile the number of doctors who are willing to take shadows, how many are willing to take multiple shadows, and setup an application for CV students to start shadowing. Austin College, a school known primarily for its pre-medical program, already does something very similar.
- In terms of volunteer opportunities, find major events in the community that could use a

"Let's get the CV program to act as that piece-mover by emphasizing service and shadowing"

What CV Needs Next

Waqas Haque

score, or should I say, “meteor” shower, of free labor units. The main reason why these standalone volunteer projects don’t get volunteers is because they are one-time events; they need some resume incentive for a student. Let’s setup a “Collegium V Service Program” that hooks up students with a bunch of these events. Make the requirements somewhat stringent (30 hours minimum per semester), and have students sign an agreement that they will go through with this program for an x number of semesters.

And there you go. Every pre-med in Collegium V will be able to talk about their research ventures and hundreds of hours of volunteering. This would boost medical school acceptance rates for Comets to an all-time high.

All in all, UT Dallas is a university on a rapid rise to Tier 1 status. Whether you like it or not, the success of our entire undergraduate program will hinge a lot on what kinds of leaps Collegium V makes over the upcoming years. It will be this type of ambition that turns our Comets into shooting star.

***“This would
boost medical
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all-time high”***

Edited by: Anandini Rao

A Camaraderie Conundrum

Mikaela McMurtry

I love my CV-ers. I love spending time in the Lounge, surrounded by individuals who are so different from me—people who can stand blood and are preparing to sweat it in med school to save lives, people who can not only expound on Wounded Knee but on every wounded knee sustained in the Napoleonic wars, people who know nearly as much mathematics as Archimedes—and yet, as varied as our foci have been, we are all united by passion, potential, and perhaps a little bit of luck. We are CV-ers.

There is a certain camaraderie that inherently accompanies being part of this group, as with any group, because people delight in sharing something. In my UNIV 1010 class, one sassy half of our adored comic duo quipped that he was glad we weren't with "the regulars"—to which we all laughed, half serious and half not. Herein lies the conundrum: were we right to laugh? By defining a set of outsiders, we deepened group solidarity, satisfying Objective 1.2 of the class. But we also were categorizing people as "not one of us"—and that's never good, right?

According to the theory of social identification, classification is a necessary part of understanding our world; it's important for us to be able to classify guard versus inmate when we visit the penitentiary, for example. Yet it's also a vital part of our sense of self because people aren't just what they are; they are their agency. We get to choose. This means that giving a name tells one nothing about me; I have to identify myself as an optimist, a writer, a CV-er.

Next step: admit that as you were reading the above, you, too, were assessing, judging, categorizing. Am I an ally, someone to further the noble cause of "truth, justice, and the American way"¹...or am I someone who just doesn't understand?

This attitude is carried on by all groups, everywhere and always. Administrators perk up when they learn that a student has the distinction of Honors College, just like the members of that college do. Athletes perk up when they learn that a fella isn't totally apathetic to their sport. Humanitarians and Haters all love their own kind.

It's a very rational process—or rather an instinctive process that has a good rationale. But still, what do we do when we face our own facts? We could agree: We were chosen for a reason, and experience and prejudice tells me that they would not be good classmates. We could disagree: That quip is factually and politically incorrect, because not everyone has the same opportunity and we can't judge them for external identifications. Or...we could laugh. We could laugh because it's both discerning and absurd. We could laugh because we do love our CV-ers, but we don't hate those who aren't. We could laugh because the truth is much too nuanced to bandy in a sound bite. Lastly, we could laugh because we are grateful to be who we are, where we are: diverse pieces united by passion, potential, and a little bit of luck.

¹ Superman, *Action Comics*

Edited by: Kinsey Cline

"We could laugh
because we do
love our CV-ers,
but we don't
hate those who
aren't"

So You're Interested In Medicine?

Husan Mogri

Which CV course combines the history of diseases, doctors, and treatments? Which CV course analyzes doctor-patient relationships, medical decision-making, and the progress of medical science? Answer: the CV Honors Readings in Medicine, Politics, and Philosophy. This one credit hour course was first taught last semester by Dr. Harpham, and is being taught again this semester. CV students can enroll in such one credit hour courses three times to fulfill one CV course requirement. Taking the class is a great way to manage your schedule because we meet for only 50 minutes in the week. We read from a selection of books and come to class to discuss and analyze what we read. What we learn has many practical applications. Sometimes we read stories of patients with common diseases, and we learn how these patients and their doctors deal with the challenges that they face, challenges we might face as well. Other times we read about medicine on a larger scale with books that analyze medical discoveries and the changing roles of doctors in our society.

Last year we began by reading about the history of medicine. We read about early doctors such as healer priests who used their spiritual powers to ward off disease and ensure fertility. We read about the Hippocratic era, in which religious rites were discredited and substituted with a model of disease based on four humours: blood, yellow bile, black bile, and phlegm. As we read on, we learned about the great number of years it took before such traditional theories were replaced and challenged with newer ones. Not until the beginning of medical dissections, did scientists really begin to discover the inner mechanical workings of the body. Even still, the trade of the surgeon was surprisingly looked on as mediocre, one that would be practiced by quacks gifted with dexterity and barbers who owned the necessary tools.

The twentieth century brought many advances to medical science. The doctor's profession gained reputation, and the preparation for a medical career gained sophistication. However, doctors also began to move away from the Hippocratic ideals of good bedside manners, with the doctor-patient relationship becoming less intimate.

This semester we are exploring mid-seventeenth century epidemics of cholera and childbed fever. Currently we are reading the book [Your Medical Mind](#) by Jerome Groopman and Pamela Hartzband. The book focuses on the different approaches patients take in making medical choices that change their lives. If you had prostate cancer, would you trust your doctor and undergo open surgery? Or would you choose radiation therapy? How do the statistics and possible negative outcomes affect your decision making? Questions like these pull you into the discussions in this class. This course gives one fresh perspectives on disease, medical science, and the experiences of patients and doctors. If the books that I have mentioned so far interest you, do not hesitate to enroll in the course in the future.

Questions? Email me at husain.mogri@utdallas.edu

"If you had prostate cancer, would you trust your doctor and undergo open surgery?"

-Edited by: Mikaela McMurtry

APRIL 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6 Poster presentations	7
8	9 Poster presentations	10	11	12	13 Poster presentations	14
15 CV BBQ	16 Poster presentations	17	18	19	20 Poster presentations	21
22 Earth Day	23 Poster presentations	24	25	26	27 Poster presentations	28
29	30 Poster presentations					

April 2- CV registration for summer classes

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Special Thanks To:

Dr. Harpham

Dr. Dow

Valerie Brunell

Dr. Scotch

Dr. Champagne

Collegium V: Learning That Never Sleeps



The Collegium V Honors Program at The University of Texas at Dallas was established in 1997 to provide an undergraduate honors experience that extends beyond the classroom. Small classes, innovative instruction, world class faculty, bright and inquisitive colleagues, and an array of extracurricular events offer Collegium V members special opportunities for professional and personal growth at the university.

If you are interested in learning more about Collegium V, please visit our website at cv.utdallas.edu or contact us for an application or to set up a tour.

CV Contact Information

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events@collegiumv.org

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cvadmins@utdallas.edu

CV Lounge Phone

972-883-6605

The CV Lounge (GC 1.202) is located on the 1st floor of the Green Center between the McDermott Library and Green Hall

If you have any questions/comments about the CV newsletter, please email Shravik at sps092020@utdallas.edu.

