

# News from the U

August 2008

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#### Welcome!

We hope that you are all enjoying the summer. Since the last News from the U, we've graduated five students and enrolled six new students. Although we will sincerely miss the graduates, we look forward to working with them as colleagues.

The summer has flown by! The 2nd year students spent

their summers in the Baltimore area and were very busy. Each of the students volunteered at various summer camps for people with genetic disorders, completed their summer rotation, volunteered with DNA day at a summer program and finished their summer elective.

The 2008 Fall semester begins

on Monday August 25, 2008. We are excited to get to know each of the incoming students.

Jessica and I would like to express our sincere thanks to all of you who generously donate your time and energy to the MGC program through volunteering to teach and supervise our students. The success of the MGC program could not be possible without you.

Left: MGC Class of 2008. RoseMarie Keefe, Jodie Martin, Andrea Short, Carolyn Dinsmore and Karen Siklosi.



## Special points of interest:

- 2009 ABCG Certification Exam Application Deadline is October 30, 2008.
- UMD orientation -August 18 - 22
- Classes begin -August 25th
- 27th NSGC AEC -October 24-28

## Clinical Rotations update

Student	Summer 2007	Fall 2007	Spring 2008
Natalie Beck	UMMS Pediatrics	St. Joe's Prenatal	Mercy Prenatal and Cancer
Lauren Doyle	UMMS Prenatal	UMMS Pediatrics	Howard County Prenatal and BWMC Cancer
Jackie Francis	UMMS Pediatrics	Anne Arundel Medical Center Prenatal	UMMS Prenatal and UMMS Cancer
Cathy Griswold	Anne Arundel Medical Center Prenatal and UMMS Cancer	GBMC Prenatal	UMMS Pediatrics
Stephanie Miller	Mercy Prenatal and Cancer	York Prenatal	UMMS Pediatrics

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### Class of 2008



Above: Jodie Martin, Andrea Short, Rose Keefe, Karen Siklosi and Carolyn Dinsmore

We celebrated the precommencement ceremony for the MGC program on Thursday May 15, 2008. We were fortunate to have Joann Boughman, PhD as our keynote speaker. Two of the students are choosing to stay in the Baltimore/Washington area while others are moving across the US and Ireland! Carolyn Dinsmore has joined the faculty at the University of Maryland where she is coordinating the Newborn Screening Program for the State of Maryland. Martin is working at Children's National Medical Center in a new position with the Division of Neurology. Rose Keefe headed west to Las Vegas, Nevada where she will be providing prenatal genetic services to a busy MFM practice. Andrea Short moved to Houston, TX to work as a prenatal genetic counselor with a private genetics group. Lastly, Karen Siklosi was awarded Fulbright Scholarship in Dublin, Ireland. spend the 2008-2009 academic year studying Cystic Fibrosis in the Irish population.

Best wishes to all of our graduates!

#### Class of 2009

The class of 2009 is busy completing their first clinical rotations, volunteering as camp counselors, learning Smith's, and submitting thesis proposals to the IRB. All five students completed the summer course, Advanced Clinical Genetics. Each member of the class of 2009 volunteered to spend a week as an overnight camp counselor for people

with genetic disorders. Stephanie Miller, Cathy Griswold and Natalie Beck were counselors at Camp New Friends, a camp for people with Neurofibroma-Jackie Francis and Lauren Doyle volunteered with the MDA summer camp.

The Class of 2009 is preparing for the fall semester and their second rotations!



Above: Cathy Griswold, Natalie Beck, Lauren Doyle, Jackie Francis and Stephanie Miller.

### New Additions - Class of 2010

We are proud to introduce the newest faces to the UMD Genetic Counseling program. We have accepted six students for the Class of 2010. Laura Hutchins, a graduate of the University of Delaware joins us after working in Boston, MA. Zlatka Kostova, a graduate of the University of Illinois, is from Frederick, Maryland. Johanna Loewenstein, Lyon in France, completed her undergraduate also training at the University of Lastly, Jenn Weiss, a Wisconsin-Madison. She is a graduate from the native of Colorado by way of University of Dela-Washington, DC. Lord, a graduate of Salisbury vania. University joins us from the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Veronique Weinstein com- From left to right: Zlatka pleted her undergraduate Kostova, Jenn Weiss, Laura work at the University of Hutchins, Veronique Weinstein, Johanna

Maryland. Casey ware is from Pennsyl-

Loewenstein and Casev Lord.



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#### Alumni Corner

We will be hosting our Alumni reunion in Los Angeles, CA at the National Society of Genetic Counselors conference on Sunday October 26, 2008. An email will be distributed as the date draws closer. We hope that you will join us!



Above: MGC Class of 2009 with Francis Collins, MD

**Emily Malouf** (Class of 2007) will be presenting her Independent Study Project Work on Core Competencies in Genetic Counseling at the 2008 NSGC AEC.



Nikki Justice (Class of 1999) and her husband David are thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter Allison Nicole

DOB: 5/19/08. She weighed 7 pounds 4 ounces, and was 20 inches at birth.

**Karen Benson** (Class of 2003) is recently engaged to Kevin Paul! Congratulations Karen.

**Kathryn Mosman** (Class of 2003) was invited to serve as a guest lecturer in the School of Nursing at the University of Texas. Her talk, "Genetics in Medicine", introduces the nursing students to important areas in genetics and allows for great discussions!

Aimee Piurek (Class of 2007) gave a talk to the National Breast and Ovarian Cancer Coalition annual meeting in March of 2008 on "Understanding Hereditary Ovarian Cancer." She also had an article published in the 2008 summer edition of The Maryland Family Doctor (official journal of the Maryland Academy of Family Physicians) on Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia Type 2.

Cheryl Pendergrass (Class of 2003) had an article accepted for publication in Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology Titled: "Occurrence of Colorectal Adenomas in Younger Adults: An Epidemiologic Study". She has provided a number of lectures on hereditary cancer syndromes in addition to developing a student rotation experience for genetic counseling students to rotate with the Myriad Genetics Regional Medical Specialists.

**Brad Williams** (Class of 2006) recently purchased a home in Gaithersburg, MD and has a new Labradoodle puppy named Jaeger.

**Amy Jewell** (Class of 2001) along with her husband Grant and daughter Emma happily announce the birth of their son TJ! (below: Emma and TJ Jewell)



Jodie Martin (Class of 2008) together with Miriam Blitzer, PhD presented: A Provider's Symposium on Jewish Genetic Diseases: Diagnosis, Management & Treatment Options



Jessica Scott (*Class of 2005*) was interviewed for the Women's Doctor series on WBAL, the Baltimore NBC affiliate. http://www.wbaltv.com/health/16880141/detail.html

**Cathy Griswold** (*Class of 2009*) participated in DNA Day on the Hill in July!

April Tucker (Class of 2004) and her husband welcomed their son Ethan Matthew Tucker born 8/9/08. He weighed 9 lbs 5 oz and was 22 inches.





Above: Cathy Griswold ('09), Rose Keefe ('08), Jodie Martin ('08), Stephanie Miller ('09) and Natalie Beck ('09) volunteered together at Camp New Friends in July.

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