

1999-2000
OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS AND MEDICAL EDUCATION

The Office of Student Affairs and Medical Education has now completed its first full academic year after the re-organization of the office, which occurred in February, 1999. While continuing to support traditional student activities and maintain the standards of the academic program, the Office initiated a White Coat Ceremony, worked with the Curriculum Committee to increase early clinical experience and improve documentation of clinical skills, and assisted the Student Promotions and Evaluation Committee in defining new policies with regard to clerkship NBME final examinations and clinical skills.

With the retirement of Dr. Ray Fletcher, the Office has also assumed responsibility for Continuing Medical Education.

Activities of the Office of Student Affairs and Medical Education are accomplished through offices in the Medical Sciences Building, Central Services and Administration Building, and Mastin Building.

Student Affairs

Orientation programs were held for entering Freshman on August 16-18, 2000. Sixty-eight students attended two days of structured activities which included introductory talks or presentations from the COM administration, Medical Alumni Association, Biomedical Library, and various student organizations. Events included a course in CPR and a book and instrument sale. Hepatitis B vaccinations were made available to the students during Registration. Orientation events concluded with an optional dinner cruise from Bellingrath Gardens on the Fowl River. This event was very well attended by both Freshman and Sophomore classes and was a great end to orientation activities.

Junior Orientation was held in the Mastin Building on the USAMC Campus on May 7, 2000. Dr. Rettig organized the activities which included advice from faculty and students on how to succeed in the Junior year. Additional presentations were made by staff from Risk Management, Infection Control, and Quality Assurance.

The first annual White Coat Ceremony was held on Sunday, May 6, in the MSB Auditorium. Students and their families were welcomed by Dr. Bennett for the Office of Student Affairs and Medical Education and Dr. Gremse for the Medical Alumni Association. Dr. Robert Kreisberg, who was selected by the class to speak to them at this event, gave a short talk on what it means to be a physician. Following his address, Dr. Ken Rettig and Dr. Hattie Myles presented members of the sophomore class with a white coat and a lapel pin, courtesy of the Arnold P. Gold Foundation for Humanism in Medicine. The formal program was followed by a reception in the College of Medicine Conference Room. The events were well attended and received good reviews from all who came.

Medical student participation in national AMA meetings was supported by providing funds to support travel for two student representatives to the AMA annual and interim meetings in Chicago and San Diego. Two students also received support for attendance at the Organization of Student Representatives meetings at the AAMC annual meeting in Washington DC. One student attended the regional OSR meeting at the Southern Group on Student Affairs meeting in Key West.

The office revised and printed the following publications: Residency Selection Handbook, Student Handbook 2000-2001, Elective Manual and Student Telephone Book.

The Office supports a tutoring program which pays upperclassman and/or graduate students to tutor Freshman and Sophomore students who request assistance. In 1999-2000, four tutors provided 132 hours of tutoring to 15 students in Histology, Gross Anatomy, and Developmental Anatomy.

The number of visiting medical students who participated in Senior elective courses at USACOM in 1999-2000 is outlined below.

	1995-96	1996-1997	1997-1998	1998-1999	1999-2000
Total Visitors	37	41	53	30	17
From LCME Schools	18	13	27	19	14
From Osteopathic Schools	3	4	2	4	3
From Foreign Schools	16	24	24	7	0
Completed Paperwork, but Cancelled Visit					
From LCME Schools	5	5	6	6	3
From Osteopathic Schools	2	2	0	0	1
From Foreign Schools	12	14	12	1	0
Departments in Which Electives Were Taken					
Anesthesiology	3	0	0	0	0
Emergency Medicine	1	0	2	1	0
Family Practice	4	2	8	1	3
Internal Medicine	13	12	23	12	3
Medical Genetics	0	0	0	0	0
Neurology	0	1	0	1	0
Obstetrics/Gynecology	1	1	4	3	2
Ophthalmology	0	1	1	0	0
Orthopedics	3	2	4	4	2
Pathology	0	1	0	1	0
Pediatrics	3	5	12	5	0
Psychiatry	1	0	0	0	0
Radiology	7	6	5	6	3
Surgery	6	24	32	9	5

Months Electives Taken

	1996-97		1997-98		1998-99		1999-00	
	American	Foreign	American	Foreign	American	Foreign	American	Foreign
January	1	1	1	3	1	0	3	0
February	2	1	2	5	0	0	0	0
March	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0
April	0	1	4	7	0	0	0	0
May	1	0	0	5	1	0	0	0
June	0	2	2	7	3	7	1	0
July	0	8	0	9	2	3	0	0
August	0	11	2	4	2	4	4	0
September	4	7	12	0	7	0	3	0
October	5	3	7	2	5	0	4	0
November	4	1	9	2	6	0	2	0
December	1	1	1	4	2	0	1	0

One student graduated in December 1999 and prepared to enter residency after being deferred in July. Letters of evaluation (Dean's Letters) were written for each of the 58 seniors who graduated in May 2000. Original letters and official transcripts were mailed to 258 residency directors during the months of November through January; 1,251 letters were sent through the AAMC Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS).

All students in the Class of 2000 matched with 85% of the students receiving their first, second, or third choice. Fifty of the May graduates (plus the December graduate) used the NRMP as their primary means of obtaining residency, but other systems such as the Military Match or San Francisco Subspecialty Match were used by eight graduates.

	Number of Graduates	Match Utilized		Initially Failed to Match in NRMP	Choice on NRMP Rank-Order List (Percent of Class Who Matched)			
		NRMP	Non-NRMP		1st	2nd or 3rd	4th or 5th	6th or higher
1996	64	56	8	3	70	24	5	1
1997	65	54	11	7	67	22	6	5
1998	63	56	7	0	75	16	9	0
1999	60	49	10	2	76	14	6	4
2000	59	51	8	3	65	20	2	13

**University of South Alabama Seniors
Residencies Received by Discipline**

	Class of 1996		Class of 1997		Class of 1998		Class of 1999		Class of 2000	
PRIMARY CARE:	47	73%	42	65%	41	65%	33	55%	35	59%
Internal Medicine	26	41%	12	18%	16	25%	12	20%	23	39
Family Medicine	15	23%	22	34%	12	19%	9	15%	7	12
Pediatrics	4	6%	7	11%	8	13%	8	13%	4	7
Med/Peds	2	3%	1	2%	5	8%	4	7%	1	2
Anesthesiology	2		3		1		2		2	
Dermatology	0		0		0		1		1	
Emergency Medicine	2		2		0		1		4	
Neurological Surgery	0		0		1		0		0	
Neurology	0		0		0		0		1	
Ob/Gyn	4		5		5		5		4	
Ophthalmology	1		1		2		3		1	
Orthopedics	0		0		3		0		1	
Otolaryngology (ENT)	0		1		0		1		0	
Pathology	2		4		0		3		0	
Psychiatry	4		0		1		0		1	
Radiology	2		1		2		2		3	
Surgery	0		5		6		5		4	
Transitional	0		0		0		0		2	
Urology	0		1		0		3		0	

**University of South Alabama Seniors
Residencies Received by State**

	Alabama		USA Hospitals (Mobile)	Out-of-State		Number of Different States
1996	34	53%	25	30	47%	15
1997	31	48%	18	34	52%	13
1998	22	35%	13	41	65%	19
1999	22	37%	12	37	63%	17
2000	27	46%	16	32	54%	14

Fifty-eight seniors received the degree Doctor of Medicine at Commencement on May 6, 2000. Earlier that day, the College held its twenty-fifth Honors Convocation, which took place for the first time in the Mitchell Center. Dr. Charles Rodning addressed the class and Steven Werdehoff responded for the graduates. Prior to hooding the graduates, the following awards were presented:

Dean's Award	Ginger K. Bryant Karl T. Hagler
American Medical Women's Association Glasgow Memorial Award	Ginger K. Bryant
Outstanding Student in the Anatomical Sciences	Ginger K. Bryant
The Lewis D. Anderson Medical Student Achievement Award	Ginger K. Bryant
Honors Award in Biochemistry	Ginger K. Bryant Christopher J. Frailie
John W. Donald Memorial Award in Surgery	Christopher J. Frailie
Obstetrics/Gynecology Award	Christopher J. Frailie
Medical Assurance Award	Christopher J. Frailie
Medical Alumni Leadership Award	Lisa H. Free
Family Practice and Community Medicine Student Award	Lisa H. Free
Humanism in Medicine Award	Lisa H. Free
Pathology Award	Jennifer L. Adcock
American Medical Women's Association Scholarship Achievement Citation	Noël M. Bergquist Jennifer L. Adcock
Neurology Award	Noël M. Bergquist
Merck Award	Brian N. Mathews Melanie B. Nicholls
Samuel Eichold Award	Brian N. Mathews
SNMA Leadership Award	Shameza L. Boyd

Eugene D. Bondurant Award	Lori A. Lowthert
Merck Award in Ophthalmology	James W. Loveless
Community Service Award	Meredith B. Loveless
Pharmacology Achievement Award	Steven G. Werdehoff
Hollis J. Wiseman Award for Excellence in Pediatrics	Patrick L. Bosarge, Jr.
Charles W. Urschel Achievement Award in Physiology	Christopher B. Cave John L. Hunter, III Aron S. McGuirt
Excellence in Emergency Medicine Award	John M. Croushorn
Lange Award	Robert L. Henderson, Jr.

**1999-00
Grades Assigned**

	A	B	C	D	F	GPA
Freshman Courses						
Developmental Anatomy	17	36	8	2	0	3.08
Gross Anatomy	12	36	12	2	2	2.84
Histology	5	42	11	4	1	2.73
Neuroanatomy	21	33	8	1	1	3.13
Biochemistry	13	36	9	4	1	2.89
Physiology	11	37	15	0	0	2.94
Physical Diagnosis	57	5	0	0	0	3.92
Sophomore Courses						
Microbiology	28	22	6	0	0	3.39
Pathology	32	18	6	1	0	3.42
Pharmacology	31	21	3	0	0	3.51
Behavioral Sciences	51	5	0	0	0	3.91
Genetics	35	18	3	0	0	3.57
Introd. Clinical Med.	41	15	0	0	0	3.73
Junior Clerkships						
Family Practice	45	20	0	0	0	3.69
Medicine	46	19	0	0	0	3.71
Obstetrics/Gynecology	39	15	4	1	6	3.23
Pediatrics	19	37	9	2	0	3.09
Psychiatry	51	12	1	0	2	3.67
Surgery	24	38	5	0	0	3.28

Academic Progress of Medical Students
Source: Part II of LCME Annual Medical School Questionnaire

	Classes Which Graduated In:				
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Initial Students in Class	72	68	66	64	60
Graduates	65	65	63	59	58
True Attrition (will not receive M.D. in any year)	7	3	1	2	1

	Academic Year				
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Dismissed					
Freshmen	0	0	1	1	1
Sophomores	0	0	0	0	0
Juniors	0	0	0	1	0
Placed on Leaves of Absence (LOA)					
Freshmen	3	1	1	0	3
Sophomores	0	0	1	1	1
Juniors	2	1	2	8	4
Transferred to Another Medical School	0	0	0	2	0
Withdrew	1	5	0	1	2
Admitted with Advanced Standing or Re-entered from Graduate School	0	2	2	2	0
Deceased	0	0	1	0	0
Repeated All or Part of the Year	11	6	7	2	4
Enrolled on a Decelerated Schedule	0	0	0	0	0

Minority Students (Black, Native American, Hispanic)					
Total	25	25	25	49	49
Freshmen	7	8	5	13	14
All Other Classes	18	17	20	36	35

**United States Medical Licensure Examination (USMLE) Step 1
June Administration***

	1996	1997	1998	1999**
Number of Students	63	62	63	66
National Overall Mean	210	213	215	215
USACOM Overall Mean	205	211	217	216
Failure Rate - National	7%	7%	5%	77%
Failures at USA	6%(4)	2%(1)	8%(5)	5%(3)
Anatomy				
Gross & Embryology	195(-4)	202(+1)	207(+3)	
Histology & Cell Biology	199(0)	205 (+5)	209(+7)	
Physiology	208(-4)	211(-2)	216(+1)	
Biochemistry	206(+1)	209(+1)	210(+3)	
Pathology	214(-3)	219(-1)	225(+2)	
Microbiology & Immunology	213(-1)	212(-1)	217(+1)	
Pharmacology	206(-4)	210(-1)	216(+1)	
Behavioral Sciences	196(-9)	200(-10)	211(-1)	

*Those who took the exam for the first time

Discipline scores illustrate points above and below the national mean in parentheses

Minimum passing score = 176 (179 beginning June, 1998)

Standard Deviation approximately 20

**Discipline scores are no longer provided.

**United States Medical Licensure Exam (USMLE) Step 2
August Administration***

	Class of				
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Number of Students	62	66	62	59	58
National Overall Mean	202	207	209	209	
USACOM Overall Mean	200	201	209	202	218
Percentile Rank^{xxx}	49	48	55	43	
Health & Health Maintenance	200 (-2)	202 (-2)	N/A		
Understanding Mechanisms of Disease	202 (-1)	201 (-4)	209 (+3)		
Diagnosis	200 (-3)	202 (-6)	208 (-1)		
Principles of Management	196 (-1)	199 (-4)	204 (+1)		
Medicine	200 (-1)	201 (-6)	208 (-1)		
Ob/Gyn	200 (+4)	203 (+2)	214 (+9)		
Pediatrics	201 (-2)	202 (-3)	212 (+8)		
Prev. Med. & Pub. Health	203 (-3)	203 (-6)	212 (+8)		
Psychiatry	205 (-2)	201 (-11)	204 (-5)		
Surgery	198 (-1)	198 (-5)	204 (-1)		
Failure Rate - National	6%	5%	5%		5%
Failures at USA	8% (5)	8% (5)	3% (2)		10% (6)

* Those who took the exam for the first time

^{xxx}Compared with first-time takers from recent administrations

Points above and below national mean in parentheses

Minimum passing score = 170 (167 for Class of 1996)

Standard deviation = 20 (22 beginning with Class of 1997)

United States Medical Licensure Examination (USMLE) Step 3

	Class of 1994	Class of 1995	Class of 1996	Class of 1997	Class of 1998
National Percentage Passing	95	95	96	96	NA
USA Percentage Passing	98	98	92	100	100
USA Number of Students	63	57	63	58*	60**

*58/60 students have taken Step 3 as of 8/99.

**60/62 students have taken Step 3 as of 8/00.

Evaluation of Student Performance in the First Postgraduate Year*

The questionnaire adopted by the Curriculum Committee in 1990-91 for assessment of graduates of the College of Medicine was sent to the Directors of the PGY-1 programs of our 1999 graduates. A total of 51 responses was received out of 58 requests. Below is a summary of the responses to the four major areas that were assessed. Note that according to the results of the most recent questionnaire, about 60% of our graduates were felt to be functioning in the top fifth and upper middle fifth of their PGY-1 groups.

	Class of 1996	Class of 1997	Class of 1998	Class of 1999
Medical Knowledge				
Top Fifth	18%	23%	16%	29.75%
Upper Middle Fifth	44%	37%	39%	30.5%
Middle Fifth	34%	30%	33%	25.75%
Lower Middle Fifth	4%	9%	10%	12%
Bottom Fifth	0%	1%	2%	2%
Data Collection Recording Skills				
Top Fifth	17%	25%	23%	32%
Upper Middle Fifth	61%	49%	47%	28.5%
Middle Fifth	22%	25%	23%	26.5%
Lower Middle Fifth	0%	1%	3%	6.5%
Bottom Fifth	0%	0%	0%	2%
Unable to evaluate	0%	0%	4%	2%

Clinical Judgement and Skills				
Top Fifth	16%	33%	25%	37%
Upper Middle Fifth	54%	16%	41%	25%
Middle Fifth	29%	42%	28%	28%
Lower Middle Fifth	1%	9%	3%	7%
Bottom Fifth	0%	0%	0%	1%
Unable to evaluate	0%	0%	3%	
Professional Attitudes				
Top Fifth	31%	32%	37%	53%
Upper Middle Fifth	49%	39%	37%	23%
Middle Fifth	19%	25%	18%	15%
Lower Middle Fifth	1%	3%	8%	4%
Bottom Fifth	0%	1%	0%	4%

*Evaluated by Residency Program Director and/or Faculty

Curriculum Committee

The 1999-2000 Curriculum Committee was chaired by Dr. Mike Culpepper. The first activity of the academic year was a Curriculum Retreat, sponsored by the Committee and held at the Brookley Conference Center. The Retreat was attended by 43 participants representing 16 departments, the Biomedical Library, the College of Medicine Administration, and the Student Body. Topics which were discussed at the retreat included Computers in the Curriculum (including use of the AAMC Curriculum Management and Information Tool (CurrMIT)), Clinical Correlations in Basic Science Courses, Assessment of Clinical Skills, and increasing clinical exposure in pre-clinical years by development of a Longitudinal Clinical Experience. The retreat also included a workshop for course and clerkship directors on development of objectives.

During the 1999-2000 academic year, the Curriculum Committee concentrated on three initiatives which arose from the retreat. There were (1) the development of a list of clinical skills in which our students should demonstrate competence before graduation and a method to document evaluation of these skills; (2) a review of the clinical content which is present in the basic science courses taught during the first two years and the methods used in its presentation; and (3) the development of a longitudinal clinical experience which could be incorporated into the first two years and potentially extended into the remainder of medical school.

The Committee appointed a subcommittee chaired by members from Internal Medicine and Family Practice to (1) develop a list of core clinical skills in which students should become proficient during their third year of medical school; and (2) devise a method of tracking the students' progress in acquiring these skills. After considerable deliberation, the subcommittee developed a comprehensive list encompassing the areas of patient communication and interaction, patient history, performance of a physical examination, performance of specified procedures, interpretation of diagnostic tests, analytical and presentation skills, and documentation in the medical record. After this list was approved by the full committee, the subcommittee consulted with clerkship directors as to which of these skills would be used on each rotation and developed a list of general skills that would apply to all specialties. The clerkship-specific and general skills were then printed on color-coded cards that are given to the students at the start of each rotation. The students are responsible for identifying a person at the appropriate supervisory level to sign off on each skill before the end of the clerkship (or the year for the general skills card). The clerkship director signs the card at the end of the clerkship and the information is entered into a database. The Director of Student Records periodically reviews and consolidates this information and each student's individual completed database is placed in his/her file.

The Clinical Correlation subcommittee was chaired by representatives from the Departments of Medicine and Physiology. The subcommittee found that the definition of a "clinical correlation" varied widely among departments but all courses have made some attempt at incorporating the clinical use of basic science principles into their instructional time. The subcommittee noted that increasing demands of clinical productivity make it harder to identify clinicians to be responsible for these activities. The suggestion was made that when course directors contact physicians for correlations they emphasize that the purpose of the correlation is not so much to impart knowledge of clinical medicine but to reinforce the basic science concepts that are under discussion in the class at that time.

The subcommittee responsible for the development of the Longitudinal Clinical Experience was chaired by representatives from the Departments of Family Practice and Surgery. This project underwent considerable evolution over the course of the year. Initially, the committee proposed a separate course which would run through all four years. The version of the proposal which is currently under implementation is the incorporation of the longitudinal experience in a community preceptor's office into a redesigned Introduction to Clinical Medicine course. This course will begin in January of the first year and continue through May of the second year with community preceptor visits occurring every 3-4 weeks initially and eventually every other week. The course will be implemented in stages as the 2000-2001 freshman class progresses through the curriculum.

Other activities of the Curriculum Committee for this year included:

1. Review and approval of objectives submitted by basic science and clinical clerkship course directors.
2. Review of evaluations of basic science courses and clinical clerkships submitted by the course directors for the 1998-1999 academic year.
3. Review of evaluation of 1998 graduates of the COM submitted by program directors during the graduates' first year of residency.
4. Approval of the transfer of the Behavioral Science course from the Department of Psychiatry to the Department of Family Practice with ongoing review of the plans for implementation.
5. Development of the second annual Curriculum Retreat - topics include (a) update on topics from last year's retreat; (b) residents as teachers of medical students; (c) appropriate treatment in medicine and the development of a standard of conduct in the teacher-learner relationship. Dr. Robert Eaglen, from AAMC, will give a lunchtime presentation on Assessment and Quality Control in Medical Education. After lunch, Dr. Brenda Litchfield, from the College of Education, will give a workshop on Motivating the Adult Learner.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF STUDENT ASSEMBLY

1. Following a vote of the senior class, the Student Assembly presented plaques to the best faculty/courses and updated the permanent plaques located in 1005 MSB and in the USAMC Biomedical Library:

Best Preclinical Course:	Pathology
Best Preclinical Instructor:	Susan Ledoux, Ph.D.
Best Clerkship:	Internal Medicine
Best Clinical Instructor:	Michael Sternberg, M.D.
Best 4th Year Rotation:	Emergency Medicine

2. The Assembly voted to hold annual rather than semi-annual meetings with the clerkship director, clinical chairs, and Drs. Rettig and Bennett. These meetings were held in the spring of 2000 and provided a forum for discussion of suggestions and concerns regarding the clerkships. The Assembly voted to support the extension of this type of meeting to involve basic science course directors and chairs after the completion of their courses. These meetings were initiated in spring of 2000 and resulted in several positive changes in course structure for the next academic year.
3. The Committee initiated a review of the Student Body Constitution for the first time in ten years. Several amendments were made regarding how the Student Assembly keeps records and clarifying election procedures. The amendments were approved by vote of the Student Body in Spring, 2000.
4. Dr. Michael Sternberg replaced Dr. Walter Pofahl as the Clinical Science Faculty Advisor to the Student Assembly.
5. The Committee passed a resolution expressing concern about the nature of pop quizzes in the Histology course. The President of the Assembly met with Dr. Goodman concerning this issue and his response is filed in the Student Assembly Record of Action.
6. The Assembly worked with the Alumni Association to provide a refrigerator, microwave, and lockers in the student call rooms at Children's and Women's Hospital.
7. Kirkland Stein from Alabama Administrators, presented the new proposal for student health insurance coverage for 2000-2001. Only Blue Cross submitted a proposal and the quoted rates represented an increase of 35% over 1999-2000. This increase was said to be due to the high rate of use with BC/BS expenditures of about \$300,000 more than income. The Committee voted to approve some minor modification in benefits to try and bring costs down. These included an increase in drug co-pay, especially when generics are available and not used, and an increase in outpatient hospital co-pay.

8. The Committee was also involved with the following additional projects or areas of concern;
- a. Moving Honors Convocation from Wright Auditorium to the Mitchell Center
 - b. Developing the first White Coat Ceremony for sophomore students
 - c. Provision of funds in support of an Orientation party for Freshman
 - d. Development of a library at Children's and Women's Hospital
 - e. Obtaining an additional student call room at Children's and Women's Hospital
 - f. Clarification of holidays for third-year students
 - g. Donation to the Baugh Biomedical Library in memory of Dr. Baugh
 - h. Ongoing review of Review of Systems and Skit Night activities

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID

	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00
Total Financial Aid	\$ 4,267,812	\$4,887,723	\$4,454,365	\$4,654,669	\$ 5,012,708
Students on Aid	231	237	239	240	243
Loans					
Perkins	355,788	143,691	130,771	128,017	431,900
Health Professions Loan	58,566	122,550	38,000	58,240	123,081
Stafford Loan	1,633,139	1,712,476	1,640,560	1,703,052	1,719,656
Graduate Unsubsidized	1,337,804	1,778,045	1,672,519	1,730,705	1,822,449
Alternative Loan Program	116,607	417,797	311,264	396,775	313,392
Loans to Disadvantaged Students	22,222	550	3,979	4,409	0
Outside Private Loans	57,848	77,209	37,718	70,951	31,589
Total Loans	\$ 3,360,476	\$4,282,318	\$3,869,811	\$4,092,149	\$ 4,442,067
Scholarships					
University Sponsored	264,432	304,902	279,568	294,050	295,050
Outside Sponsored	114,169	130,634	97,926	86,120	49,696
Military - Army	19,374	30,423	22,916	15,241	7,669
Military - Navy	19,400	30,543	33,341	30,649	38,513
Alabama Medical Board Scholarship	75,000	30,000	35,000	40,000	45,000
Military - Air Force	45,343	45,728	38,253	15,261	15,360
Total Scholarships	\$ 462,718	\$ 542,230	\$ 472,003	\$474, 321	\$ 451,288
Grants					
Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students	12,879	2,630	6,846	4,915	35,515
Exceptional Financial Need	36,327	36,327	62,733	54,410	55,892
Disadvantaged Health Professions	23,914	24,218	42,972	21,874	27,946
Total Grants	\$ 73,120	\$ 63,175	\$ 112,551	\$ 81,199	\$ 119,353
Average Indebtedness of a Graduating Senior					
	\$ 52,959	\$ 61,729	\$ 55,701	\$ 58,636	\$ 62,500

An Emergency Loan Fund is available to medical students. Loans of up to \$500 may be obtained by students through a fund administered by the Office of Student Affairs and Medical Education for a period of up to 60 days for the purpose of alleviating an unanticipated financial need. There is no interest charged. During the period August 1, 1999, through July 31, 2000, 74 emergency loans were approved for a total amount of \$37,000. During that period, 50 payments totalling \$25,000 were paid back into the loan account.

OFFICE OF SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Biomedical Enrichment and Recruitment Program (BEAR):

Phase I:

The summer of 2000 marked the completion of the fifteenth year for the BEAR program. There were a total of 47 applications submitted for the 2000 program. Seven (7) students entered into Phase I of the BEAR program.

The students selected for Phase I of the program represented the following schools:

Alabama A & M	1
Auburn	1
Delta State	1
Florida A & M	2
Jackson State	1
Xavier	1

and are residents of the states of Alabama (5), and Mississippi (2). Five (5) of the students are female and two (2) are male, and all are of African American descent. The grade point averages of the students who entered the program ranged from 3.21 to 4.0. Their ACT score range was 21-26. To date, a total of 158 students have entered the BEAR program.

Phase II:

Fourteen (14) of the fourteen (14) students who participated in Phase I of the program during the summer of 1999 were successful and were promoted into Phase II.

The students in Phase II represented the following schools:

Alabama A & M	3
Auburn	1
Florida A & M	1
Grambling	1
Stillman	2
Tuskegee	1
UAB	2
University of Alabama	1
University of South Alabama	1
Xavier	1

Phase II students who participated, were residents of the following states: Alabama(9), Florida (1), Georgia (1), Louisiana (1), Ohio (1) and Texas (1). Ten (10) of the fourteen students in Phase II were successful and are expected to matriculate into the USA College of Medicine in 2001.

In August 1999, seven (7) minority freshmen entered the College of Medicine; all of them entered through the BEAR program. There were two (2) 2000 minority graduates; both were former BEAR program participants. In the fall of 2000, six (6) BEAR students are scheduled to matriculate into the freshmen COM class from the original 1998 BEAR cohort of thirteen (13), plus one (1) student who deferred in 1999 for a total of seven (7) students. One (1) student from the original 1998 BEAR group deferred until 2001.

Minority High School Student Research Apprenticeship Program:

Of the students who entered the BEAR program in 2000, one is a former High School Research Apprentice. She is a graduate of LeFlore High School in Mobile, Alabama.

Office of Medical Alumni Affairs

The 1999-2000 Board of Directors for the Medical Alumni Association consisted of nine Mobile physicians. Dr. David A. Gremse served as President with the following doctors: Dr. Oscar Almeida, Dr. Damian Collins, Dr. Gregory Cotter, Dr. Lisa Habb, Dr. Russell Hudgens, Dr. Robert Percy, Dr. David Ross, and Dr. Kathleen Webster. Twenty-five classes have graduated 1,496 alumni (this number includes 15 deceased).

All alumni projects and activities are funded by two sources: the Dues Program and the Annual Fund. The 1999-2000 Dues Program generated \$19,130 (dues remained \$10 for PGI alumni, \$25 for general membership, and \$500 for lifetime). The Annual Fund reached the goal of \$50,000, with 33 percent of the membership participating.

Scholarship development continues to be the focus for the association. In celebration of the upcoming silver anniversary of the Class of 1976, twenty-five freshman scholarships will be awarded for the Academic Year 2000-2001, along with support to the Sid Huggins Family Practice Scholarship and the Christian Grinaker Memorial Award.

For the fiscal year 1999-2000, the following projects, purchases, or donations were made by the Alumni Association: A new photo system for alumni class pictures was completed for the MSB lobby, a donation to freshman orientation, a donation to the Charles Baugh Biomedical Library (NEJM and JAMA), rental of pagers for student use, a donation to the Student Medical Alliance, a scanner for the transcription club, a donation to the MSAMA, a donation to AMWA, and travel support to a national meeting, individual class donations, a donation to the Caduceus Ball, donations to the Review of Systems Annual and Skit Night, purchase of anatomical models for student use in community education, Dean's Breakfast with the freshman class, senior mini-diplomas, a Mobile Chapter Meeting for alumni and former USAMC residents, two receptions with UAB for the Annual State Medical Meeting and the Alabama Chapter for Family Physicians. Completing the projects for this fiscal year will be new lockers for the pediatric and OB/GYN student call rooms at CWH and a new television for the student lounge.

The Annual Alumni Weekend was held in June at the Perdido Beach Resort celebrating reunions for the Classes of 1980, 1985, 1990, and 1995. Participation was excellent with the weekend providing four CME hours. Three of our alumni: Dr. Johnson Haynes '80, Dr. John Gottsch '80, and Dr. Oscar Almeida '85, participated in the programs. Dr. Aubrey Taylor was the recipient of the Alumni Distinguished Service Award.

A detailed list of specialities and general information is available by request.

OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS

Applicant Pool and Acceptance Data

The period for receiving applications to the College of Medicine for the class entering August 21, 2000, opened June 1, 1999, and closed November 15, 1999. It is important to note that the College of Medicine is a participant in the Association of American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS).

During the above period of time, 829 applications were received. Three hundred eighty-eight (388) applications were received from residents of Alabama, 426 from other United States Citizens, and 15 from citizens of a foreign country. The Admissions Committee interviewed a total of 195 applicants (187 residents) and accepted 125 (122 residents) to fill a class of 64 (60 residents). Out of 11 black applicants who were offered acceptance, 7 matriculated (4 resident); 7 are BEAR students. This year, our records show a decrease in the total applicant pool over the previous year (829 in '00 vs. 996 in '99), and a slight decrease in the number of Alabama applications (388 in '00 vs. 426 in '99). (Table I)

The 1999 entering class has an exceptional "mix" of academically well-qualified students who graduated from 25 different colleges and universities. However, 56% of this year's class is made up of students from the four (4) largest universities in the state (Table II).

Recruitment and Retention Efforts

1. Undergraduate campus recruiting visits and sophomore interviews were implemented by "teams" of faculty, administration, and medical students. The USACOM recruiting teams counseled over 700 premedical students at 15 colleges and universities.
2. The Director of Admissions served as the admissions counselor and advised prospective students on a daily basis. In addition, selected faculty members advised prospective applicants periodically.
3. Premedical visitation day programs were organized and conducted quarterly to provide prospective applicants with an opportunity to tour the College of Medicine facilities, learn about the application process, meet with medical students and faculty, and obtain information on financial aid, housing, and the community.
4. Informative health career related programs were organized and conducted upon request for high school students, community organizations, and premedical special interest groups.

5. The following publications were produced and distributed by the Office of Admissions:

The Admissions Policies and Procedure Manual
The College of Medicine Bulletin

6. Special admissions reports and correspondence were produced and distributed monthly to in-state premedical advisors and selected out-of-state advisors.
7. A total of 15 Applicant Interview Day programs were conducted from September until early March. The interviewers, primarily College of Medicine basic science and clinical faculty, serve as members of the Committee on Admissions and/or ad hoc committee. These members interviewed 195 candidates; each interviewee was interviewed by three committee members, giving a total of 585 interviews.
8. The following Admissions Committee subcommittees were active in 1999-2000:

Alternate List Subcommittee
Early Acceptance Program Subcommittee
Scholarship Subcommittee

Early Acceptance Program

In 1990, the College of Medicine and the University's Health Preprofessions Program established an Early Acceptance Program (EAP) for qualified high school graduates interested in a career in medicine. Candidates selected for this program must have a minimum high school GPA of 3.5 and an ACT score of 28 (or comparable SAT). Candidates selected for this program receive early acceptances from the University of South Alabama and the University of South Alabama College of Medicine. The students enter the Health Preprofessions Program at the University of South Alabama, and their curriculum include the core requirements for their selected baccalaureate program and prerequisites for entering medical school. Students in this program must maintain a specific GPA during college, and are required to meet all other requirements for entering medical school. Students participate in a variety of activities selected to provide a broad exposure to medical education. Students are expected to enter the College of Medicine following completion of the baccalaureate degree.

In 2000, the EAP Subcommittee interviewed 37 applicants for the program and offered 15 acceptances.

TABLE I
University of South Alabama College of Medicine
Admissions Report

	1997	1998	1999	2000
	1241	1128	996	829
Total Applicants				
Residence:	493	474	426	388
Alabama	669	601	502	381
Out-of-State	62	31	42	45
Service Areas (FL & MS)	17	22	13	15
Foreign	470	444	416	373
Female	91	86	101	82
Alabama Rural	152	148	103	100
Black	237	222	210	195
Total Applicants Interviewed				
Residence:	225	212	200	187
Alabama	10	4	6	8
Out-of-State	2	4	4	2
Service Areas (FL & MS)	0	2	2	0
Foreign	93	92	99	87
Female	39	40	32	32
Rural	12	11	3	6
Black (excludes BEARs)	112	112	106	125
Total Applicants Accepted				
Residence:				
Alabama	98	103	96	117
Out-of-State	12	4	4	7
Service Areas (FL & MS)	2	3	4	1
Foreign	0	2	2	0
Female	49	45	60	57
Rural	19	20	20	22
TOTAL BLACK	8	12	11	11
BLACK REGULAR	5	7	3	4
BEAR Program	3	5	8	7
Early Decision Program	14	11	19	10
Total Matriculants	65*	65*	64	64
Average MCAT	30	30	29	29
Average GPA	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.6
Residence:				
Alabama	58	62	59	60
Out-of-State	5	2	1	4
Service Areas (FL & MS)	2	1	4	0
Foreign	0	0	0	0
Female	26	24	38	25
Rural	11	12	9	10
Total Black	3	6	8	7
Black Regular Admissions	0	1	1	0
Black BEAR Program	3	5	7	7

* Includes one Advanced Standing Student

TABLE II

**Distribution of Class Entering 2000
Among Twenty-five (25) Colleges and Universities**

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>
Alabama A&M University	1
Alabama, University of	8
Alabama at Birmingham, University of	7
Alabama at Huntsville, University of	2
Alcorn State University	1
Auburn University	11
Berry College	1
Birmingham Southern College	2
California at Berkley, University of	1
Georgia, University of	1
Jackson State University	2
Emory University	1
Judson College	1
Louisiana State University	1
Mississippi State University	2
Montevallo, University of	2
North Alabama, University of	1
Rhodes College	1
Samford University	1
South Alabama, University of	10
Springhill College	1
Texas A&M University	1
Tulane University	3
Vanderbilt University	1
Xavier University	1

Total = 64

OFFICE OF GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

Dr. Jeff Brandon, Vice Chair of Radiology and Chair of the GME Committee, has been appointed Assistant Dean for GME with responsibility for the Office of Graduate Medical Education. This Office oversees GME activities, policies, and procedures throughout the USA Hospitals and Clinics. During the 1999-2000 academic year, USA sponsored 10 residency programs, one combined residency program, and five medical subspecialty programs, comprised of over 200 residents and fellows.

All USA programs are currently fully accredited. One program underwent a routine site visit by its Residency Review Committees (RRC) of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). The report from this site visit is still pending.

The Graduate Medical Education Committee conducted an internal review (required by the ACGME half-way through the accreditation period) on eight programs, and received progress reports from two others. Internal review committees are composed of a chair, a faculty member from another specialty, a hospital administrator, a resident, and the coordinator for GME. This process allows for a program to address, prior to the time of the RRC Site Visit, any deficiencies noted by the internal review, and additionally forces self-review by the program.

A format for affiliation agreements for non-hospital resident experiences was developed and approved. While not required by the ACGME for private physicians, it is necessary for Medicare GME reimbursement.

An *ad hoc* subcommittee was formed to study the development of a Core Curriculum to address the residents' education in general competencies rather than having this accomplished by each program. In this connection, an Internal Medicine noon conference was used for a presentation from the Medical Association of the State of Alabama (MASA) to the residents utilizing the teleconferencing capabilities for those residents at other sites.

The *Housestaff Policy and Procedure Manual*, as well as the Resident's Contract of Appointment, were updated to comply with new ACGME Institutional Requirements.

Sections of the Institutional Review Document were presented when time allowed for approval by the Committee. This is in preparation for the Institutional Review by the ACGME scheduled for late 2001.

SUMMER RESEARCH PROGRAM FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS

The Twenty-Seventh Annual Medical Student Research Day was held on Friday, August 11, 2000. Fourteen first and second year medical students spent approximately ten weeks during the summer working on research projects with basic science and clinical faculty in the College of Medicine. The program aims to bridge the relation between scientific discoveries and their application in clinical medicine.

Dr. James Yankaskas, Professor of Medicine in the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at the University of North Carolina, was the keynote speaker. Dr. Yankaskas's research interests involve the pathogenesis and treatment of Cystic Fibrosis and the development of pharmacological, surgical, and gene therapy approaches for the treatment of Cystic Fibrosis. His seminar was entitled "*Cystic Fibrosis: Clinical Advances from Sagacious Research.*"

Dr. David Gremse chaired the Student Research Advisory Committee. Other committee members included: Drs. David Dean, Richard Honkanen, Steven Goodman, Randall Powell, Samuel Strada, and Mary Townsley. Administrative support for the program was provided by Ms. Dusty D. Layton, of the Office of the Senior Associate Dean.

Culmination of the summer's work was the presentation of four oral and ten poster presentations on Student Research Day. Student presentations and their faculty sponsors were as follows:

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

"Characterization of Serine/Threonine Protein Phosphatases Associated With Fostriecin Mediated Protection to Ischemic Cardiac Tissue." **Beth Miller**, sophomore medical student. Sponsored by Richard Honkanen, Ph.D., Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

"Investigation of Ectopeptidase Expression in Epithelial Cell Lines." **Alicia Logue**, sophomore medical student. Sponsored by Jane Funkhouser, Ph.D., Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

"CD⁴⁺ T Helper Cells and Specific Cytokines in Lung I/R Injury." **William Bradley Shirah**, freshman medical student. Sponsored by Aubrey Taylor, Ph.D., Department of Physiology. (Recipient of Clyde G. Huggins Medical Student Research Award, best oral presentation)

"Profiling Heart Failure in Aged Squirrel Monkeys." **John Watford**, sophomore medical student. Sponsored by Alan Brady, DVM, Department of Comparative Medicine, and Clara Massey, M.D., Department of Medicine.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

"Clearance of Albumin Solution From Piglet Lungs Using Perfluorocarbon Liquid Ventilation." **Tasha Barnett**, freshman medical student. Sponsored by James Parker, Ph.D., Department of Physiology.

"Identification of Genes of Human Lung Epithelial Cells Regulated by Respiratory Syncytial Virus Infection." **Naghma Khan**, sophomore medical student. Sponsored by Sailen Barik, Ph.D., Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. (Recipient of Clyde G. Huggins Medical Student Research Award, best poster presentation)

"Use of Non-Viral Gene Transfer to Alter Vascular Contractile Function in Mesenteric Arteries." **Travis Rutland**, sophomore medical student. Sponsored by Joseph Benoit, Ph.D., Department of Physiology.

"Comparison of Miralax to Lactulose for Treatment of Chronic Constipation in Children." **Alysia Crutchfield**, sophomore medical student. Sponsored by David Gremse, M.D., Department of Pediatrics.

"Pulmonary Barotrauma: A Murine Model." **James Welden, III**, sophomore medical student. Sponsored by Mark N. Gillespie, Ph.D., Department of Pharmacology.

"Immunofluorescence Localization of Iron Transport Proteins." **Matt Barber**, sophomore medical student. Sponsored by Marcel Conrad, M.D., and Jay Umbreit, M.D., Ph.D., Department of Medicine.

"Isolation of Endothelial Cells From Canine Lung: A New Application of Cytodex Beads." **Deborah Weiss**, sophomore medical student. Sponsored by Mary Townsley, Ph.D., Department of Physiology.

"The Use of the Yeast One-Hybrid System to Isolate γ -Globin Promoter Transcription Factor Altered by Butyrate." **John Burch**, sophomore medical student. Sponsored by Betty Pace, M.D., Department of Cell Biology and Neuroscience.

"The Role of Cholesterol in Amyloidogenesis." **Tina Creekmore**, sophomore medical student. Sponsored by Miguel Pappolla, M.D., Department of Pathology.

"Factors Contributory to Delayed Presentation of Breast Cancer." **Druhan Howell**, sophomore medical student. Sponsored by Donna Lynn Dyess, M.D., Department of Surgery.