

**STATE OF DELAWARE**

**Delaware Health Care Commission**

**Delaware Institute of Medical Education and Research**

**Annual Report**

**January 2009**

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## **Introduction**

On behalf of the Delaware Institute of Medical Education and Research and its volunteer members, I am pleased to submit this Annual Report. It is evident from this report that DIMER has fully embraced its dual purposes of (1) providing educational opportunities for Delaware residents to pursue careers as Doctors of Medicine and Doctors of Osteopathy and (2) helping the state meet its health care needs.

Because Delaware does not have a state-supported medical school, the state through DIMER secures at least 20 admission slots for Delaware residents at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and at least 5 admission slots at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM). DIMER also encourages Delaware residents who attend Jefferson and PCOM to return to Delaware to practice medicine.

DIMER provides Delaware residents admitted to Jefferson Medical College and PCOM with tuition supplements and an opportunity to compete for need based scholarships.

I am pleased to announce that 37 health care clinicians have been successfully recruited to underserved areas of the State as a result of the Delaware State Loan Repayment Program. Under the program, health care professionals are eligible to apply for funds to offset their outstanding medical education debt. In exchange, they must practice for a minimum of two years in an underserved area of the state, as identified by the Delaware Health Care Commission. This program should allow us to identify and eliminate our current provider shortages more quickly, while providing the flexibility we need to stay in step with our provider workforce needs as they change over time.

DIMER is committed to improving health care in Delaware. The members of the DIMER Board of Directors give freely of their time and without hesitation share their knowledge about medical education and the practice of medicine in our state. They are to be commended for their hard work and dedication to our state.

Sherman Townsend, Chair  
DIMER Board of Directors

## **History and Background**

The Delaware General Assembly in 1969 created the Delaware Institute of Medical Education and Research as an alternative to a state medical school. At that time there was a general shortage of physicians throughout the country, and states were moving to address this problem by establishing their own medical schools. In Delaware, however, there was a concern that such an undertaking was not financially feasible. Instead, Delaware created a public/private board to develop legal agreements, organize cooperative arrangements and disburse appropriated State funds to resolve this and other problems relative to medical education in Delaware.

The plan was to reserve seats for Delaware students in a major nearby medical school. At issue was the fact that most medical schools receive financial support from their home state, and in return accept a preponderance of students from that state. As such, Delaware residents were always “out of state” applicants and not given admission preferences usually extended to in-state residents.

The DIMER Board, on behalf of the State of Delaware, in 1970 established an agreement between DIMER, Wilmington Medical Center (now Christiana Care Health Services), the University of Delaware and Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Jefferson Medical College agreed to accept at least 20 Delaware residents each year who met the same academic requirements as other students, resulting in Jefferson functioning as Delaware’s medical school. Premedical programs at the University of Delaware were strengthened to prepare aspiring medical students for medical school admission.

During the early 1990s, the Delaware General Assembly asked DIMER to create incentives to encourage students attending Jefferson through DIMER to return to Delaware to practice primary care medicine. In Fiscal Year 1993, the loan program was converted from a need-based program to one based on service repayment. Under the program, students admitted to the DIMER program who were interested in returning to Delaware to practice primary care medicine applied for funding assistance. The loans were repaid with one year of medical practice in a designated primary care field for each year the funds were accepted.

In 1995, the Delaware General Assembly Joint Sunset Committee asked the Delaware Health Care Commission to conduct the first comprehensive review of DIMER since its creation. The General Assembly asked the Commission to review DIMER’s purpose as it relates to the health care needs of all Delawareans, examine current training and higher education needs, consider ways such needs might be more effectively met and consider DIMER’s activities in light of state needs and priorities.

The Commission, through a Primary Care Committee, conducted the review and in 1996 submitted its findings and recommendations to the Joint Sunset Committee. The report concluded that the original purpose of DIMER as an alternative to a state-sponsored medical school was sound. While some of its original purposes continued to reflect recommended activities for the future, the report noted that others no longer had practical application. The review and recommendations resulted in enactment of Senate Bill 418.

The statute reaffirmed the original purpose of DIMER as an alternative to a state-sponsored medical school and expanded the Board to reflect its statewide responsibilities.

One of the new opportunities presented by the statute was for the new Board to work with the Commission to identify state health care needs and craft programs or make recommendations to address them. The Board also has the authority to develop recruitment programs to attract medical school applications from minorities, residents of rural and under-served areas, and pre-medical students interested in practicing community and rural medicine.

DIMER also was charged with establishing a standing *Committee on Rural Health* to ensure the unique health care needs of rural Delaware are addressed in DIMER activities. The Committee released its first report and recommendations in 1999.

Placing the administration of DIMER in the offices of the Delaware Health Care Commission recognized the similar missions of the two agencies with regard to the state's efforts to meet its health care needs. It also addressed DIMER's need for a state agency "home" and accompanying resources such as staff and funding for supplies.

In 1999, new language in the budget epilogue called on DIMER to enter into discussions with the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM) to allow the school to function as Delaware's school of osteopathic medicine. In 2000, this goal was accomplished. The measure also, for the first time, allocated funds for DIMER to recruit physicians, either medical doctors or doctors of osteopathic medicine. Recruitment tools include loan repayments. The first physicians were recruited to Delaware through the new State Loan Repayment Program in 2001. The program is discussed in more detail on page 9 of this report.

In 2001, the budget epilogue called on DIMER to restructure the grant/loan program in effect since 1993 into either a scholarship program or a loan program with more favorable tax consequences than the previous program. As a result, the former grant/loan program was phased out. A new program was implemented that provides Delaware residents admitted to Jefferson Medical College and PCOM with tuition supplements and an opportunity to compete for need based scholarships.

DIMER occasionally receives private donations. In 2002, it used the donations to provide one-time funding for two new programs: 1) A Summer Research Program to stimulate interest in pursuing a health related career; and 2) A Health Care Workforce Development Scholarship Program to create an incentive for people to re-enter the health care work force or pursue a new career in health care.

Two college students participated in the Summer Research Program and found it to be a rewarding experience. One student researched the effectiveness of the Flex-Guide ET Tube Introducer as an airway adjunct to decrease surgical cricothyroidotomy (surgically placing a hole in the patient's neck). The Associate Chair of Emergency Medicine at Christiana Care Health Services served as her mentor. The second student researched and defined the role of a Cancer Care Concierge. The Senior Vice President of Medical Affairs at Nanticoke Memorial Hospital served as his mentor. The findings were submitted as an article to the Delaware Medical Journal in August 2003.

There was an overwhelming response to the Health Care Workforce Development Scholarship Program. A total of 92 applications for the scholarship were received, clearly demonstrating the need for scholarship assistance for adults to enter health care fields.

A total of 17 scholarships were awarded to 5 males and 12 females; 10 New Castle County residents, 5 Kent County residents, and 2 Sussex County residents. The scholarships were distributed as follows:

- 2 - \$1700 each for radiologic technology at Delaware Technical & Community College
- 1 - \$1700 for a physical therapist assistant at Delaware Technical & Community College
- 1 - \$3600 for nursing at Beebe Nursing School
- 2 - \$3600 each for nursing at Delaware State University
- 1 - \$540 for the nursing refresher course at the University of Delaware
- 10 - \$3600 each for the accelerated nursing degree program at the University of Delaware

## **Delaware Institute of Medical Education and Research 2008 Accomplishments**

While continuing its mission of providing Delaware students an enhanced opportunity to pursue a medical education, DIMER also focused on the broader health care needs of the state.

### Admissions to Jefferson Medical College

Through DIMER, Jefferson Medical College accepted 30 Delaware applicants in its 2008 entering class. Of those, 22 matriculated.

### Admissions to Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

Through DIMER, the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine accepted 7 Delaware applicants in its 2008 entering class. Of those, 4 matriculated.

### DIMER Grant/Loan Program

The final grant/loan recipient completed residency training in 2008 and has been granted a deferment until July 2009 to complete a health policy fellowship.

In 2001, the DIMER Board of Directors evaluated the program in its entirety. The evaluation was in response to a number of concerns, including the potential tax liability of the forgiven loan, the attrition rate and the inability to predict what our health care workforce needs would be at the time the loans were forgiven. As a result, the former grant/loan program was phased out. A new program was implemented that provides Delaware residents admitted to Jefferson Medical College and PCOM with tuition supplements and an opportunity to compete for need based scholarships.

### Need Based Scholarship and Tuition Supplement Program

For the 2008-2009 academic year 72 tuition supplements were awarded to all four classes at Jefferson Medical College. Need-based scholarships were awarded to 13 freshmen, 14 sophomores, 13 juniors and 9 seniors for a total of 49 scholarships.

For the 2008-2009 academic year, 26 tuition supplements were awarded to all four classes at PCOM. Need-based scholarships were awarded to 5 freshmen, 4 sophomores, 3 juniors, and 6 seniors for a total of 18 scholarships.

### DIMER Loan Repayment Program

A State Loan Repayment Program was designed and launched to meet Delaware's more immediate recruitment needs. The program is administered by the Delaware Health Care Commission and DIMER in cooperation with the Delaware Division of Public Health and Delaware Higher Education Commission. Thirty-one physicians, four certified nurse midwives, and three certified nurse practitioners have been successfully placed in underserved areas as a result of the program.

### DIMER Committee on Rural Health

Several of the 1999 recommendations of the DIMER Committee on Rural Health were implemented, including those pertaining to the establishment of a Loan Repayment Program, monitoring Delaware's provider workforce capacity, developing a better understanding of the J-1 visa waiver program for international medical graduates, considering the importance of mental health in meeting the state's provider workforce needs, and continued support of the Downstate Residency Rotation Pilot Project.

### DIMER Dinners

DIMER traditionally holds an annual dinner for Freshmen and Sophomores at Jefferson Medical College to reinforce the relationship of the DIMER program to their attendance at Jefferson Medical College. The dinner is an opportunity to connect with Delawareans attending medical school and remind them of the state's desire that they consider returning to Delaware upon completion of their training. Along with the students, those who attend the dinner include members of the DIMER Board, and officials from Delaware's hospitals.

A second dinner targets Juniors and Seniors and is held in a restaurant off campus with the goal of recruiting them to Delaware for their residency training.

Each dinner is intended to foster conversation between students and hospital representatives about opportunities to enter residency training and practice in Delaware upon graduation. Both dinners are generally well attended, and considered successful by students, Jefferson Medical College, DIMER Board members and hospital representatives.

DIMER plans to continue the tradition of two separate dinners with Jefferson Medical College students.

In 2006 a new tradition began with a dinner with students at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. The dinners have been very well attended and successful. DIMER plans to continue the tradition of an annual dinner with Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine Students.

## **2009 Agenda**

For 2009, the DIMER Board plans the following projects:

Assure that at least 20 students are accepted by Jefferson Medical College.

Assure that at least 5 students are accepted by the Philadelphia School of Osteopathic Medicine.

Administer the Loan Repayment Program to health care professionals to underserved areas.

Monitor the relationship between DIMER students and Medical Scholars students from the University of Delaware who enter Jefferson to assure that an appropriate number of admission slots are available to both Medical Scholars and other Delaware students.

Continue the tuition supplement and need-based scholarship program.

Monitor Delaware's workforce needs to assure current and future DIMER activities reflect Delaware's needs.

Maintain a data bank of DIMER graduates to include their site of residency training and specialty of practice as a tool to assist in recruitment efforts.

## **DIMER Board: Composition**

The DIMER Board includes:

3 University of Delaware representatives, including 1 from the School of Nursing (now College of Health Sciences)

3 Medical Center of Delaware representatives (now Christiana Care Health System)

1 Delaware State University representative

6 representatives appointed by the governor, one from each of the state's three counties, one from the city of Wilmington, and two from medical residency programs other than those operated by the Medical Center of Delaware (now Christiana Care Health System)

1 representative appointed by the Association of Delaware Hospitals (now Delaware Healthcare Association)

1 representative appointed by the Higher Education Commission

1 representative appointed by the Delaware Health Care Commission

1 ex officio member, director, Public Health

## **DIMER Board: Purposes**

The purpose of the DIMER Board is to initiate, encourage and promote:

- The relationship with Jefferson Medical College as Delaware's medical school and ensure the admission of at least 20 Delawareans into Jefferson Medical College annually.
- Expansion of opportunities for Delawareans to receive training in the health and health-related professions when such Delawareans commit to practice in Delaware.
- Incentives for health and health-related professions to practice in Delaware.
- Continued development of a coordinated program of premedical, medical and graduate education among state public institutions, Delaware hospitals and Jefferson Medical College.
- Support of graduate and post-graduate medical and health training programs, with emphasis on those programs designed to meet Delaware's health care needs.
- Education and training programs in health fields and research in health and health-related fields, both basic and applied, including public health education, community health planning and health care costs.

## **ADVANTAGES DIMER PROVIDES TO DELAWAREANS**

DIMER provides a significant opportunity for the most qualified residents of Delaware to gain admission to medical school. The relationship Delaware has with Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA, through DIMER results in Jefferson reserving at least 20 admissions each year for Delaware residents.

Through the DIMER program, the odds of a Delaware resident getting accepted into Jefferson are about one out of three. The odds of someone from another state getting accepted, without a cooperative agreement such as DIMER, are about one in 50.

DIMER also has a relationship with the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, which results in PCOM reserving at least 5 admissions each year for Delaware residents.

DIMER clearly creates a significant educational opportunity for Delaware residents who wish to pursue a medical education. It remains the most economical alternative to Delaware having its own medical school.

Another less visible impact of DIMER on health care in Delaware is the fact that Jefferson Medical College and PCOM are a source of residents for Christiana Care Health Services. About 75% of Christiana Care family practice physicians and 45% of Christiana Care internal medicine residents establish practice within 50 miles of their residency training experience.

## STATE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

The State Loan Repayment Program is administered by the Delaware Health Care Commission and DIMER in cooperation with the Delaware Division of Public Health and Delaware Higher Education Commission.

Upon completion of their education, physicians who choose to practice in a designated shortage area may apply for this program, which is designed to recruit health care professionals to underserved areas of Delaware. Participants receive awards for repayment of outstanding government and commercial loans incurred during undergraduate or graduate education.

Physicians participating in the program must provide services in an underserved practice setting for a minimum of two years with the option to extend the contract for up to two additional years. Practice sites may include public or private non-profit settings and private practices.

In 2006, new award thresholds were established for participants:

- *Advanced-degree Practitioners* may be granted up to \$70,000 total for a two (2) year commitment, or \$105,000 for a three (3) year contract.\*
- *Mid-level Practitioners* may be granted up to \$35,000 total for a two (2) year commitment, or \$52,500 maximum for a three (3) year contract.\*

\*Note that these figures represent the *maximum* award possible over 3 years; they are *not* guaranteed amounts, nor are they representative of recent awards. All awards are paid on a graduated scale.

Since the program's inception in 2001, a total of 38 health professionals have been placed in underserved areas. This is comprised of thirty-one physicians, four certified nurse midwives and three certified nurse practitioners that have been placed in underserved areas of the state.

## DIMER STATISTICS

Statistics show that Delaware's relationships with Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA and Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine function as important resources for Delaware students interested in attending medical school. Statistics also show that of the Delawareans who apply to medical schools nationally, most apply to Jefferson Medical College.

### Number of Delawareans that Applied and Were Accepted Nationally and by Jefferson Medical College

<b>Year</b>	<b>Applied to any Med School *</b>	<b>Matriculated at any Med School</b>	<b>Applied to Jefferson</b>	<b>Accepted at Jefferson</b>	<b>Matriculated at Jefferson</b>
2008	77	35	61	30	22
2007	92	39	50	29	20
2006	78	38	53	28	17
2005	78	35	62	23	13
2004	64	39	54	23	23
2003	71	34	56	23	23
2002	70	31	57	23	12
2001	64	31	50	21	16
2000	93	49	84	36	24
1999	82	50	72	32	30
1998	90	40	76	28	20
1997	100	41	91	34	26
1996	110	51	51	26	22

\* Source: Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), 2008  
[www.aamc.org/data/facts](http://www.aamc.org/data/facts)

**Number of Delawareans that Applied and Were Accepted  
by Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Applied to PCOM</b>	<b>Accepted at PCOM</b>	<b>Matriculated at PCOM</b>
2008	23	7	4
2007	33	9	7
2006	30	10	7
2005	21	7	7
2004	11	7	6
2003	25	6	7
2002	26	7	7
2001	23	4	4
2000	20	6	6

## DIMER STUDENT APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

Students interested in attending any medical school, including Jefferson Medical College, must apply through the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS) in Washington, DC. After receipt of the AMCAS application, Jefferson identifies Delaware residents and sends them a special form to complete which assures them consideration under the DIMER program. Through DIMER, Jefferson reserves at least 20 admissions for Delaware residents. Applicants must meet the premedical academic requirements of Jefferson Medical College and Jefferson makes the acceptance decisions.

DIMER expanded its program to include a relationship with Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2000. Similarly, students interested in attending Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine apply through the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Application Service (AACOMAS) in Chevy Chase, Maryland. After receipt of the AACOMAS application, PCOM identifies the Delaware residents for consideration under the DIMER program. Through the program, PCOM reserves at least 5 admission slots for Delaware residents. Applicants must meet the academic requirements of PCOM and PCOM makes the acceptance decisions.

### DIMER Student Enrollment Status at Jefferson

Year	1st Year	2nd Year	3rd Year	4th Year	Total Enrolled
2008	22	20	17	13	72
2007	20	17	13	24	74
2006	17	13	24	21	75
2005	13	23	23	12	71
2004	23	23	12	16	74
2003	23	12	16	24	75
2002	12	16	24	26	78
2001	16	24	26	22	88
2000	24	28	21	23	96
1999	30	16	22	22	90
1998	21	25	21	19	86

### DIMER Student Enrollment Status at PCOM

Year	1st Year	2nd Year	3rd Year	4th Year	Total Enrolled
2008	4	7	8	7	26
2007	7	7	7	4	25
2006	7	7	4	8	26
2005	7	4	9	10	30
2004	6	7	7	4	24
2003	7	7	4	6	24
2002	7	4	6	n/a	17

\* Program began in 2000, so no fourth year students were enrolled until 2003.

**JEFFERSON MEDICAL COLLEGE:**

**Geographic Distribution of Delaware Students Interviewed, Accepted and Matriculated**

**Year 2008 Entering Class**

<b>County:</b>	<b>New Castle</b>	<b>Kent</b>	<b>Sussex</b>
<b>Total DIMER Applicants</b>	47	9	5
<b>DIMER Applicants Interviewed</b>	33	4	4
<b>Acceptances Offered</b>	23	4	3
<b>Students Matriculated</b>	17	2	3

**PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE:**

**Geographic Distribution of Delaware Students Interviewed, Accepted and Matriculated**

**Year 2008 Entering Class**

<b>County:</b>	<b>New Castle</b>	<b>Kent</b>	<b>Sussex</b>
<b>Total DIMER Applicants</b>	19	3	1
<b>DIMER Applicants Interviewed</b>	11	2	1
<b>Acceptances Offered</b>	7	2	1
<b>Students Matriculated</b>	3	1	0

**JEFFERSON MEDICAL COLLEGE:**

**Demographic Characteristics of Delaware Students Attending**

**Race and Ethnicity  
(As self-reported by students)**

Year	Race/ethnicity										
	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian	Korean	Japanese	Chinese	Filipino	Indian/Pakistani	Vietnamese	Hawaiian
2008	17			3	1						
2007	12	1		6						1	
2006	14		1	1	1						
2005	11			1		1					
2004	17					1	1	1	3		
2003	12			2			2	2	5		
2002	9	1						1	1		
2001	12				1		1		1	1	
2000	14	1		1	2		1		4		1
1999*	17	2			3		3		3		
1998	15	2	1	2			1				
1997	21	1					3			1	
1996*	18	1								2	
<i>Totals</i>	<i>172</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>1</i>

\* Indicates "no-response" answer(s) received in the race/ethnicity category

**PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE:**

**Demographic Characteristics of Delaware Students Attending**

**Race and Ethnicity  
(As self-reported by students)**

Year	Race/ethnicity				
	White	Black	Hispanic	Indian/Pakistani	Vietnamese
2008	4				
2007	5	1		1	
2006	4			2	1
2005	7				
2004	3	2		1	
2003	5			2	
2002	6		1		
2001	4				
2000	4				
<i>Totals</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>1</i>

**JEFFERSON MEDICAL COLLEGE:**

**Gender of  
Delaware Students Attending**

Year	Male	Female
2008	13	8
2007	10	10
2006	6	11
2005	6	7
2004	12	11
2003	12	11
2002	11	1
2001	8	8
2000	15	9
1999	18	11
1998	12	9
1997	17	9
1996	13	12
<i>Totals</i>	<i>153</i>	<i>117</i>

**PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF  
OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE:**

**Gender of  
Delaware Students Attending**

Year	Male	Female
2008	2	2
2007	3	4
2006	3	4
2005	7	0
2004	3	3
2003	3	4
2002	4	3
2001	3	1
2000	4	2
<i>Totals</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>23</i>

## **DIMER LOAN STATUS**

New student loans were not awarded after 2000. The DIMER loan program was phased out and replaced with a tuition supplement and need based scholarship program.

In 2000, the last year of the program, four medical students attending Jefferson Medical College were awarded first time loans. Demographic characteristics of the loan recipients are as follows:

<u>Gender</u>	<u>Race</u>	<u>Geography</u>	<u>Years in School</u>
2 male	3 White	2 New Castle	2 1 <sup>st</sup> year
2 female	1 African American	2 Kent	2 2nd year

New student loans were not awarded in 1999, while the program was being evaluated and restructured.

In 1998, six medical students were awarded first time loans. Demographic characteristics of the loan recipients are as follows:

<u>Gender</u>	<u>Race</u>	<u>Geography</u>	<u>Years in School</u>
4 male	4 Caucasian	5 New Castle County	3 1st year
2 female	1 African American	1 Sussex County	2 2nd year
	1 Asian		1 3rd year

A total of 37 students had service obligations through the loan program by September 2001. No awards were granted in 2001, as the program was being phased out.

The first student to complete residency training did so in 1999 and began practice in New Castle County, Delaware.

Four students completed their residency training in 2000; three of the four have entered primary care practice in Delaware and one has decided to pay back his loans.

Six students completed their residency training in 2001; three have entered primary care practice in Delaware and three have entered cash repayment of the loans.

Four students completed their residency training in 2002; three have entered primary care practice in Delaware and one has been granted a one-year deferment from repayment while her spouse conducts research on a one-year grant in North Carolina.

Six students completed their residency training in 2003; four have entered primary care practice in Delaware; one has taken a position in Elkton, Maryland and continues to seek employment in Delaware; and one chose to pursue a specialty and pay back the loan.

Five students completed their residency training in 2004; two have entered primary care practice in Delaware; two requested a one-year extension to complete a Chief Residency program; and one was accepted into a fellowship.

Four students completed their residency training in 2005; one has entered primary care practice in Delaware; one plans to begin practicing in January 2006; one has been granted an extension until June 2006 to complete a Chief Residency; one will complete an additional year of training on primary care/muscle and skeletal care; two students withdrew from medical school and are repaying the loan; and one withdrew from medical school and had the loan cancelled.

No students with loans completed residency training in 2006 because there was one year when loans were not awarded while the program was being restructured.

Three students completed their residency training in 2007; one has been granted an extension until July 2010 while her significant other completes an Orthopedics Residency in Philadelphia, after which she plans to return to Delaware to practice; one has been granted an extension to complete a Cardiology residency, after which he will return to Delaware to practice Cardiology and enter cash repayment; one has entered primary care practice in Delaware; and a fourth student was academically dismissed and has entered cash repayment of the loan.

The final grant/loan recipient completed her residency in 2008, and was granted a deferment until July 2009 to complete a health policy fellowship.

*Note: Because the length of time it takes students to complete medical school and the length of residencies can vary, it is possible these dates may change.*

## EVALUATION OF THE DIMER GRANT/LOAN PROGRAM

Close monitoring of the DIMER loan program led the Board to determine that a formal evaluation of the program was needed. The evaluation began in 2000 with a review of the data. Initial findings indicated the need for changes to the basic structure. These findings included the following:

- The program did not effectively and efficiently help Delaware meet its immediate health care needs; it was generally seven years after the first loan installment until the service repayment obligation began.
- The program did not improve the ability of Delaware students to attend Jefferson Medical College. Students were approved for the loans after being accepted into Jefferson and securing other means of funding.
- Under federal tax law, it appeared that the funds might be considered taxable income to the students at the time they began to fulfill their service repayment obligation. This significantly reduced the financial advantage the loans were intended to provide.
- The attrition rate was almost 25 percent.

In 2001 the DIMER Board phased out the grant/loan program and replaced it with a tuition supplement and need based scholarship program.

The grant/loan program was phased out as follows:

- Grant/loan recipients up to 2000 retained their obligations to return to Delaware to practice.
- From that point forward the repayment obligation was removed from the scholarships and they were phased out in the following manner:
  - Year one – 2001-2002 academic year - recipients received 80 percent of the award
  - Year two – 2002-2003 academic year - recipients received 60 percent of the award
  - Year three – 2003-2004 academic year - recipients received 40 percent of the award
  - Grant/loan recipients were able to apply for a need-based scholarship to supplement their tuition.
  - Grant/loan recipients were able to apply for the loan repayment program in exchange for returning to Delaware to practice in a designated specialty and geographic shortage area.

The former grant/loan program has been replaced with a new tuition supplement and need-based scholarship program:

*Jefferson Medical College*

- The students selected during the June 20, 2001 interview process were each awarded a one-time scholarship of \$10,000 with no repayment obligation.
- All remaining 2001 freshmen were eligible to compete for a need-based scholarship; 11 scholarships were awarded, ranging from \$2,671 to \$19,476.
- All 2001 Delaware freshmen received a tuition supplement of \$1,000.
- All 2001 Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors received a one-time tuition supplement of \$1,500.
- In 2002, it was determined that there were enough funds to provide tuition supplements and need based scholarships to all four classes immediately, rather than phasing a class into the program each year. This was largely due to the fact that fewer students were enrolled than estimated when the plan was developed. As a result, all Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors received a \$1,000 tuition supplement, and were eligible to compete for a need-based scholarship; 33 scholarships were awarded, ranging from \$1,448 to \$14,174
- In 2003, 68 students received a \$1,000 tuition supplement and were eligible to compete for a need-based scholarship; 43 scholarships were awarded, ranging from \$323 to \$10,840.
- In 2004, 68 students received a \$1,000 tuition supplement, and 2 students received a \$500 tuition supplement. All 70 students were eligible to compete for a need-based scholarship; 47 scholarships were awarded, ranging from \$1,112 to \$12,141.
- In 2005, 70 students received a \$1,000 tuition supplement and 72 scholarships were awarded, ranging from \$291 to \$12,114.
- In 2006, 75 students received a \$1,000 tuition supplement and 50 scholarships were awarded, ranging from \$383 to \$10,811.

- In 2007, 73 students received a \$1,000 tuition supplement and 47 scholarships were awarded, ranging from \$958 to \$10,396.
- In 2008, 72 students received a \$1,000 tuition supplement and 48 scholarships were awarded, ranging from \$246 to \$11,334.

*Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine*

- All 2001 and 2002 Delaware Freshmen and Sophomores received a tuition supplement of \$1,000 and were eligible to compete for a need-based scholarship; 6 scholarships were awarded in 2001, ranging from \$2,207 to \$6,302; 9 scholarships were awarded in 2002, ranging from \$1,317 to \$5,430.
- All 2001 Delaware Freshmen received an additional one-time tuition supplement of \$500.
- In 2003, Delaware Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors received a tuition supplement of \$1,000 and were eligible to compete for a need-based scholarship; 19 tuition supplements were awarded and 17 scholarships were awarded, ranging from \$882 to \$3,611.
- In 2004, Delaware Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors received a tuition supplement of \$1,000 and were eligible to compete for a need-based scholarship; 21 tuition supplements were awarded and 17 scholarships were awarded, ranging from \$1,523 to \$5,500.
- In 2005, 25 students received a \$1,000 tuition supplement and 20 scholarships were awarded, ranging from \$896 to \$4,379.
- In 2006, 23 students received a \$1,000 tuition supplement and 20 scholarships were awarded, ranging from \$935 to \$4,082.
- In 2007, 18 students received a \$1,000 tuition supplement and 14 scholarships were awarded, ranging from \$2,170 to \$5,828.
- In 2008, 26 students received a \$1,000 tuition supplement and 18 scholarships were awarded, ranging from \$1,566 to \$4,214.

## **TUITION AND FEES AT JEFFERSON MEDICAL COLLEGE, PCOM AND SURROUNDING STATES**

DIMER was formed as an alternative for establishing a medical school in Delaware. Through agreements with Jefferson Medical College and the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine slots are reserved for Delawareans who meet each school's entrance requirements. Since both schools are private, and therefore, carry high tuition rates, funds are provided to students in either the form of tuition supplements or scholarships based on financial need.

The DIMER Board is growing concerned that the high tuition of both schools may present barriers to some Delawareans taking advantage of the program. Tuition and fees at Jefferson are currently \$41,101 per year. Tuition and fees at PCOM are \$36,954 per year. The Board has recommended consideration of increasing the amount of funds allocated for scholarships and tuition supplements. When the original scholarship line amount of \$400,000 was allocated, Jefferson's tuition was \$25,235. As tuition has increased, the funds available for scholarships have not kept pace, and have not been increased since Fiscal Year 1996.

The high tuition, and corresponding prospect of accumulating significant debt upon graduation from medical school is regarded as a barrier to recruiting key target populations to the DIMER program.

The \$400,000 allocation for scholarships and tuition supplements at Jefferson Medical College has remained constant since 1996. During this twelve year period tuition has increased by about 68 percent from \$25,235 in 1996 to \$42,533 in 2008. A 68 percent increase in scholarship and tuition supplement funds would amount to an additional \$272,000 for students at Jefferson.

Funds were allocated for scholarships and tuition supplements at PCOM in 2000 and phased in over a four-year period at the rate of \$20,000 per class. During the past eight years tuition has increased by about 51 percent from \$24,725 in 2000 to \$37,509 in 2008. A 51 percent increase in scholarship and tuition supplement funds would amount to an additional \$40,800 for students at PCOM.

Tuition and fees (not including health insurance) for first year medical students at Jefferson Medical College and PCOM for the 2008-2009 academic year:

Jefferson Medical College	\$43,033
PCOM	38,034

Tuition and fees (not including health insurance) for first year medical students in public medical schools in surrounding states for the 2008-2009 academic year:

<u>School</u>	<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-Resident</u>
Connecticut	\$25,548	\$48,195
Maryland	24,249	43,119
North Carolina	12,936	37,002
Pennsylvania State	35,034	46,274
South Carolina	25,576	61,258
SUNY- Downstate	19,370	34,070
SUNY – Upstate	19,956	34,656
Virginia	32,650	42,650
West Virginia	20,164	43,960

Tuition and fees (not including health insurance) for first year medical students in private medical schools in surrounding states for the 2008-2009 academic year:

<u>School</u>	<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-Resident</u>
George Washington	\$46,267	
Georgetown	44,444	
Harvard	41,819	
Howard	34,081	
Johns Hopkins	39,108	
New York Medical	42,536	42,236
New York University	43,976	
University of Pennsylvania	44,251	
University of Pittsburgh	37,486	41,506
Temple	40,774	49,778
Tufts	48,992	
Yale	42,750	

## **STUDENT EXPENSE BUDGETS AT JEFFERSON MEDICAL COLLEGE AND PCOM**

In addition to tuition and fees, students at Jefferson Medical College and PCOM encounter additional expenses. The sum total of tuition, fees and other expenses is known as the standard budget for medical students.

### **Standard Budget for Medical Students at Jefferson Medical College**

The following is the standard budget for medical students at Jefferson Medical College, including tuition, room, board, books, supplies and transportation:

1 <sup>st</sup> year students	\$ 65,468
2 <sup>nd</sup> year students	64,930
3 <sup>rd</sup> year students	69,755
4 <sup>th</sup> year students	<u>65,744</u>
Total	\$265,897

### **Standard Budget for Medical Students at PCOM**

The following is the standard budget for medical students at PCOM, including tuition, room, board, books, supplies and transportation:

1 <sup>st</sup> year students	\$ 61,764
2 <sup>nd</sup> year students	60,929
3 <sup>rd</sup> year students	68,554
4 <sup>th</sup> year students	<u>67,569</u>
Total	\$258,816

**Addendum I: DIMER Board of Directors**

*Chair*

**Sherman L. Townsend**

*Board Members*

**Brian M. Aboff, MD, FACP**

Christiana Care Health Services

**Vincent Lobo, Jr., DO**

Public Member, Sussex County

**Michael Alexander, MD**

A. I. DuPont Hospital for Children

**James Richards, PhD**

University of Delaware

**Anthony D. Alfieri, DO**

Public Member, Wilmington

**Jaime H. Rivera, MD, FAAP**

Division of Public Health

**Lisa C. Barkley, MD**

Delaware State University

**Ileana M. Smith, EdD**

Higher Education Commission

**David Bercaw, MD**

Christiana Care Health Services

**Wayne A. Smith**

Delaware Healthcare Association

**John A. J. Forest, Jr., MD**

Public Member, Kent County

**Steven J. Stanhope, PhD**

University of Delaware

**Galicano F. Inguito, Jr., MD, MBA, CPE**

St. Francis Hospital

**Carl Turner, MD**

Public Member, New Castle County

**Brian W. Little, MD, PhD**

Christiana Care Health Services

*Jefferson Medical College Liaisons*

**David Paskin, MD**

*Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine Liaison*

**Carol A. Fox**

*Staff*

**Paula K. Roy**

**Leah A. Jones**

**Marlyn Marvel**

Delaware Health Care Commission

**Stuart Drowos**

Department of Justice

**Maureen Laffey**

**Carylin Brinkley**

Delaware Higher Education Commission

## **Addendum II: DIMER Budget**

The Delaware General Assembly appropriated \$2,130,000 to the Delaware Institute of Medical Education and Research for Fiscal Year 2009. The amount was allocated as follows:

Jefferson Medical College	\$1,000,000
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine	250,000
University of Delaware	50,000
Christiana Care Health System	200,000
Scholarships/Loans	480,000
Loan Repayment	150,000
Total	\$2,130,000

## **Addendum III: Delaware Jefferson Medical College Students 2008 – 2009 Academic Year**

### First Year Freshman

Ali, Mohsin  
Andrews, Jonathan  
Bonk, Michael  
Boyd, Laura  
Chiquoine, Elise  
Choxi, Hetal  
Feld, Samantha  
Harshman, Scott  
Henderson, Stacy  
Hinman, Benjamin  
Kamireddy, Samata  
Lee, Brian  
Margules, Andrew  
McSpadden, Ryan  
Mendelson, Aaron  
Mullan, Adam  
Ortlip, Timothy  
Rivers, Lane  
Rybicki, Steven  
Sammons, Sarah  
Swank, Amanda  
Vincent, Richard

### Second Year Sophomores

Anttila, Ashley  
Brighthaupt, Sarah  
Devulapalli, Chaitu  
Dobson, Phillip  
Douglas, Lauren  
Fattah, Mohammad  
Field, John  
Gopalratnam, Anusha  
Gupta, Ratika  
Hummel, Chad  
Johnson, Caitlyn  
Kulkarni, Sanjay  
Molligan, Jeremy  
Reardon, Emily  
Sabesan, Arvind  
Saligrama, Madhuri  
Sarik, Jonathan  
Schuck, Alexandra  
Strang, Abigail  
Wilkins, Cy

### Third Year Juniors

Cleary, Ryan  
Crowe, Elizabeth  
Davis, Erin  
Farach, Andrew  
Fierro, Michael  
Golebiewski, Stefanie  
Grenda, Tyler  
Hanley, Patrick  
Hansen, Patricia  
Healy, Kenna  
Juliano, Trisha  
Kim, Su  
Koterwas, Jennifer  
Liechty, Benjamin  
Schoch, Laura  
Witkin, Alison  
Yezdani, Mona

### Fourth Year Seniors

Epstein, Rachael  
Guarino, Jeffrey  
Hurd, Jennifer  
Ikeda, Daniel  
Martin, Christopher  
Mascitti, Alexis  
Moroz, Leslie  
Pembroke, Thomas  
Quigley, Glen  
Seaton, Elaine  
Sheridan, Kelly  
Soltys, Anna  
Vaidyanathan, Nishant

## Addendum IV: DIMER Grant/Loan Recipient Status

Name	JMC Graduation	Residency Completion	2008 Status
Peluso, Susan	1995	1998	Completed Service Repayment
Anzilotti, Kent	1996	1999	Completed Cash Repayment
Clute, Stephen	1997	2000	Cash Repayment
Longo, Michael	1997	2000	Completed Cash Repayment
O'Brien, Matthew	1997	2000	Completed Service Repayment
Williams, Jane	1997	2000	Completed Service Repayment
Bowman, Adam	1998	Psychiatric Fellowship	Completed Service Repayment
Burke, Stephen	1998	2001	Completed Service Repayment
Simpkins, John	1998	2001	Cash Repayment
Phillips, Christine	1998	2001	Completed Cash Repayment
Schmeig, Andrea	1998	2001	Cash Repayment
Sordi, Mark	1998	2001	Completed Service Repayment
Brown, Barrington	1999	2002	Service Repayment
Grady, Matthew	1999	2002	Completed Service Repayment
Poppiti (Manfredi), Alissa	1999	2002	Completed Cash Repayment
Villasenor, Paul	1999	2002	Completed Service Repayment
Mancuso, Maria	1999	2002	Completed Service Repayment
Pak, Susan	1999	2002	Completed Cash Repayment
Davis, Angelique	2000	2003	Completed Cash Repayment
Nelson, Anne	2000	2003	Completed Service Repayment
Kirk (Neuberger), Deborah	2000	2003	Completed Service Repayment
Robinson, Amy	2000	2003	Completed Service Repayment
Zeberkiewic (Reinhardt), Claire	2000	2003	Completed Cash Repayment
Peters, Michael	1998	2003	Completed Cash Repayment
Hammer, Scott	2001	2004	Service Repayment
Young, Robert	2001	2004	Completed Service Repayment
Elliott, Daniel	2001	2005 Chief Residency	Service Repayment
Jordan, Trisha	2001	2005	Service Repayment
Pondok, Theresa	2001	2005	Completed Cash Repayment
Rappaport, David	2001	2005	Completed Service Repayment
Corradi, Emily	2002	2005	Completed Cash Repayment
Dassel, Jeffrey	2002	2005	Service Repayment
Dukes, Donald	2002	2005	Loan Obligation Cancelled
Jackson, Edward	2002	2005	Completed Cash Repayment
Lehane, Christina	2003	2006	Deferment until 2010
Davis, Angelique	2004	2007	Cash Repayment
McGillen, Brian	2004	2007	Service Repayment
Myers, Gene Robert	2004	2007	Completed Cash Repayment
Black, Kara Lynn	2005	2008 U of CA Residency	Deferment

**Addendum V: Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine Students  
2008 – 2009 Academic Year**

First Year Freshman

Cullen, Julia  
Molchen, Wallis  
Paoli, Matthew  
Santora, Joseph

Second Year Sophomores

Batool, Amber  
Danko, John  
Doran, William  
Heckert, Anneliese  
McKiel, Holly  
Ratner, Aaron  
Wanjeri, Christine

Third Year Juniors

Cohen, Valerie  
Khasat, Vikram  
Nashed, Nadia  
Nguyen, Lam  
Rutter, Heather  
Solanki, Anjali  
Walsh, Brian

Fourth Year Seniors

Alexander, Christopher  
Jerusik, Brian  
Little, Eric  
Pirestani, Alireza  
Pryor, Brian  
Replenski, Stephen  
Richardson, Nicholas