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Welcome!

On behalf of students, faculty, and staff at the Penn State College of Medicine, I welcome you to the Entering Class of 2013. All of us are busy preparing for your arrival. Orientation begins on Monday, July 22nd. Participation in all Orientation activities is required by the College of Medicine in order to adequately prepare students for the successful transition to medical school. We look forward to spending this time with you.

We are in the process of developing a societies model for teaching clinical skills and long-term student advising. The societies model will provide structure for on-going student support through contiguous relationships with faculty and others, allow for professional role modeling, and enable guidance to appropriate resources in times of need. Students will be introduced to their society on the first day of orientation.

Concurrent with Orientation activities, you will participate in your first medical school course, the "Profession of Medicine." The Profession of Medicine course is a two week course that provides a prologue to your medical school experience by introducing team building and communication skills, introduces students to core aspects of the profession of medicine and encourages life-long learning and reflective practice.

The Profession of Medicine course and Orientation will culminate on Friday, August 2nd. This is a special day in your transition to medical school. During the morning hours, a program has been developed for parents, spouses, partners, family, and friends. It will provide important information about all aspects of your medical school experience and the resources available in the College of Medicine community. The program aims to keep your support system in place while you are in medical school. During the afternoon, all are invited to attend the White Coat Ceremony for your formal induction into the College of Medicine. Please encourage your support network to spend the day with us and attend both programs.

An orientation website with an agenda and other important information will be available at http://www.pennstatehershey.org/web/md/home/accepted/orientation, after June 10. I urge you to visit the site periodically. We will also provide update information and announcements by e-mail, so please stay connected.

In closing, we look forward to having you join the College of Medicine community. Best wishes for an enjoyable and safe summer.

Regards,

Dwight Davis, M.D. Professor of Medicine

Heart and Vascular Institute

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Associate Dean for Admissions and Student Affairs

Penn State College of Medicine