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November 26, 2001

Jason Napolitano and Kishore Vellody
Alpha Omega Alpha, co-presidents
University of Illinois College of Medicine

Dear Jason and Kishore,

During the last meeting of the University Medical Student Council (UMSC), one of the topics discussed was induction requirements Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA). After much discussion, the council concluded that it would be best to have the AOA co-presidents have an opportunity to address the issue in person. Therefore, I would like to extend an invitation to both of you to attend the next UMSC meeting.

At the present time, the council members have specific questions they would like you to address. I have provided them here so that you may be able to prepare:

1. What was the motivation to move to a college-wide selection process for AOA?
2. Are you aware of the fact that clerkship grades vary not only from hospital-to-hospital, but also from campus-to-campus? Therefore, it is unfair to compare students from Urbana to students from Rockford, etc. Why not only include shelf-exam scores which are objective, rather than the entire clerkship grade?
3. Why aren't extracurricular activities included? This is mentioned in the AOA Handbook as one of the things to take into consideration during the application process.
4. Are there any plans to revert back to the old requirements?
5. Separate from the induction requirements issue, is there any continuity on the AOA Executive Board? In other words, how is information passed along from one year to the next, and are issues from one year followed up upon during the next year?

The next UMSC meeting will be held at the UICOM-Rockford campus on Saturday, January 12, 2002 starting at 10:00am. A continental breakfast is served before the meeting, lunch will be served around 12:00pm, and the meeting should end around 2:00pm. We can place this issue in the agenda to accommodate your schedule. You may stay for the entire meeting, although it is not necessary. If you intend to stay for the entire meeting, we can carpool to the meeting if you like. In addition to the 25-30 UMSC members to be present – many of them from the Rockford campus – you can also expect the UICOM-Rockford Dean of Student Affairs (Dr. Kathleen Kashima) and UMSC Faculty Advisor (Dr. Jorge Girotti) to be present. Please feel free to invite your advisor if you would like.

Please let me know by December 15 as to whether you are able to attend. Also, please visit the UMSC website (<http://umsc.netfirms.com>) for more information about our organization, the upcoming meeting, and driving directions.

Thanks for considering this request, and we look forward to seeing you in January!

Sincerely,

Christopher Nelson
UICOM-Chicago, class of 2002
University Medical Student Council
President