



AAMP

Alumni Admission Mentor Program

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FEATURED AAMP VOLUNTEERS



Dr. Mai Lai, MD
Class of 2002

Dr. Mai Lai has practiced at Garfield Medical Center in Monterey Park, CA, since 2005, having recently been appointed the facility's director of medical services. Although the promotion has come at the expense of leisure time, Dr. Lai makes it a point to extend advice to current students at AAMP job fairs and open houses. "I've crossed the finish line and I'm an AAMP member because I wanted to help students who are going through the same process I did," Dr. Lai said. Upon attaining her MD at SGU, she completed her residency at Michigan State University College of Human Medicine. "St. George's is very dear to my heart," Dr. Lai said. "I had a very positive experience at St. George's and wouldn't have as much success without it."



Dr. Lori Braun, DVM
Class of 2006

Lori Braun spent 10 years as a zookeeper before enrolling at the St. George's University School of Veterinary Medicine. "I love the fact that St. George's looks at the whole applicant," Dr. Braun said. "Students have a really good rapport with the faculty because they were willing to go out of their way to interact with us and get to know us." Dr. Braun earned her DVM in January 2006 and has practiced at Aumsville Animal Clinic in Oregon for six years, performing surgery and acupuncture on small animals. An active AAMP member, she has conducted student interviews for SGU for four years. "SGU gave me my future, and I want to return the favor by helping with the future of the school."

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SGU VETS ARRANGE EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Dr. Heather Douglas, SGUSVM '06, SGUMBA '11, and Dr. Austin Kirwan, the Assistant Dean for UK Clinical Affairs for the SGU School of Veterinary Medicine, have employed a unique exchange program in which they and their employees visit the other's practice to get an outsider's perspective.

"It opens up an avenue that technicians would have never thought to have experienced in life," Kirwan said. "It shifts everything out of the box for them. They go work in another country such as the States and come back a different, if not better, person."

The two first met during their MBA residency in Grenada. For the exchange, Douglas visited Kirwan's practice in the UK and returned home with several ideas to improve her own practice, Douglas Animal Hospital in Osseo, MN.

"I think this exchange has given me a more global view of veterinary medicine, and the ability to integrate more than one point of view into my practice is priceless," said Douglas.

She shadowed staff members at Kirwan's Barn Lodge Veterinary Hospital, which has three locations in the UK. Douglas was also

interested in the business aspect of Kirwan's practice—everything from taking inventory to paying bills. Using the skills she learned in SGU's MBA program as well as those learned through the visit to Kirwan's clinic, Douglas's practice has become more efficient.

This winter, one of Kirwan's veterinary nurses, Adele Duckworth, RVN, traveled to Osseo and analyzed Douglas's practice over a two-week period. They plan to do an exchange every six months and have discussed arranging similar exchanges with other clinics.



MESSAGE FROM THE OUTGOING AAMP COORDINATOR

"You are not here merely to make a living. You are here in order to enable the world to live more amply, with greater vision, with a finer spirit of hope and achievement." – Woodrow Wilson

The St. George's University education allows students to benefit from an international curriculum that not only helps students become doctors, but inspires them to be examples of all great things medicine can do to enrich the world. One Health, One World, One Medicine continues to pervade the University's global curriculum.

The University had one of its most competitive first-year intakes to date. We continue to have a successful track record in recruiting high-quality students to our programs. In an increasingly competitive environment, SGU needs to ensure that it maintains its share of the science/medical market, and AAMP members have been an integral part of that.

I wanted to take a moment to let you know that I

am leaving my duties as Coordinator of the AAMP Program to focus more on my counseling efforts in the Western US and Canada, but I will still remain involved with alumni communication and recruitment. Betsy Mills will be overseeing the AAMP day-to-day activities. She was the alumni go-to person prior to my arrival and has distinguished herself as a remarkable member of the SGU team. Please join me in welcoming back Betsy. AAMP is in good hands.

I have enjoyed my experience, and I appreciate having had the opportunity to work with you all. Thank you for the support, guidance, and encouragement you have provided me during my tenure. Look for more AAMP news in the coming months.

– Thomas Day

You can be the reason a student chooses SGU! If you are not already a member of the Alumni Admission Mentor Program (AAMP), now is the time to come on board! For questions regarding AAMP or the St. George's University Alumni Volunteer Directory (AVD), contact Betsy Mills at bmills@sgu.edu or 1 (800) 899-6337 ext. 9 1213.

SPRING/SUMMER EVENTS

Join us at one of our upcoming information sessions in the following cities. More details available at www.sgu.edu/infosession.

- 5/16 Cape Town, South Africa
- 5/17 Johannesburg, South Africa
- 5/19 Gaborone, Botswana
- 5/23 Nairobi, Kenya
- 6/6 Great River, NY
- 6/13 San Juan, Puerto Rico
- 6/14 Jacksonville, FL
- 6/20 Baltimore, MD
- 6/28 Chicago, IL
- 7/11 Trenton, NJ
- 7/16 Los Angeles, CA
- 7/17 Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 7/23 Toronto, Ontario, Canada

JOSEPH ALLEN, MD '99, IS OLYMPIC-BOUND



With an already lengthy career in sports medicine to his credit, Dr. Joseph Allen has added another chapter to his career that will put him on arguably the largest stage in athletics.

The 1999 School of Medicine graduate will serve as team doctor for USA Rugby during the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The '16 Games will mark the first time that rugby is an Olympic event for nearly a century (1924, Paris).

Allen is a partner at the Point Loma Family Practice and Sports Medicine in San Diego, CA. Upon being screened and certified by the United States Olympic Committee, his first assignment with USA Rugby was covering the first leg of the HSBC Sevens World Series tour, a two-day tournament in Australia in November.

"You get goosebumps," Allen said of his

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swing through Australia. "When you wear National Team apparel, everything's red, white, and blue. You're next to England, New Zealand, South Africa, Argentina. There are TV cameras all over the place, and the crowds are outrageous. It's just like the World Cup of soccer."

That Allen is the team physician for the Old Mission Beach Athletic Club Rugby team, one of the premier rugby clubs in San Diego, and is certified in sports medicine and family medicine made him a natural choice for the position. His responsibilities include everything from "plugged ears to sore knees," administering pain injections and joint injections, performing drug testing, and advising players on which medications are permissible according to the International Olympic Committee.

St. George's cleared a path for his postgraduate training. After completing his residency at St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center, he competed against more than 300 applicants to earn one of two sports medicine fellowships at the University of California at San Diego (UCSD).

In addition to giving back to SGU by interviewing prospective students, he performs preceptorship interviews for UCSD. "SGU is one of the premier institutions for medical training in the world," Allen said. "I know that its students are easily as good as, if not better than, any student in any US program."

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THINK BEYOND

