



# AAMP

## Alumni Admission Mentor Program

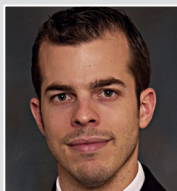
### At the APHA Conference

The APHA (American Public Health Association) Annual Meeting and Exposition is the oldest and largest gathering of its kind, attracting more than 13,000 public health professionals. This year the theme was "Public Health Without Borders," which resonated with the internationalism of our community and our links to other institutions across the world.

One of our MPH graduate candidates, Shamille Harihan, was present to help speak with prospective students about her unique experiences and service learning during her matriculation in the Doctor of Medicine/Master of Public Health degree programs. Her connection to the University runs deep, as Shamille's father has been a visiting professor in the School of Veterinary

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### Featured AAMP Volunteers



Dr. Paul Barbara graduated from St. George's University School of Medicine in 2004 and completed his residency in Emergency Medicine at Brooklyn Hospital Center. He is currently in a fellowship with the New York Fire Department as an Emergency Medical Services Medical Director and works clinically at the Long Island Jewish Medical Center in the Emergency Department. Dr. Barbara is married and has a newborn daughter, Alexis.



Dr. Yakoub "Jack" Katri, a class of 2003 graduate, is currently in a Nephrology fellowship at the Long Island College Hospital in Brooklyn. He is an AAMP volunteer because, he has said, "SGU is the best thing that ever happened to me and I would like to let people know that they can also have the same chance."

The Alumni Admission Mentor Program (AAMP) is truly thankful this holiday season for our recent success in student recruitment, which would not have been possible without volunteers like you, who have given so much to St. George's University. Happy Holidays!

If you have any questions about the program, please contact Thomas Day directly at [tday@sgu.edu](mailto:tday@sgu.edu), or +1 (631) 665-8500 ext. 297.

### Grenada Ranks #1 in USMLE in Caribbean

The students enrolled in medical school in Grenada – and St. George's University School of Medicine is the only one – have put the island nation in first place for the highest first-time pass rate on Step One and Step Two/CK for all countries with medical schools in the Caribbean over the past 15 years, according to a study just released in the journal *Academic Medicine*, published by the Association of American Medical Schools.

The study ranked Grenada (SGUSOM) number one of first-time takers of the USMLE Step One (testing basic sciences knowledge) with an 84.4%, well above the closest country with private medical schools. If one deducts Grenada from the study, the average pass rate for all other countries during this 15-year period was 49.9%.

The same academic excellence is demonstrated through Grenada's (SGUSOM) number one ranking for USMLE Step Two (Clinical Knowledge) first-time takers, with a 79.7% pass rate, compared to the average pass rate of 56.1% for all other countries.

According to Chancellor Charles R. Modica, "This official study, the first of its kind in over 15 years, is an unbiased and accurate representation of the abilities of St. George's University's medical students."

The authors state that there were 56 Caribbean medical schools during all or part of the period of study. This significant accomplishment was made possible by the hard work and commitment of our St. George's University School of Medicine alumni through the years.

### SGU Alumni Take Charge as Open House Turns ER

Attendees of a recent St. George's University Open House witnessed the expertise of featured AAMP volunteers Dr. Paul Barbara and Dr. Jack Katri as they sprang into action during an unexpected emergency.

In New York City on October 16, 2008, Dean of Enrolment Planning Margaret Lambert and Associate Dean of Enrolment Planning for Admission Dr. Robert Jordan were giving a presentation to over 300 eager prospective students when the doors burst open. "Is there a doctor in the house?" someone yelled. Thanks to the AAMP volunteers, there were several.

The alumni calmly exited the room as though "reporting for duty," according to Dr. Paul Barbara, SGUSOM Class of 2004. There, a young woman was having convulsions, indicating a generalized seizure. Dr. Barbara and Dr. Katri, SGUSOM Class of 2003, responded immediately, stabilizing her head and holding her in a safe position until the seizure concluded. Without medical equipment, this was

their only option, and it proved effective. Dr. Barbara is an emergency medicine physician, and is also completing a fellowship with the New York City Fire Department Bureau of Emergency Medical Services. Thanks to this training, he was aware of the need to call 911 himself to ensure that an ambulance with paramedics would arrive. Their presence would provide the ability to properly treat another seizure should it have occurred.

In the meantime, they moved the young woman to a room in the hotel in order to discern her level of consciousness. When asked why she was in the hotel that day, she replied that she was a prospective St. George's University School of Medicine student. We hope that the performance of our alumni volunteers proved to her that an SGU education yields exceptional doctors.

Though this was a rather unusual open house, prospective students were able to experience first hand the expertise and competence of SGU graduates, and that is a powerful presentation.

### Upcoming Open House Dates

A number of open houses have been planned for prospective students and their parents. Below is a list of dates and locations. For more information, please visit [www.sgu.edu](http://www.sgu.edu) and click on the "Attend an Open House" option.

Tuesday, January 27 San Diego, CA, USA	Monday, February 9 Cleveland, OH, USA	Wednesday, February 11 Milwaukee, WI, USA	Tuesday, February 24 Kansas City, MO, USA
Wednesday, January 28 Sacramento, CA, USA	Tuesday, February 10 Cincinnati, OH, USA	Monday, February 23 St. Louis, MO, USA	Wednesday, February 25 Memphis, TN, USA



*Dr. Omowale Amuleru-Marshall and Shamille Harihan at the APHA Conference.*

Medicine since its inception in 1999, and is now a full-time veterinary bacteriology and mycology professor.

Faculty members who participated in the APHA Conference included the Chair of the Department of Medicine and Preventive Medicine, Dr. Omowale Amuleru-Marshall, Anika Keens-Douglas, Jackie Lloyd, Ernesto Randolfi, Kennedy Roberts, Dr. Satish Bidaisee and Harold Russel.

## Med/Vet Summer Academy

For six consecutive years, St. George's University has once again delivered a successful summer program to high school and college level students interested in the fields of medicine and veterinary medicine. St. George's University believes that the Summer Academy is an investment in the future of both the individuals who attend the program, and the communities who will later benefit from the education made available and skills obtained. For the many students who pursue a career in medicine, the University is proud to have helped guide and secure their path with a program that provides a unique and powerful opportunity.

The 2009 Med/Vet Summer Academy will take place Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup> for college students, and Monday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> to Wednesday, July 1<sup>st</sup> for high school students. For more information, please contact Courtney Losito at +1 (631) 665-8500 ext. 319.



*Students gaining hands-on experience at the 2008 Med/Vet Summer Academy.*

## Alumni Volunteers Needed!

Drs. Weitzman, Rao and Madden are seeking SGU alumni volunteers to assist our clinical students in their journey toward residency. The Office of Career Guidance and Student Development (OCGSD) in the Dean of Students Office, advises students regarding their career choice, the ERAS process and the best approach to the USMLE examinations among other things. We are seeking specialty-specific alumni to speak with students who have an interest in the same specialty. We would ask the student to email you and if you'd like, you could provide them with a phone number where you may be reached.

If you are interested in volunteering for this program, please email John Madden at [jmadden@sgu.edu](mailto:jmadden@sgu.edu) your curriculum vitae with a note describing any involvement with residency programs such as whether you practice at a hospital with a residency in your specialty or you interview applicants for your hospitals residency program.

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**St. George's University**



