

# State University of New York at New Paltz: Biology Department



## Biology Story

**September 9, 2008. We welcome back our dual degree, BS/DO students. Fall Orientation, SUNY NP/NYCOM BS/DO Program**

09/17/2008

Kathryn Reed, Executive Director of the Catskill Hudson Area Health Education Center (CHAHEC), greets first, second and third year students in the BS/DO program. CHAHEC is one of a number of supporters of this dual degree program between SUNY New Paltz and the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine (NYCOM).



Students in this program are admitted as freshmen, after a rigorous application process, which includes an interview with the BS/DO program admissions committee



After three years at SUNY New Paltz, if they meet the tough GPA and MCAT requirements, these students go to NYCOM to start medical school. At the end of their first year of medical school, we transfer back credits to complete their BS degree. They then complete their medical degrees after three more years and receive the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine.



Dr. Walter Woodley, Regional Director of the Institute for Family Health, welcomes students and inspires them with his wisdom.

Over the past ten years, 80 BS/DO program students have gone on to medical school. We love to hear back from them. Neil Panchal started at NYCOM this August. Apparently, he is doing quite well! We thank Neil for his kind words:

August 26, 2008

Hello!

Just thought to drop a line or two and update you on my life at Medical school. I am at NYCOM in Old Westbury now and already into the second week of classes. Classes started off pretty quickly and the plethora of information has buried me in my room day in and out. I have finally adapted myself to a routine schedule of classes and studying, with only about 30 min to myself a day. The curriculum is structured on a systemic basis so that we learn about the different systems of the body one at a time. This first month or so is a fundamental "Intro to Osteopathy" which has actually turned into a full year's worth of Biological Chemistry, Cell/ Molecular Bio, and Comparative Anatomy! Seems like a lot eh? Actually not.

Because of the wonderful job that my professors at SUNY New Paltz did teaching me the essential material necessary for the foundation of a career in medicine, I am well prepared and simply "reviewing" this material so far. Others are having difficulty learning it saying, "I never learned it correctly in undergrad..." or "My professor didn't teach us properly" In the last two days only, we went over everything about Proteins, Enzymes including inhibition and MM/ LB graphs, Cell Membrane Transport, all of Metabolism, and every muscle in the back including the Superficial, Intermediate, and Deep Back muscles all the way through the Spinal Cord. AND I ALREADY KNOW ALL OF THIS!!! (OH and by the way, I have already started dissecting a human cadaver and I'm loving it!).

So basically what I'm trying to say is Thank You so much for being absolutely excellent teachers and making sure I was ready to take on Medical School. Without your training and guidance, the transition would have been that much more difficult. I hope that you are in the best of health and that we can keep in touch so that I can still feel like I am at New Paltz. Thank you again and eager to hear from you,



Neil Panchal

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