Sir William Osler High School Summer Fellowships

Arizona Telemedicine Program’s T-Health Institute

University of Arizona College of Medicine, in Partnership with Arizona State University, Phoenix Campus

The Institute for Advanced Telemedicine and Telehealth (T-Health Institute) was established in Phoenix in 2006, as part of the expansion of the University of Arizona College of Medicine to Phoenix. T-Health is playing a major role in developing innovative interprofessional education programs for various groups, including high school students, college students, health care professions students, including medical students, nursing students, pharmacy students, and public health students, and the general public.

University of Arizona, in partnership with Arizona State University, College of Medicine Campus, in downtown, Phoenix occupies renovated century-old high school buildings. This also serves as the headquarters for the Institute for Advanced Telemedicine and Telehealth (T-Health Institute). The T-Health Institute facility is a state-of-the-art 21st century video conferencing facility and telemedicine training center. Insert, lower right, shows the T-Health Amphitheater in the Auditorium Building. This video conferencing room links to 171 sites in the Southwest, nationally, and internationally. It also serves as a unique education research laboratory.
The Sir William Osler Summer Fellowship Program provides high school students with an opportunity to participate in a unique and challenging educational experience in the environment of a medical college during the summer. Sir William Osler is a historical figure who is credited with creating our current system of medical education. Our U of A-ASU Sir William Osler Fellows will have a unique opportunity to get a taste of a medical school curriculum while still in high school. Like a medical school, the Sir William Osler Fellowship Program is intended to be intellectually challenging, in the best sense of the word, and to provide special opportunities for personal growth during the summer in a College of Medicine environment.

Each summer, a new student curriculum is designed to allow our faculty members to examine an innovative concept of health care education. This summer, Sir William Osler Fellows will work with medical college faculty members on developing an experimental health care education curriculum aimed at shortening the time it takes to obtain a medical degree, by employing state-of-the-art Internet-based education tools. The Osler Fellows will attend medical faculty lectures tailored to their high school educational levels, participate in medical faculty-directed discussion groups, and work on their individual study skills and projects. The Osler Fellows will also be tutored in test taking skills that will be useful for college and graduate school.

Dr. Ronald S. Weinstein (center), Director of the Sir William Osler Fellowship Program, with medical students from the University of Arizona, in collaboration with Arizona State University at the T-Health Institute in Phoenix. They are video conferencing with College of Medicine faculty members in Tucson, Arizona.

This summer, the Osler program will be kicked off at 9 am on June 16, 2008 at the T-Health Institute of the Arizona Telemedicine Program on the College of Medicine Campus in Phoenix and will be six weeks in length. Up to 10 summer fellows will
participate in an experimental course on “The Nature of Disease”. We plan to introduce the Osler Fellows to segments of an actual medical college curriculum, and test their ability to deal with this curriculum, without the benefit of a pre-med college experience.

Sir William Osler Case Study: Cartilage tumor in a 16 year old boy. The tumor, lower left, occupies the head of the femur (upper leg bone). The light microscopic image (upper right) shows malignant cartilage cells invading normal bone. Sir William Osler students will be introduced to the basics of human pathology and light microscopy of disease processes using “virtual slides” in the T-Health Amphitheater.

The students will analyze their own performances as well the group's performance.

In many countries, other than the United States, high school students enter health care training tracks right out of high school. We want to see if that might work here in Arizona. It's a great project and should be a lot of fun. We anticipate having a terrific group of high school students working with our medical college faculty this summer in Phoenix. All of the instructors are highly respected medical college faculty members who will be working with our student Osler Fellows, in part, because they feel that the questions we are asking could have significant implications for the future of health care education in Arizona.
The Sir William Osler Summer Fellowship Program was established by Dr. Ronald S. Weinstein, Director of the Arizona Telemedicine Program, in the 1980s. Over 100 highly qualified students have participated in these programs over the years.

To apply submit a letter of interest, a resume and your transcripts to mail to:

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