

Alumni Newsletter

Department of Physiology and Biophysics

University of Illinois at Chicago

April, 2007

We are almost at the end of another semester (one more week of classes). Since I will have 5 hours of lecture it will be a busy week for me. Even after all my years at UIC I still find it strange to end so early. Because of where I went to school and the reinforcement this received when my kids were in grade school in Chicago I mentally associate June with the end of the school term – not the end of April.

Another big change in the courses our students will take is to begin in the Fall semester. We will be initiating a course to cover the basics of physiology which all the students interested in physiology will take in the Fall semester of their first year. In the second semester of their first year we will have a second physiology course which will cover selected subjects in more detail. We are removing the need for the students to take the 2 semester physiology course we present to the medical students. Because of the GEMS program our students were not able to take physiology until the second year. We are hoping that even GEMS students interested in other disciplines will enroll in the new physiology course. With the current emphasis on translational research it seems that physiology is more relevant to a career in the biomedical sciences than ever before.

On April 14 the faculty had a retreat. Over the course of 7 hours a number of aspects of the departments' affairs were discussed. Afterwards the spouses were invited to join for a cocktail hour in the Solaro's condominium following which we went to a lovely restaurant for dinner. I took some pictures and invite you to view them. Here is the link:

<http://www.uic.edu/depts/mcpb/Pictures/Faculty%20Retreat%20-%202007/>

Randal C. Jaffe, Ph.D.
Department of Physiology and Biophysics (M/C901)
University of Illinois at Chicago
835 S. Wolcott
Chicago, IL 60612