

*Welcome to the Class of 2016
from the Office of Student Affairs in Carbondale*

Greetings, and welcome to the SIU SOM family. I want to take this opportunity to say how glad we are you are coming to SIU SOM, and to let you know a bit about the Student Affairs Office in Carbondale. This spring and summer you will receive several letters and/or e-mails from my office with a variety of information about entering medical school. **Make sure you read these over carefully** and attend to those details BEFORE you get to Carbondale.

This office exists primarily to serve your needs; that doesn't mean we make student loan money grow on trees, or that we can hand out passing grades on evaluations. However, it does mean if you have a problem of ANY kind, whether it is personal, financial, or social, we're here to help.

My support staff consists of Barbara Jones, who is my secretary/receptionist and truly my right arm in running this office. She is usually here from 8:00 a.m. till 4:30 p.m. and her office is right outside mine in Lindegren Hall Room 132. I expect that you will treat Barbara respectfully. She works hard, and will be happy to assist you in any reasonable way.

Most of you have come in contact with the Student Affairs Office in Springfield at one time or another during your application/admission process. The Springfield office handles most of the financial aid and registration issues that arise. We in Carbondale serve as facilitators to help you get in touch with them, and can usually direct you to the right person.

I have been with the medical school over 20 years as a faculty member and administrator. I teach physics in our post-baccalaureate program, MEDPREP, have tutored a number of years in the Sensory Systems and Behavior unit of the first year curriculum, and have tutored in the Physician's Assistant program. I carry a cell phone when I am out of the office (except for rare occasions) and am happy to take a call from you anytime. I make that number available to you so please don't hesitate to call - that's part of my job. Since MEDPREP is housed in Wheeler Hall, I also have an office there. Barbara always knows my schedule so check with her to see when and where you might find me. I also post a schedule on my office door.

Finally, I look forward to getting to know each of you as the year goes on. It usually takes me a couple of weeks to associate names with faces, but that's one of the pleasant tasks of my job.

We're glad you're here, and look forward to getting to know each of you.

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