

# The Nicholas J. Pisacano, MD, Memorial Foundation

On 22 May 1995 the Board of Directors of the Nicholas J. Pisacano, MD, Memorial Foundation met in Lexington, Kentucky, to review the applications for the 1995 Pisacano Scholar program. The Pisacano Scholars program provides funding for outstanding 3rd- or 4th-year medical students for a 4- or 5-year period. Students must make a commitment to the specialty of family practice. The program is designed to reimburse a portion of the medical school debt incurred by the student by the conclusion of the student's residency. A portion of the funds are distributed to the student during medical school, and the remaining funds are distributed over the required 3-year residency. Students are evaluated each year to assure eligibility for continuation. The program is intended to assist in the development of future leaders in family practice.

The Pisacano Scholars program is extremely competitive. Only students who demonstrate a strong commitment to the specialty of family practice are considered. In addition each applicant must show demonstrable leadership skills, superior academic achievement, strong communication skills, reputable traits of character and integrity, and a noteworthy level of community service. Although students must demonstrate financial need, it is not a determining factor in the selection process.

The Nicholas J. Pisacano, MD, Memorial Foundation is pleased to present the 1995 Pisacano Scholars:



**Randi Berg** is a 4th-year medical student at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She attended Luther College in Iowa where she graduated summa cum laude with a degree in biology and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. She spent a year in Norway

before beginning graduate study in the anatomy department of the UW Medical School. As a graduate student, she received a University Fellowship and served as a teaching assistant for several medical courses. Randi devoted a year to research and a year to teaching at Luther College

prior to returning to the UW Medical School to complete her medical education. She participated in various organizations including serving as co-president of the Family Medicine Interest Group and co-coordinator of the First Annual Clinical Skills Workshop. She also enjoys giving talks to area high-school students, recording literature for the blind through the EARS program, and volunteering at Computers to Help People Inc. Randi's earliest exposure to the health field was as a child accompanying her father, a pastor, on hospital rounds and home visits. Randi hopes to serve in an underserved area, particularly one which would allow her to pursue her interest in medical outreach in the Amish community.

**Stephen Cook** is a 4th-year medical student at the University of California at San Francisco (UCSF). A native of California, Stephen attended Dartmouth College and majored in engineering science where he graduated summa cum laude and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. Stephen volunteered for several years as a retreat leader for school and church groups, serving as a counselor and giving talks on social and adolescent development issues. Additionally, he was a member of the Dartmouth Lightweight Rowing Team. Before attending UCSF, Stephen taught math at Berwick Academy in Maine and was involved with many school-sponsored activities there. At UCSF, Stephen participated in the Medical Scholars program and since 1992 has worked as an editor, writer, and photographer with the *Synapse* weekly newspaper. His numerous community activities have continued as well, including running marathons to raise money for children's charities. Stephen also serves as a tutor, a "Big Brother" in the Big Buddy Program and helps teach health topics to learning disabled middle school students. Stephen plans to practice in an underserved area where he can be active in community affairs and serve as a neighbor, physician, counselor, and advocate.







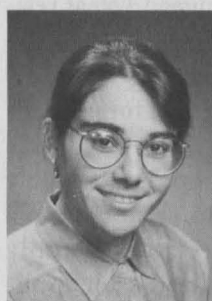
**Seth Koss** is a 4th-year student at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School. He was born in Richmond, Virginia, and graduated magna cum laude from Brandeis University with a degree in sociology. He was elected to Phi Beta Kappa in

his junior year and won the Richter Award & Scholarship for Excellence in Research. Seth also volunteered as an emergency medical technician with the fire department and rescue squad and with the Brandeis Emergency Medical Corps. At Penn, Seth founded and organized the Native American Health Group, a student organization that works with physicians and the United American Indians of the Delaware Philadelphia Valley to offer health services to Native Americans in the Philadelphia area. Seth also was a personal care assistant for 2 years to an undergraduate student with muscular dystrophy with whom he became close friends. Seth serves as a class of 1996 Medical Student Government representative and is currently a member of the Family Practice Interest Group and Physicians for Social Responsibility, which addresses violence as a serious public health problem. Seth hopes to practice in an underserved area and work on community and national issues that affect health.

**Alexandra Mazard** is a 4th-year student at Stanford University School of Medicine. A native of New York, Alexandra graduated magna cum laude with a degree in psychology from NYU College of Arts and Sciences and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. In addition, Alexandra won numerous scholarship, leadership and service awards. She studied several winters in Italy, Spain, Turkey, and Venezuela as part of the NYU Alumni Scholars Program. Alexandra was co-coordinator of Stanford's first annual National Primary Care Day Conference, the PMS workshop coordinator for



the 1993 Stanford Women in Medicine Conference, and co-president of the Family Medicine Interest Group. She is currently working on a Medical Scholars research project assessing the impact of socioeconomic status of origin and race on several health-related issues. Alexandra also enjoys dancing and has participated in and choreographed a number of aerobic-dance performances. Alexandra has known she wanted to be a physician since she was a child. Her goals as a family physician are to provide health care, educational opportunities, and mentorship to the black community while pursuing her interest in developing disease prevention programs. She would also like to further her education in the area of public health administration.



**Susan Lisker Powell** is a 3rd-year student at the University of Washington School of Medicine. She was born and raised in the Philadelphia area and graduated with a BA degree in classics from Johns Hopkins University. After completing her

undergraduate studies, Susan entered the Peace Corps and spent 2 years teaching high-school English and biology in a rural Kenyan village. As a Peace Corps volunteer, she facilitated the construction of rain tanks to provide her school community with clean water. Following her service in Kenya, Susan joined the Peace Corps Fellows Program at Columbia University Teachers College and taught high-school science and health in inner-city New York public schools while obtaining a master's degree in education. Susan subsequently received an MPH in maternal and child health from the University of Washington School of Public Health. Community activities in which she has participated during her career include tutorial projects and a teen parent support program. At her medical school, Susan serves as a student member of committees on admissions and curriculum and volunteers at a student-health clinic. Susan views a career in family practice as a natural extension of her previous experiences in teaching and training in public health.



**Eowyn Rieke** is a 3rd-year student at Brown University School of Medicine. She was born in Tucson, Arizona, and completed her undergraduate studies at Brown University where she is enrolled in an 8-year combined college-medical program. She has received a BA degree in English literature. As an undergraduate, Eowyn volunteered as a counselor for the Suicide Hotline and Anytown USA, National Conference of Christians and Jews. More recently, Eowyn has received a plaque of special recognition from the Consortium of Medical Student Organizations for "supreme effort and dedication in the design and



implementation of National Primary Care Day." Eowyn served as the American Association of Medical Colleges' (AAMC) student coordinator for this event. Eowyn still finds time to participate in many other organizations, including the Pre-Doc Committee with the Rhode Island Academy of Family Physicians. Eowyn recently accepted the position of co-director of a joint program between the American Medical Student Association and AmeriCorps, which links medical student expertise in public service and health with community service programs participating in the AmeriCorps program. Eowyn is committed to a career in which she can work with the whole patient, the entire family, and the surrounding community to improve the health of the underserved.