

## **Southern Region Group On Student Affairs Annual Report 2002-2003**

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The Southern Region Group on Student Affairs held their 2003 Spring Meeting in Lexington, Kentucky April 10th – April 13th. The theme of this year's spring meeting was "The Run for the MD Degree: Students, Changes, and Challenges" and was held at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in downtown Lexington. The meeting was a combined meeting with the Southeastern Association of Advisors for the Health Professions and was co-hosted by the University of Kentucky College of Medicine and the University of Alabama School of Medicine. The number of attendees exceeded 220. The meeting was superbly supported by staff from each host school led by Carol Elam, Sue Fosson, and Kathleen Nelson. Everyone greatly enjoyed the trip to Keeneland racetrack on Friday afternoon organized by the University of Kentucky College of Medicine. Even, the weather cooperated for a beautiful afternoon at the track.

### **Leadership Changes:**

- Mason Thompson succeeded Kathleen Nelson as Chair
- Cynthia Heldberg became Chair-Elect
- Don Kenney was elected Vice-Chair
- Steve Ellis was elected Chair-Elect of the SGSA-MAS succeeding Larry Keith
- Linda Gilbert's term on the Committee on Student Financial Assistance will end. The new committee member will be Michelle Cassetty.
- Don Kenney's term on the Committee on Student Affairs will end. The new committee member will be Georgette Dent.

### **Financial status:**

The current balance of our account is \$ 45,000. We did offer registration waivers to two student representatives from each member school of the SGSA at the Lexington meeting and this continued to be financially sound for our region.

The next SGSA spring meeting is scheduled for **April 1 – 4, 2004** in Key West, Florida at the Wyndham Casa Marina Resort and will be a combined meeting with the Central Region. The co-chairs planning the meeting are Cynthia Heldberg from the SGSA and Nancy Calvert from the CGSA. The theme of the 2004 meeting will be "Islands in the Stream" and will focus on the ethical and professional issues facing each of us. Using the words of the meeting planners, "We are connected by the educational stream that carries our students from the start of their medical career to graduation and beyond. Most decisions and actions affect not only our own island but also those of others in our institution."

I look forward to seeing you in Washington in November.

**Mason P. Thompson, M.D.**  
**Chair, Central Region Group on Student Affairs**