



# AAMP

Alumni Admission Mentor Program

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## Featured AAMP Volunteers



**Dr. Heather Douglas,**  
DVM, MBA anticipated 2011  
Class of 2006

Since graduating in 2006, Dr. Douglas has been working to establish her practice, Douglas Animal Hospitals, and business, DVM to GO. Due to her success as a DVM, she decided to return to SGU for her MBA in Multi-Sector Health Management. "It's making a huge difference in the way I run my businesses. As a veterinarian I tend to be more emotional, but I have learned to objectively evaluate what's happening in my practice," explains Dr. Douglas. Between her businesses and earning her degree, she still finds time to speak with prospective students at information sessions. She is a greatly valued AAMP member, and we appreciate all her contributions to St. George's University and veterinary medicine.



**Dr. Johnny Wirth, MD**  
Class of 2007

Dr. Wirth is in his last year of residency at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX and has recently secured a competitive fellowship at the Texas Heart Institute. Although he has found success, Dr. Wirth recalls the difficulty he had when applying to US medical schools. Ultimately, he explains, "SGU gives you an opportunity when other doors are closed. We did well because SGU put in the time and money to make sure we received an exceptional education. I think it's important for alumni to support SGU. It helps prospective students to see a successful graduate who made it through." We would like to thank Dr. Wirth for his active AAMP participation, and for the honest and forthright manner in which he advises students.

Every year St. George's University hosts hundreds of events across the US, Canada, and around the world. If you are interested in participating at one of our events, please visit [www.sgu.edu/infosession](http://www.sgu.edu/infosession).

## Grenada Remains Regional Leader in USMLE Performance

We are pleased to announce the results of a newly published study in the February 2011 journal of *Academic Medicine* that once again reinforces St. George's University as the leader in the Caribbean. Grenada's impressive 10-year average for Step 1 pass rate of 87.1% and Step 2 pass rate of 85% demonstrate the quality and success of SGU students and alumni.

Grenada's 10-year average for Step 1 is the highest of any country in the Caribbean and 31% higher than the average pass rate for the rest of the Caribbean. SGU graduates exceed the closest ranking country with private medical schools by approximately 10%. The USMLE Step 2 pass rates were also the highest of any country with private medical schools and the second highest of any country in the Caribbean, with Grenada .4% behind Barbados (which had less than 103 students take this examination in the entire 10-year span of the study).

"The recent study is only part of the puzzle.

We have been a leader in the Caribbean since 1982, when the first external study was published in *JAMA*," commented Dean of Enrolment Planning, Margaret Lambert. "The results of Grenada's USMLE scores are indicative of the quality of education available at St. George's."

Your favorite staff and faculty members have helped trained more than 11,000 physicians for the global workforce—and not just any physicians. Along with your former classmates, you are part of a global network of highly-qualified physicians in all areas of specialty. This same newsletter is reaching your colleagues and friends in 45 countries around the world, embodying the concept of One Health, One Medicine, One World. As we evolve and transform in order to offer the best to our students, we recognize how the effort and support of our alumni have been instrumental in the continued success of St. George's.

## MESSAGE FROM THE COORDINATOR

In recent months St. George's has been making headlines. Chancellor Modica encouraged the NY State Board of Regents to review the standards of Caribbean schools approved to conduct clinical rotations in NY hospitals. "One of the issues facing St. George's is that all Caribbean schools tend to be lumped together, but all Caribbean schools are not equal. St. George's outshines all the other schools in any quantifiable performance outcome," stated Chancellor Modica. Recent USMLE scores, RCVS pass rates, as well as the success of our alumni only serve to reinforce this observation.

We continue to evolve and transform as a University, and some significant developments have already occurred. The School of Veterinary Medicine has received provisional approval for US government loans, the online MBA program has attracted some of our own alumni, and Uni-

versity Support Services has moved to our new location in Great River, NY. While some things have changed overtime, the view of the Caribbean and your memories from your time on the island are to treasure forever. I would like to ask you to share your experiences with prospective students by joining AAMP. Please visit [www.sgu.edu/infosession](http://www.sgu.edu/infosession) or contact us for a schedule of upcoming events. Your guidance will support the future physicians and veterinarians to come.

SGU would like to thank our alumni for their continued support as we feel the same pride for our graduates around the world. Over and over again our alumni have proved themselves, excelling in all areas of medicine and veterinary medicine. Through the success of its students, SGU has continuously demonstrated it is not just another Caribbean school.

-Thomas Day, AAMP Coordinator

You can be the reason a student chooses SGU! If you are not already a participating member of AAMP, now is the time to come on board! For questions regarding the Alumni Admission Mentor Program (AAMP) or to publish your professional achievements in the prestigious Alumni Volunteer Directory (AVD), please contact Thomas Day at [tday@sgu.edu](mailto:tday@sgu.edu) or 1 (800) 899-6337 ext. 1297.

## NEW AT SGU

### Vet Students Eligible for US Federal Loans

School of Veterinary Medicine has been granted a provisional certification for Title IV Federal Funding from the US Department of Education. Qualified veterinary students will be eligible for federal student loans and in-school deferments. Over the past decade, SGU has trained more than 500 veterinarians who are practicing in countries around the world. It is listed with the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and is currently in review for accreditation.

### MPH Accredited by the CEPH Through 2015

St. George's University Master of Public Health Program (MPH) is now accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health through 2015, one of five non-US MPH programs to be accredited by the CEPH. Students can complete a MD/MPH or DVM/MPH dual degree in 4.5 years. For more information, contact [SGUEnrolment@sgu.edu](mailto:SGUEnrolment@sgu.edu).

### SGU Logo Merchandise Available Online!

If you're looking for SGU logo hoodies, shirts, hats and more, visit the new SGU Online Bookstore at [sgu.promoshop.com](http://sgu.promoshop.com)!

If you would like to **update and share your professional achievements in the quarterly AAMP Newsletter** or to unsubscribe, please contact Natasha Duggal at [nduggal@sgu.edu](mailto:nduggal@sgu.edu) or 1-631-665-8500 ext. 1420.

## ALUMNI IN THE NEWS



Dr. Vidushi Babber embodies St. George's University's motto to Think Beyond. In addition to practicing as a full-time physician in Washington DC, Dr. Babber extends her oath to serve her patients by aiming to help all those in the health care profession. Her non-profit organization, PRN Health Institute, provides training to physicians on how to use multiple forums to educate the public on health care issues. Dr. Babber recognizes the importance of facilitating clear understanding between doctors and their patients—especially in the age of advanced technology with constant communication. “Doctor’s need to understand in today’s world they have to get out of their office and take a more active approach in getting involved in their communities,” she explains.

Dr. Babber is also founder of PRN Media Health, a network created to help physicians develop as speakers, consultants, and media personalities. It has recently partnered with the American Medical Women’s Association to provide media training to its members. “Media training is a necessary aspect to deliver information in a way that is understandable.” She points out that people are often getting the incorrect information from the Internet. Addition-

ally, today’s doctors must face a variety of websites that rate their care. Dr. Babber teaches doctors how to monitor their online profiles and enhance their online reputation. “It can be quite scary to confront your ratings, but it is important to address.”

Dr. Babber has hosted and produced 13 shows of *Winning with Wellness: Where Beauty Meets Health* on Voice America Internet Talk Radio; 24 episodes of PRN—a weekly television health show on Dish Network with a national primetime reach of 50 million; over 20 shows of *Doctors Need To Know*, CPR series, and *The AMWA Hour* on Blog Talk Radio; and she is currently in production of *wPRN*, a Women Physicians Radio Network. Most recently, she has had the honor of being selected to judge the Gracies, which award women in media. As a physician, Dr. Babber has co-authored *A Healthier You*, featuring Deepak Chopra and Billy Blanks, and *Rising to the Top*, with Les Brown, Patricia Ball and Jim Rohn. She was named one of America’s Top Psychiatrists in 2007 and received the Patient’s Choice Award in 2008 and 2009.

We wish Dr. Vidushi Babber the best of luck in all her endeavors and continue to encourage her to always Think Beyond. Learn more about Dr. Babber by visiting [www.drbabber.com](http://www.drbabber.com) or [www.prnhealth.com](http://www.prnhealth.com).



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