



**The January 23<sup>rd</sup> Chat for Accepted Applicants included members of the Pritzker admissions staff and current students. If you haven't already, please check out the Pritzker Podcasts, as well!!**

**To help “decode” the chat names, below is a key:**

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Pritzker_Joni:  | Joni Huff, Director of Admissions and Financial Aid   |
| Pritzker_David: | David Owen, Director of Admissions and Financial Aid  |
| MDPhDBen:       | A third-year student who is currently on leave from med school to pursue his PhD, and who moderates the Pritzker Podcasts |
| MSIIMary:       | A second-year student who also moderates the Pritzker Podcasts  |
| MSII Mac:       | A second-year student who was an Orientation Co-Chair for 2007  |
| MS1 Erin:       | A first-year student  |
| MS1 Adam:       | A first-year student  |
| Walter:         | An '07 Pritzker grad, currently a first-year intern in the Internal Medicine program at the UC Medical Center             |

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <Marcus>        | Hello everyone!   |
| <MSIIMac>       | Hi! I'm a second-year student who was one of the Orientation Co-Chairs for the entering class of 2007. I'm from Illinois, and graduated from Princeton University.  |
| <PritzkerJoni>  | Hi Marcus!!   |
| <PritzkerDavid> | Hi Marcus   |
| <PritzkerJoni>  | I am a Director of Admissions and Outreach. I work with graduates from colleges and universities in the Northeast and South.  |
| <MS1Erin>       | Hi Marcus!  |
| <MS1Adam>       | I'm a first-year student from Texas. I graduated from Trinity University.   |
| <PritzkerDavid> | I am a Director of Admissions and Financial Aid. I work with graduates from colleges and universities in the Midwest and West   |
| <PritzkerJoni>  | For those of you joining us, welcome to the chat! We're thrilled to have you here! And congratulations on your acceptance to Pritzker! Online from Pritzker are David and Joni from the admissions/financial aid office, and several of our students. Jump in with questions--if you don't get an answer or see your question ""fall off"" the screen, ask again! |
| <MSIIMary>      | I'm a second-year student from Wisconsin, and I graduated from the University of Wisconsin, Madison.  |
| <MS1Erin>       | I'm a first-year medical student from Florida. I graduated from Duke University.  |
| <PritzkerDavid> | Hi Aaron  |
| <PritzkerDavid> | Hi Sanjay   |

<ajmiller> Good evening all and thank you for hosting this chat.  
 <Sanjay> Hi, how are you?  
 <PritzkerJoni> Sure! Happy to!  
 <PritzkerJoni> Do you all have questions? we have students here ready to chat!  
 <MSIIMary> congrats everyone!  
 <MDPhDBen> Howdy.  
 <MDPhDBen> I finished my first two years of med school, and am now working on my PhD through the Growth and Development Training Program. I am from Illinois and went to the University of Illinois. Where most first year students live?  
 <ajmiller> The majority of our students will live in Hyde Park, but you will find our students throughout the city as well. Housing is plentiful-- there isn't a med student dorm but there is University Housing (apts owned by the U of C) to help you find a place to live. You can find modern condos, luxury apts with lake views, and more charming walk-up apts all in the neighborhood--it's up to your style!  
 <MS1Erin> I live in a condo that I purchased  
 <MSIIMary> I live in a Hyde Park apartment (not university owned)  
 <MDPhDBen> How's everybody doing tonight?  
 <PritzkerDavid> Hi Jisha  
 <ajmiller> Also, if I were to purchase a home, how difficult would it be to find classmates to share the home with?  
 <MSIIMary> hi FB  
 <jisha726> Hi everyone! I don't have any questions at this point so I will just be reading...  
 <MS1Erin> aj...  
 <PritzkerJoni> Sounds good jisha!  
 <FB> Hi  
 <MS1Erin> Pritzker has an admitted students bulletin board with a housing section for students looking to share apts. and houses  
 <PritzkerJoni> A lot of people meet on Revisit Days, too, and decide to be roommates.  
 <MSIIMary> if you guys have questions just shout 'em out  
 <ajmiller> Thanks!  
 <FB> I was wondering, what helped you make you final decision on what school to attend  
 <MSIIMac> FB...  
 <MS1Adam> FB...  
 <jlf> when I came for my interview day most of the students that I met were older (had taken several years off before entering medical school)....I was wondering what the average age of the class is and what percentage of students delay graduation to pursue dual degrees or research projects?  
 <PritzkerJoni> jlf...  
 <MSIIMac> I love the city of Chicago and i really liked the students I met during my interview  
 <MSIIMary> heya pinecone

<MS1Adam> I made my final decision based on my revisit weekend...I had a lot of fun getting to know the students during revisit weekend

<PritzkerJoni> our average age is 24 for the entering class. About 60% come stright from undergrad and the other 40%

<PritzkerJoni> have taken 1+ years away

<MS1Erin> I also had a great time during my interview day and felt that the school kept me connected with different events such as this one!

<pinecone> hey mary

<MS1Adam> I also felt very at home when visiting Pritzker

<MS1Adam> and Chicago is awesome

<MDPhDBen> For me a big part of it was just how well the students seemed to get along with each other and how happy they seemed.

<jisha726> is there easy parking available on campus (if I were to commute)?

<PritzkerJoni> And Adam is from the south, so if you have questions about cold weather, ask him!

<MDPhDBen> Not what I expected med school to be like.

<MSIIMac> Jisha...

<MSIIMary> Pritzker was by far the best interview day I had... once I received my financial aid package and knew i could afford to attend, it made the decision very easy!

<MSIIMac> there is street parking if you are willing to work a little for it

<jlf> thank you pritzkerJoni!

<MSIIMac> I pay the monthly fee to park in the garage

<PritzkerJoni> sure!

<ajmiller> about what percentage of students use their own vehicle to commute to Pritzker?

<FB> Thank you

<jisha726> how much is the monthly fee?

<MSIIMac> 80 a months

<MSIIMac> month

<jisha726> thanks. around when will we be given our financial aid package?

<PritzkerJoni> Jisha...we will send out the apps at the end of this month or early Feb

<MDPhDBen> aj...

<PritzkerJoni> Then we'll have packages out about 6 weeks after you complete your application for Fin Aid

<MDPhDBen> there is a significant chunk

<jisha726> thank you

<PritzkerJoni> A scientific answer from our PhD student Ben!

<MSIIMary> hi clif\_brock

<PritzkerJoni> For those of you joining us, welcome to the chat! We\*re thrilled to have you here!And congratulations on your acceptance to Pritzker! Online from Pritzker are David and Joni from the admissions/financial aid office, and several of our students.Jump in with questions--if you don't get an answer or see your question ""fall off"" the screen, ask again!

<clif\_brock> hello

<MS1Adam> I have a car and I use it occasionally it is nice to have around but it

is not necessary I think I could get by without a car

<MDPhDBen> Almost anyone who lives outside of HP and has a car uses it to commute.

<MSIIMary> I don't have a car and I do fine :)

<alk> will there be a transcript of this chat available online somewhere?

<clif\_brock> I live in Oak Park... I was thinking about trying to commute without a car...

<jisha726> how difficult is it to commute? traffic? etc

<MSIIMac> Clif...

<jlf> is it possible to live in downtown chicago and commute?

<MSIIMac> that would be an intense commute

<clif\_brock> yes... looks like 2 trains

<MDPhDBen> JLF...

<clif\_brock> how is the parking situation in HP?

<MSIIMac> I would seriously think about that one

<PritzkerJoni> clif...from Oak Park suburb without a car would be tough

<MSIIMac> days can be long as is

<PritzkerDavid> alk, yes it will be posted in about 10 days

<MSIIMac> without a 1.5 commute

<MSIIMary> parking in HP is not too bad

<PritzkerJoni> From downtown it's an easy commute though

<MDPhDBen> I live pretty close to the loop and take the bus most days. It's a bit long but pretty convenient.

<Sanjay> What are your opinions on the upcoming changes to the curriculum?

<clif\_brock> ok

<MDPhDBen> Bus drops off right in front of the hospital.

<MSIIMary> I think the changes are really positive

<MS1Erin> Sanjay...

<alk> how will the curriculum changes affect the student experience?

<PritzkerDavid> Parking isn't bad if you get her before 8:00am or so--you can usually get something within a block

<jisha726> how much does it cost to take the bus and approximately how long does it take from the loop?

<PritzkerJoni> Jisha...the buses that run in Hyde Park/U of C area are usually free for students with their ID card

<MSIIMary> alk...

<clif\_brock> is it usually street parking? do you pay a meter?

<MS1Erin> From what I know, you guys ""should"" have an easier time than we do since it will be decompressed

<PritzkerJoni> Busses and the El outside of HP is \$2 a ride

<MDPhDBen> Jisha...

<MS1Adam> First quarter for us was a little rough...you guys will have the benefit of having anatomy early allowing for a better spread of classes I think this is a good change

<MSIIMac> clif...

<MSIIMary> I think the effect of the changes will be to decompress the early part of first year so that the transition to med school is a little bit

easier

<MS1Erin> starting with anatomy and finishing lab early would have been nice

<MSIIMac> there is usually street parking, you just have to be patient some mornings

<MSIIMac> street parking is free

<clif\_brock> ok.. Thanks Mac

<clif\_brock> great!

<Marcus> when will the school year start now?

<alk> is there anything you regret about your decision to attend pritzker? anything you wish you had known before attending?

<MDPhDBen> The bus and el are around \$2ish nowadays each way, and it takes probably 30-50 minutes depending on where you're coming from. Marcus...

<PritzkerJoni> alk...

<MS1Adam> And how many transfers there are.

<MDPhDBen> We'll start with Orientation August 1st and then classes start August 4th

<PritzkerJoni> But there are two that are direct shots from the loop.

<MDPhDBen> I honestly could not have been happier about my decision...I was trying to decide between Pritzker and some other schools

<MS1Adam> alk... I am delighted and have no regrets at all. I can't think of anything I wish I'd known

<MSIIMary> Honestly, I can't think of anything I regret up until this point so far, so good

<MS1Erin> but I am glad I chose Pritzker because of my class...it is a great atmosphere to learn medicine and is very supportive of the students

<MS1Erin> the positive feedback is great to hear - thanks guys!

<MS1Adam> Alk, I wish I had known how AWESOME a P/F curriculum could be. It wasn't even on my radar while applying, but I wish I hadn't even applied to schools with anything other than P/F.

<alk> One thing I can say is that EVERY student chooses to be here. We all had multiple acceptances and are here because we wanted to be and as cool as first year is, second year is twice as wonderful

<MDPhDBen> Do you all (the accepted applicants) want to introduce yourselves to each other? Don't have to, but these people may be your classmates!

<MS1Erin> how would you say the class dynamic is... do most students spend time outside of class together?

<MSIIMary> I have to second Ben's description of P/F

<MS1Adam> that is why they call it MS2!

<MSIIMac> :-)

<MSIIMary> my other friends are not in P/F and they are way more stressed than I am

<MS1Adam> How did your impression of Pritzker change during/after your revisit (if you made one)?

<Sanjay> introductions could be fun--

<clif\_brock> Jumping on PritzkerJoni's suggestion...I'm Andrea, I'm from Washington State

<alk>

<MSIIMary> sanjay...

<Marcus> I am Marcus and I go the University of Arizona!

<clif\_brock> anyone want to go first?

<MSIIMac> Hi! I'm a second-year student who was one of the Orientation Co-Chairs for the entering class of 2007. I'm from Illinois, and graduated from Princeton University.

<MS1Adam> I'm a first-year student from Texas. I graduated from Trinity University.

<jisha726> Hi everyone, my name is Jihye and I am from the University of Michigan :)

<MSIIMary> I was pretty sure I wanted to come here when I came to the revisit and it only solidified my desire to come here, mostly because I loved all the other students at my revisit day

<PritzkerJoni> Hey everyone...Walter is about to join us, too...

<MS1Erin> The class is very cohesive and a lot of students spend time together outside of class

<PritzkerJoni> Walter graduated from Pritzker in 2007 and is now a resident here in internal medicine

<alk> (forgot to add this earlier) I'm an undergrad at Wash U in St. Louis

<Sanjay> I'm Sanjay, i'm a senior at MIT

<MichaelHuber> Hi Joni and everyone else. I go to University of Florida (I'm still upset over the Capital One Bowl, Joni). I major in history

<PritzkerJoni> Go BLUE!

<shewmie2> Hi, I'm Eric and I'm from USC, though I grew up in Phoenix

<PritzkerJoni> Marcus

<PritzkerJoni> Sorry Michael!

<jisha726> haha yes, go BLUE! :D

<MDPhDBen> Go Illini.

<shewmie2> marcus are you from tucson?

<PritzkerJoni> I did my Go Blue before I saw your message, I promise!

<MDPhDBen> We were robbed.

<PritzkerJoni> It was a great game though!

<MS1Erin> Hey, someone else from FL! YAY!!!

<PritzkerJoni> Ben is a fighting Illini

<clif\_brock> I'm Clif. I have been working in downtown Chicago for about 4 years in Economic consulting. Before that, I graduated from U of I, Champaign

<MDPhDBen> Everyone knows they were cheating.

<MichaelHuber> Haha it was.

<clif\_brock> Also, GO Illini!

<ajmiller> Hey all, my name is Aaron. I've spent the last five years in the Navy. Can't wait to meet all of you!

<Marcus> I am from Tempe/Phoenix area but go to school in tucson

<shewmie2> The Illini didn't stand a chance. I admit I've been spoiled these past four years

<jlf> im from New York and im currently at Duke

<PritzkerJoni> Hey Aaron! I thought that was you!

<Marcus> No way I would go to Arizona State ;)

<MS1Erin> Woo hoo! Another Blue Devil. I finished at Duke in 2004.  
 <ajmiller> Hi Joni!  
 <MS1Erin> How are things in Durham?  
 <MDPhDBen> What year did you graduate Clif?  
 <clif\_brock> I graduated in 2003  
 <MichaelHuber> Nice to meet all of you. I plan on coming up for a revisit day. Will there be time on those days to look at housing?  
 <jlf> things are pretty typical  
 <shewmie2> haha yah i got out of arizona... i went to mountain ridge  
 <shewmie2> in glendale  
 <PritzkerJoni> Sanjay...do you know Aman? He's a first year here and a MIT 07 grad  
 <MDPhDBen> Good times. I was there through 04.  
 <MSIIMary> hello afshan  
 <clif\_brock> Cool!  
 <PritzkerDavid> MichaelHuber...  
 <afshan> Hello!  
 <PritzkerJoni> Hi Afshan!  
 <jisha726> I'll be going to revisit on the 15th! hope to see some of you there  
 <PritzkerJoni> Great Jisha!  
 <MS1Erin> jlf, there are a lot of Duke students here, in case you are wondering  
 <PritzkerDavid> part of the revisit day is set aside so that you can explore Hyde Park or...  
 <pinecone> Hello everyone, I am Mu and I am from New Jersey. Looking forward to seeing you all soon!  
 <PritzkerDavid> if you know it already, look for apartments.  
 <alk> Are there ways to meet potential roommates from our Pritzker class? Or to current students: how did you find your roommates?  
 <jlf> o thats great to hear!  
 <MSIIMac> alk...  
 <MS1Adam> alk..  
 <walter> Hi this is Walter Conwell graduate of Pritzker 07 and first year internal medicine intern at U of C medical center  
 <PritzkerJoni> We also put revisit days next to weekends so if you want to add in the weekend to look for apartments and stuff you can  
 <MS1Erin> I think there are 6 of us in my class  
 <Sanjay> Joni, Aman is a good friend of mine, i stayed with him on my interview day!  
 <MSIIMac> we set upo a housing bulletin board before school starts  
 <MS1Adam> i met my roommate actually at the revisit weekend  
 <FB> I'm Fola, an undergrad at WashU  
 <MS1Adam> it has worked out really well  
 <PritzkerJoni> Awesome, Sanjay! He's such a great guy  
 <PritzkerJoni> Hey Fola!  
 <FB> Hi Joni  
 <alk> Fola - I'm at Wash U too! I'm Andrea...I don't recall meeting you?  
 <FB> Have you gone to anymore football games lately  
 <MSIIMary> to the people who have just joined... don't be shy about asking

questions!

<shewmie2> Are any of you current students in combined degree programs or planning to do one?

<PritzkerJoni> Fola...I last went to the Michigan/Michigan State game in November. It was awesome!

<MS1Adam> shewmie...

<MDPhDBen> Shewmie, I'm doing a PhD in cancer biology currently.

<MS1Adam> I am thinking of doing the combined MBA program

<shewmie2> that's what i'm thinking of doing

<MDPhDBen> Did 2 years of med school and then started grad school.

<MS1Adam> it seems like a great opportunity and I really like business

<shewmie2> actually planning on doing

<shewmie2> wherever i end up

<PritzkerJoni> Since Walter has already gone through clinical years and is now in residency feel free to ask questions about the Match, etc.

<shewmie2> yah i'm a business minor

<MS1Adam> I do not have to make my decision for a little while though

<Marcus> Can you guys talk about Pritzker's support system (faculty/advisors)?

<alk> Can anyone comment on safety in Hyde Park?

<shewmie2> i second marcus's question

<MSIIMac> alk....

<MS1Adam> alk...

<MSIIMac> Chicago is comprised of 70+ distinct neighborhoods. Hyde Park is a neighborhood of 40,000 located on the south side of Chicago, about 5 miles from downtown.

<MSIIMac> Hyde Park/Chicago requires the same ""urban smarts"" that any other city would require. The U of C is committed to student safety and has many resources in place to help our students, faculty, and staff. We even produce ""Common Sense""--a guide to urban safety. <http://commonsense.uchicago.edu/>

<MSIIMary> marcus...

<PritzkerJoni> Students are typing answers to Marcus's question...hang on...

<shewmie2> ms1adam, does the md/mba program require the gmat?

<MS1Adam> shewmie the program does require you to take the gmat

<PritzkerJoni> Most of our students will apply for the Graduate School of Business MBA program during their 2nd or 3rd year of medical school. We have anywhere from 3-5 students per year pursuing an MD/MBA.

<MSIIMary> I've found the support system to be excellent. Not only are there the Pritzker societies that provide career advising, but all the faculty members are extremely accessible

<shewmie2> okay thanks

<MS1Adam> I think most students interested in the program apply at the end of their second or third year

<walter> With regard to the support system it is fantastic. Everyone for the professors to the deans give there time freely to help any student that is having difficulty. Additionally the student at pritzker really

<PritzkerJoni> try to take the lead in forming new initiatives to address concerns.  
I have to say, too, we in admissions love it when students stop by with questions or just want to chat...we get kind of attached to you during the admissions process and are so excited to see you here :-)

<MSIIMary> I've been able to get my questions answered effortlessly and it's really easy to make contacts with mentors

<MS1Erin> Plus, there's always food or candy in the admissions office too!

<MSIIMary> lol

<MSIIMary> good point

<MDPhDBen> That's the only reason I ever come around these parts.

<walter> One program that I started a couple of years ago, MCAAM focuses on ensuring the academic success of the minority medical students.

<PritzkerJoni> Thanks Ben :-)

<jlf> are there funded abroad research opportunities available to students or summer programs that prtizker students tend to take part in

<pinecone> Hi Joni, glad to meet you here

<clif\_brock> thats a good question..

<PritzkerJoni> We offer a funded summer research program to rising 2nd year students. About 2/3 of the class will elect to participate in this program and will participate in a basic science or clinical research project of their choosing. The summer concludes with a symposium where participating students present their research.

<MSIIMac> Many students will go abroad. The Remedy student group has a trip each year to take medical supplies to a caribbean country. Students will also do clinical or research experiences abroad in their first summer, during 4th year elective time, and/or take a year leave to do so. There is also the Geographical Medicine Scholars Program.

<PritzkerJoni> Hi Pinecone!!

<PritzkerDavid> The Geographical Medicine Scholars Program is a 12 month curriculum in Global Health competency that has been developed for housestaff and medical student trainees. The program culminates in an international practicum which will take place in South India.  
<http://pritzker.bsd.uchicago.edu/about/news/gmsp.shtml>

<PritzkerJoni> Uhhh...was that too much info JLF?

<clif\_brock> lol

<MichaelHuber> My mac widget tells me that it's 15 degrees in Chicago. It's 71 in Gainesville right now. Did any of you make the transition from warm climates?

<MS1Adam> Michael...

<MS1Erin> Yes, I'm from FL, so I know about leaving the warmth

<MS1Adam> I am from Texas

<MS1Adam> I made the transition and honestly it has not been as badd as I expected

<MDPhDBen> Isn't 15 degrees warm to you?

<shewmie2> thank you for all your help! bye

<MS1Adam> You just dress for the weather

<PritzkerJoni> Bye Shewmie!  
 <MS1Adam> Plus you are inside a lot of the day anyway  
 <MS1Erin> The summer here was fantastic, but it's definitely cold now! I have a down coat and I'm good though.  
 <MS1Adam> Plus summer is going to be amazing  
 <MSIIMary> hi Ben  
 <PritzkerJoni> We'll give you tips on layering and stuff, too. I keep telling Adam to wear a scarf :-)  
 <clif\_brock> it has been cold  
 <MS1Adam> we are already planning on going to the beach up north frequently  
 <Ben07> Hi everybody.  
 <MS1Adam> I am still learning Joni!  
 <MDPhDBen> Hey Ben.  
 <PritzkerJoni> Summers can be in the high 90s...I think a lot of people think it's cold here all the time!  
 <clif\_brock> i feel like there are only a couple of weeks a year in Chicago where it is ""seriously cold"" The rest is not bad  
 <alk> Current students - what factors weighed into your decision to choose Pritzker over any of your other options?  
 <PritzkerJoni> You're doing well Adam.  
 <MSIIMary> cold is good for the soul. :) builds character!  
 <PritzkerJoni> Thanks, Clif!  
 <MSIIMac> alk...  
 <MSIIMary> alk...  
 <MichaelHuber> Its good to hear from people who did it and are surviving, thanks  
 <MSIIMac> it was based mostly on my impression on how happy the students were  
 <PritzkerJoni> I find cold invigorating, to be honest. I get really lazy in the summer and just want to stay in air conditioning and eat ice cream  
 <MS1Adam> alk...for me it came down to the people and the support Pritzker offers its students...we really are like a big family  
 <PritzkerJoni> Michael...we have a couple UF students at Pritzker so they'll help you out!  
 <MS1Erin> The main reasons for me choosing Pritzker were my interview day and the fact that Pritzker kept me engaged in what was going on for several months following my interview.  
 <pinecone> hi adam, how do you deal with the cold winter in chicago?  
 <MS1Adam> pinecone  
 <MS1Adam> i have had to adjust my wardrobe a little...I just wear thicker clothes  
 <alk> Hmm, thanks. These are all things I've observed during the interview process too!  
 <MS1Adam> honestly I have not found it to be that bad  
 <clif\_brock> make sure to get some gloves  
 <MS1Adam> This past sat. it was -5  
 <MS1Adam> it wasnt that bad  
 <MS1Adam> once it gets below 30 its all the same really  
 <MS1Erin> I have the best pair of mittens by Gordini!

<MSIIMary> I really liked everyone I met from the school. I was excited about the social science-type research opportunities and the excellent clinical education... those were probably the biggest factors for me

<MDPhDBen> Yes. 10 above, 20 below...same thing.

<PritzkerJoni> Kind of like the ""dry heat"" thing people try to pull off...once it's over 90 it's HOT...dry or not!

<MS1Adam> I learned it is good to have a humidifier

<clif\_brock> very true

<clif\_brock> yes... especially in your bedroom, while you are sleeping... a humidifier makes a big difference

<pinecone> so indoors is a little dry?

<PritzkerJoni> What are the issues you all are considering when you think of med schools? what are the top factors for you?

<pinecone> oh, i see,

<MS1Adam> yea it is but a humidifier is great

<PritzkerJoni> Sorry...don't mean to be in interview mode all over again :-)

<MSIIMary> lol

<clif\_brock> lol

\* MSIIMary (Plays Sound: evillaugh.au) evillaugh

<pinecone> sounds great. so when does winter start in chicago in general?

<MSIIMary> whenever it wants to

<MJA> administrative and faculty support is important to me

<Ben07> Current students--in what kind of ways do you get involved in the community outside of the classroom?

<MichaelHuber> One of the issues I'm considering most is the experiences in the third and fourth years. I remember on interview day my tour guide said something about the subinternship leaving Pritzker students really well prepared for residency but I was fried and not really paying attention. Can anyone elaborate on that?

<clif\_brock> I think I was actually asked that question at my Pritzker interview ;)

<MSIIMary> :-) I'm only kinda kidding

<MS1Adam> MJA...

<PritzkerDavid> Mary is from Wisconsin

<MS1Adam> the administration and faculty are great

<Marcus> The biggest thing for me is having a faculty that wants to teach rather than being forced to be there

<PritzkerDavid> they know winter

<MS1Adam> and very supportive

<MDPhDBen> Different every year though. Sometimes it's cold in October, sometimes it doesn't get really cold until late December/early January.

<alk> I am thinking about the learning environment - what my classmates would be like, the amount of camaraderie I could expect, how the faculty interact with students, etc

<PritzkerJoni> Usually in late October or early November you'll notice a cold snap...then we usually get a bit of a random warm up (like 50 degrees) then winter settles in for sure in December/Jan

<MSIIMac> Ben...  
 <pinecone> haha..  
 <MS1Adam> alk...  
 <MJA> thanks  
 <MS1Adam> the class is great we all are one big family and we get along really well  
 <MSIIMac> I helped out with a program that discusses drug abuse in local schools and volunteered at some of the local clinics  
 <alk> thanks ms1adam...that's great to hear  
 <PritzkerJoni> Michael...walter is typing a response since he just went through it!  
 <pinecone> thanks Ben!  
 <MS1Adam> there is a lot of camaraderie...we all help eachother when studying for tests and hang out all the time on the weekends  
 <MS1Erin> There are plenty of opportunities to get involved with community service. There are lots of student organizations and some student run clinics  
 <clif\_brock> I agree with alk on the learning environment... Easily accessable mentorship is important as well.  
 <Marcus> How much time do you have to do those extracurricular activities during the school year?  
 <MSIIMac> marcus...  
 <MS1Adam> clif...  
 <MS1Erin> I am involved with Hip Corps and we teach HIV prevention and education to middle school students  
 <MSIIMac> you have time to make time for whatever you think is important  
 <MS1Adam> you are assigned an advisor when you get here and mine is great  
 <MSIIMary> the summer research program is a fantastic way to really build a relationship with a mentor, but there are lots of other possibilities, too  
 <MSIIMac> if an activity or interest is meaningful for you, you can make time for it 1st and 2nd year  
 <MS1Adam> also when you get into research for the summer the goal is for you to have a great faculty mentor  
 <PritzkerDavid> marcus  
 <pinecone> joni, thanks for the info! i'm on the east coast right now and the winter just started (sort of).  
 <clif\_brock> thanks adam!  
 <walter> With regard to the preparation for residency. The autonomy that you receive during your clinical years combined with the kind of patients that you will see, will more than prepare you for residency. By my third month of internship I felt that I had already peaked at my level of efficiency.  
 <MS1Adam> sure!  
 <PritzkerJoni> I have a lot of casual interactions with faculty (aka when they aren't ""on"" or giving a presentation) and I have to say...they LOVE teaching the students and being mentors for them...that's honestly why a lot of them are at Pritzker--the students.  
 <PritzkerDavid> following up on Mac, with P/F it is easier to do the things that are

important to you, and with the new curriculum...  
 <PritzkerDavid> you will have more time to do those things, too.  
 <Ben07> Thanks, Mac and Erin. Speaking of the community around Pritzker, is there a large hispanic community that the hospital serves or that Pritzker reaches out to?

<MSIIMary> Ben...  
 <clif\_brock> Can anyone comment on the patient population 3rd year? Is it Diverse?

<clif\_brock> actually... my question can just be appended to Bens  
 <pinecone> joni, do many students take class from other schools?  
 <PritzkerJoni> pinecone...do you mean other schools within U of C or do you mean other universities  
 <pinecone> within UofC  
 <PritzkerJoni> Clif and Ben...answers are being typed!  
 <MSIIMary> One of the student volunteer clinics, Community Health, serves a predominantly Hispanic and Polish population and is a great student experience

<walter> The patient population of U of C is 75% African american, 5-10% latino, and and 10-15% white and other

<Marcus> How do you feel about the preparation for Step 1/residency placement?

<PritzkerJoni> Pinecone--absolutely! You have elective time in the 1st and 2nd year carved out of your curriculum, so there is the time and a specific process in place to cut through red tape

<MichaelHuber> Unfortunately I have to go. I think this chat is useful, thanks for everyone's time. I'm looking forward to a revisit day. BBye.  
 <MS1Adam> Bye Michael!  
 <MSIIMary> Marcus... check back with us in July-August. ;-)  
 <PritzkerJoni> Plus all classes are included in your tuition, so you don't pay ""Extra"" for a class outside of pritzker

<MSIIMary> just kidding ourselves we are really well prepared  
 <PritzkerDavid> g'night Michael  
 <pinecone> that's great! i'm thinking of taking Spanish classes at the undergrad college.

<MDPhDBen> In general the south side of Chicago is much more diverse than anywhere else in the city, and UofC is the major hospital in this area.

<alk> Are there many interdisciplinary research projects between UofC schools?

<MSIIMary> I know that the class above us rocked step 1  
 <MSIIMac> like guitar hero style rocked  
 <PritzkerJoni> Alk...definitely...  
 <clif\_brock> haha  
 <MSIIMary> like rock band rocked  
 <PritzkerJoni> Medicine isn't just a science...it involves politics, economics, culture, etc. so a lot of our projects and initiatives are multi disciplinary

<PritzkerJoni> Many Pritzker faculty are collaborating with faculty in sociology,

econ, ethics, and other departments

<MDPhDBen> pinecone, there is a medical Spanish course through Pritzker that is pretty helpful.

<alk> Thanks Joni

<pinecone> i really love the interdisciplinary nature.

<pinecone> thanks Ben!

<clif\_brock> oh-- can you tell me more about the medical spanish course?

<MDPhDBen> I was thinking of doing an undergrad course as well, but the medical thing was more down my alley.

<PritzkerJoni> It's really what draws a lot of people here...and being on the campus of the university really helps--there is no physical or philosophical divide.

<pinecone> do you need a strong background in daily spanish for that?

<MDPhDBen> When I did it, there were three sections for advanced/intermed/beginner so you don't have to feel like a total idiot if you've never learned Spanish before.

<alk> yes, i was impressed by that on my visit

<MDPhDBen> No, not by any means.

<pinecone> that's awesome, 'cause I've only learned it a little bit here and there.

<MDPhDBen> So for the beginner stuff, they cover basic grammar structure and vocab and then go into anatomy and other medical terms and stuff.

<PritzkerJoni> Yeah, and from what I hear, the spanish you might learn in high school is nothing like trying to actually converse in spanish in a real-life situation.

<MDPhDBen> The advanced one is a lot more conversational and focuses a lot on patient interviewing and certain cultural differences.

<pinecone> ben, which quarter is the med spanish provided?

<alk> what do you think about housing? HP vs. elsewhere? Regents park vs. other options?

<clif\_brock> I'm in the same boat... I'm going to do an immersion in Central America before starting school though.

<MSIIMac> alk...

<MSIIMac> I live in Regents and like it a lot

<MS1Adam> alk...I am biased for Regents

<MS1Adam> i love it

<MDPhDBen> Spring of first year.

<MSIIMac> a lot of students live there so it has a nice community feel

<MDPhDBen> That's the big elective time for everyone.

<PritzkerJoni> clif...that sounds interesting! what will you be doing? Language immersion?

<Ben07> Does Hyde Park provide most of the necessities for students like groceries, restaurants, etc., or are students pretty mobile for these things?

<MS1Adam> a lot of my classmates live in Regents so it is nice to be able to go hang out with them at the end of the day

<pinecone> thanks!

<MSIIMary> alk... I live in Hyde Park and I really like it. I don't live in Regents

(too rich for my blood) but in another large building that's actually loser to campus.

<MSIIMac> Ben....

<alk> Is it possible to live in regents with other non-Pritzker people, and still get the Pritzker rate?

<MS1Erin> I live within walking distance of the campus and own a condo

<PritzkerJoni> Alk...definitely

<MSIIMac> Hyde Park does provide those things but a bunch of students drive about 10 min away to get to a bigger grocery store

<PritzkerDavid> pinecone, you can also take beginning Spanish through the college (no additional cost) and with the new curric, there will be time in the mornings when most of the langauge courses are offered.

<pinecone> how about the graduate student housing?

<clif\_brock> Joni... that is the plan. I am leaving in April and going to Central America for a few months. I haven't worked out all of the details, but the plan is to go from Guatemala to Panama, and stop at a few language schools on the way.

<Ben07> Thanks, Mac.

<MSIIMary> Ben, I don't have a car and I get everything I need in Hyde Park... except that sometimes when I'm feeling especially lazy I get groceries delivered

<pinecone> hi david, thanks a lot for the info!

<Ben07> Gotcha, Mary.

<MSIIMac> sure...for anything else you need the downtown is just minutes away

<PritzkerJoni> Clif==that sounds great! Send us pictures! We love getting pics from people off doing interesting things.

<PritzkerDavid> sure

<clif\_brock> will do!

<Ben07> Can public transportation get you from Hyde Park downtown relatively easily?

<Marcus> Unfortunatly, I have to go to class. But before I go, Ben and Mary, are you the two from the pritzker podcast?

<MSIIMary> lol, yes, Marcus, you found us out. :)

<PritzkerDavid> see ya Marcus

<MDPhDBen> Nope, that's another Ben and Mary.

<MDPhDBen> And Joni.

<MSIIMary> Public transportation to downtown is easy as pie

<MDPhDBen> And David.

<PritzkerJoni> Come on Ben! You know it's you!

<clif\_brock> You can take the Red Line to HP, and transfer to a bus. Or just take the Metra..

<MDPhDBen> FINE.

<PritzkerDavid> Of ice cream fame? oh no that's Ben and ...

<MSIIMary> rofl

<Sanjay> do you guys get to enjoy the nightlife in chicago?

<MSIIMac> sanjay....

<Marcus> Yes! I love the podcast so much! Thanks for putting that together.

It is really helpful as we go through this process!

<Marcus> night everyone  
 <MSIIMac> night life great  
 <MSIIMary> Good night!  
 <PritzkerJoni> bye marcus!  
 <MDPhDBen> Awesome Marcus. Thanks for the feedback.  
 <MSIIMac> chicago has some of the best live music you will find anywehre  
 <MS1Adam> Sanjay Chicago is a great city for nightlife...just ask Aman  
 <Sanjay> haha, i figured  
 <pinecone> I heard there is also a music festival in milwaukee  
 <MSIIMac> there is  
 <MSIIMac> summer fest  
 <MSIIMary> oooh, Summerfest!  
 <MS1Adam> Sanjay thats the great thing about P/F is you have time to enjoy the  
 nightlife  
 <PritzkerJoni> Oh yeah...summerfest is fantastic!  
 <Sanjay> summerfest, i've been, it's awesome  
 <pinecone> how far is milwaukee  
 <MDPhDBen> Ben, the #4 and the #2 buses are genius for getting here from  
 downtown.  
 <MSIIMac> but chicagos summer festivals beat out wisconsin  
 <MSIIMac> blues fest  
 <PritzkerJoni> Plus now you can buy giftcards in advance for food and stuff so  
 you don't have to take a lot of cash  
 <MSIIMac> gospel fest  
 <MSIIMac> lolla  
 <MSIIMac> cant beat it  
 <MSIIMac> pitchfork  
 <PritzkerDavid> jazzfest  
 <PritzkerJoni> Milwaukee is about 1.5 hours and there is a train from here north  
 to Milwaukee  
 <PritzkerDavid> gospelfest  
 <MSIIMary> Oh, man, summerfest beats the pants off all that stuff  
 <pinecone> sweet  
 <MDPhDBen> Celtic Fest.  
 <MSIIMac> pleeeeeease  
 <PritzkerJoni> Mary's a bit cheesehead biased :-)  
 <Ben07> Thanks for the transportation info. Is it tough to drive downtown?  
 <pinecone> wait, how can i get the list of all these fests..

<Ben07> Thanks for the transportation info. Is it tough to drive downtown?  
 <MSIIMary> sorry, but it's true. And Irish Fest tells Celtic Fest to pogue ma  
 thoin

<MS1Erin> Not at all Ben  
 <PritzkerDavid> and free dance lessons the evening before each fest  
 <MSIIMac> just google them  
 <PritzkerJoni> Seriously though, in the summer, you have your choice of a  
 million music fests, street festivals, etc.

<MSIIMary> But, yeah, I'm a bit biased  
 <MDPhDBen> Free dancing in front of live bands. Free movies in the park. Free art institute admission.

<MS1Adam> Ben it is expensive to park downtown but it can be done  
 <PritzkerJoni> On a given weekend you could choose between 3 different ""fests"" or more!

<MS1Erin> Getting downtown is pretty easy when driving, but like Adam said, parking can be expensive

<MSIIMac> Ben...  
 <MSIIMac> easy to drive downtown but parking can be pricey  
 <Ben07> Thanks!  
 <pinecone> i took the 6 bus before, it's pretty fast  
 <PritzkerJoni> Downtown is just a straight shot up lake shore drive, and we have a grid system so it's pretty easy to figure out  
 <PritzkerJoni> Plus if I get lost I look for the lake then readjust :-)  
 <MS1Adam> The 6 bus is great..but if you need to go further north you can grab a cab

<MDPhDBen> Yep. #6 is good too.  
 <alk> Do you feel lectures are generally engaging?  
 <MS1Adam> cabs are great  
 <MSIIMary> alk...  
 <MSIIMary> a lot of that depends on the individual, I think. you can't please everyone all of the time, and for every person that loves a particular lecturer, someone else will hate them. But overall I think the quality is very good

<pinecone> i once fell asleep on 6 and when i finally woke up, it's downtown  
 <alk> thanks mary  
 <MSIIMary> And if you figure out that a lecturer's style doesn't work for you, you don't have to go

<Ben07> To add to alk's question--can you tell us about the mix of lecture time versus other kinds of classtime?

<MSIIMary> Ben07...  
 <clif\_brock> yes... and lab time..  
 <PritzkerJoni> Students will spend about 50% of their time in lecture, and the other 50% with small-group discussions, lab, and case-based learning.

<MSIIMary> oh, well, there you go. ;-)  
 <Ben07> Thanks, Joni.  
 <PritzkerJoni> Sure!  
 <clif\_brock> Can anyone comment on financial aid? Should we be hearing from you guys about that soon?

<Ben07> Do you guys enjoy the case-based learning?  
 <MS1Adam> And we have a new sort of PBL course in the Cell Biology class  
 <MDPhDBen> During first year, it's probably less than 50/50...closer to like 30/70 of lecture vs. lab/small group.

<clif\_brock> Is it time to start working on FAFSA?  
 <PritzkerDavid> clif, yep.  
 <PritzkerJoni> with the anatomy class being moved to August the goal is to have

more time for discussion/case based work.

<PritzkerDavid> get your FAFSA in as soon as you can and to all the schools where you have interivewed.

<MS1Adam> Ben...

<PritzkerDavid> and then

<MS1Adam> in certain classes having case studies to back up the information we are learning is great

<MS1Adam> I do not like PBL because the knowledge is usually not given first...I prefer having the knowledge first

<PritzkerDavid> get busy on your taxes and encourage your parents to complete their taxes as soon as they can (if you will still be under 30 by the time school begins.)

<MS1Adam> a lot of our classes do incorporate cases to back up the info we are learning and thats a great way to learn

<clif\_brock> Thanks David!

<PritzkerDavid> sure!

<MSIIMary> you've got questions, we've got answers...

<MSIIMac> or else we'll lie and you'll never know

<MSIIMary> so ask away

<Sanjay> haha, nice mary

<PritzkerJoni> MAC!!!!!!

<MSIIMac> JK!

<PritzkerJoni> Ok...it's a sticky situation...but I'll ask it anyway....

<PritzkerJoni> Patriots or Giants???

<MSIIMac> ELI!

<MSIIMary> i just watch for the commercials

<PritzkerJoni> And the halftime enteratainment :-)

<MSIIMary> no, i usually leave the room for that part

<alk> All my favs have been knocked out...patriots and giants aren't good choices

<MDPhDBen> Bears got robbed.

<MS1Adam> o Pacs

<Sanjay> the new york football giants

<pinecone> new jersey giants, technically...

<MSIIMary> oh, sports, lalala, any project runway fans?

<PritzkerJoni> Nice Mary!

<MS1Adam> what questions do you guys have?

<PritzkerJoni> I just want the Pats because Tom Brady was my QB at Michigan

<MS1Adam> don't be shy now

<PritzkerJoni> And by ""My"" I mean I was one of 107,501 fans watching him :-)

<MDPhDBen> I cry myself to sleep every night until The Office returns.

<PritzkerJoni> Oh Ben...you poor thing...

<MDPhDBen> I might have to leave early tonight to go cry a little bit.

<MSIIMary> ok, people, wake up!

\* MSIIMary (Plays Sound: scream.au) scream

<PritzkerJoni> We tend to be unfocused sometimes :-)

<PritzkerJoni> Hi WG!!!

<MSIIMary> Hello wg!

<wg313> Hi guys!  
 <PritzkerDavid> hi wg  
 <PritzkerJoni> Feel free to ask questions!!!  
 <MSIIMary> please  
 <Ben07> Are there ways of getting out of the city to hike, etc.?  
 \* MDPPhDBen (Plays Sound: cowbell.au) cowbell  
 <MDPhDBen> More cowbell.  
 <MSIIMac> ben...  
 <PritzkerJoni> The Indiana Dunes are about 45 mintues away and I'm pretty sure there's a train to get there  
 <MSIIMac> there are a lot of do-able weekend trips up to wisconisn and michigan  
 <alk> As a west-coast girl, what are the indiana dunes?  
 <MDPhDBen> There's a fantastic indoor climbing gym on the way too.  
 <PritzkerJoni> Alk...um...at the risk of sounding not bright...  
 <PritzkerJoni> they are big giant, huge, sand dunes  
 <PritzkerDavid> You can take the South Shore train there in about 45 minutes  
 <wg313> I'm interested in finding out more about the Global Medicine Scholars Program and the Keith Edison Scholarship... how many students can participate in each and what other oppourtunities for traveling abroad are there are Pritzker?  
 <MSIIMary> The Geographical Medicine Scholars Program is a 12 month curriculum in Global Health competency that has been developed for housestaff and medical student trainees. The program culminates in an international practicum which will take place in South India.  
<http://pritzker.bsd.uchicago.edu/about/news/gmsp.shtml>  
 <wg313> (whoa, what was that cowbell noise??)  
 <alk> Haha, ok thanks. That really doesn't fit into my mental image of Indiana, but I'll try harder.  
 <PritzkerJoni> I know it sounds crazy, but they are so steep your legs will BURN by the time you reach the top!  
 <MDPhDBen> Yes, what Joni is trying to say is: They are dunes...of sand.  
 <pinecone> so tehre is a desert?  
 <MDPhDBen> That are giant. And big. And huge.  
 <MDPhDBen> Pretty exciting.  
 <PritzkerDavid> the dunes are left overs from the glacier that scooped out Lake Michigan  
 <PritzkerJoni> well, pinecone...not really because they are on the shores of Lake Michigan  
 <MDPhDBen> wg, it was a cowbell.  
 <MSIIMary> we have lots of fun noises that we can deploy at random  
 <pinecone> that explains it.  
 \* Ben07 (Plays Sound: laugh.au) laugh  
 <MSIIMary> whew. we thought you were allergic to cowbell  
 <PritzkerJoni> ruh-roh, WG...did we scare you off with the cowbell?  
 <MDPhDBen> Does your browser need more cowbell?  
 <pinecone> one more time please

<wg313> hahahah no my browser just freaked out on me and closed when i tried to click on joni's link

<clif\_brock> excellent

<pinecone> :-)

\* MSIIIMac (Plays Sound: cowbell.au) cowbell

<MSIIMary> once more with feeling

<wg313> would you mind repasting it?

<wg313> hahaha nice

<alk> note to self - pritzker students have a sense of humor...

<PritzkerJoni> The Geographical Medicine Scholars Program is a 12 month curriculum in Global Health competency that has been developed for housestaff and medical student trainees. The program culminates in an international practicum which will take place in South India.  
<http://pritzker.bsd.uchicago.edu/about/news/gmsp.shtml>

<MDPhDBen> I wear gold diapers.

<clif\_brock> I've got a fever. And the only prescription is more cowbell.

<PritzkerJoni> Clearly I need to cut the supply of caffeine to this room....

<MSIIMac> I have many leather bound books

<pinecone> questions about housing: is graduate student housing hard to get?

<wg313> thanks!

<MSIIMary> nope, not hard

<MS1Adam> Pine....

<MS1Adam> ...

<MS1Adam> no

<wg313> okay, i have a question for any current med school students (ben?)... could you walk us through your average week? what are the hours you're in class, what do you do when not in class?

<wg313> sorry if that's already been asked

<alk> how early shoud we start looking for housing? and when does the roommate board you mentioned earlier go up?

<clif\_brock> oh... and how much study time is in there?

<MSIIMac> clif...

<pinecone> so basically you can get what you want if you hand in the application early?

<MSIIMary> alk... you don't have to start looking for housing until early summer

<MS1Erin> wg...

<MSIIMary> the roommate board will go up in May-ish

<PritzkerJoni> You can go to  
<http://pritzker.bsd.uchicago.edu/md/curriculum/calendar.shtml> to download PDFs of our weekly class schedule...

<MS1Adam> We find our students really value understanding the basic science of human biology--looking at both the ""how"" and the ""why."" Our feeling is that the lecture-based curriculum is the best way to teach that knowledge, and then with that foundation, move on to discussions and case-based work.

<MSIIMac> study time really varies on how you learn. Some people study a lot

right before a test but for us in second year there is a lot more constant review/study most days

<PritzkerJoni> You'll even see when the socieies meet.

<pinecone> thanks joni!

<PritzkerJoni> 2nd year ends early enough to allow for 7 weeks of study for the Boards

<clif\_brock> ok

<MS1Erin> Fall quarter first year, we are in class and lab from approx. 8:30 until 5:00 everyday. This quarter, however, we are in class from 9:30 until 4:00 Mon., Wed., Fri. and from 9:30 until about 1:00 on Tues. and Thurs.

<clif\_brock> Erin-- theres a break in there somewhere, right?

<MS1Adam> we also had a 3 hours break on MWF in the middle of the day

<MSIIMary> hahaha

<PritzkerJoni> Yes, clif...you get to go to the bathroom :-)

<clif\_brock> lol

<MS1Erin> You can do pretty much whatever you want outside of class. Most students study, go to the gym, do community service, shadow in the hospital, etc. The possibilities are endless!

<pinecone> mary, do you need psychology background to learn psychiatry stuff?

<clif\_brock> I suppose I have to ask permission as well..

<MS1Adam> After the first quarter the schedule is much better

<MSIIMary> pinecone...

<MS1Adam> Plus your schedule will be very different from ours

<PritzkerJoni> Clif...we even have a big block of wood with a key attached..just like elementary school :-)

<MS1Erin> 2nd quarter, there is a break, but not 3 hrs.

<MSIIMary> You do not need a background in psychology -- you will learn everything you need to know in med school.

<clif\_brock> NICE!!! Hall monitors too?

<pinecone> thanks mary, that's good to know

<PritzkerJoni> Oh sure! And patrol to help you with crossing sidewalks :-)

<wg313> hahaha good to know

<Ben07> Is there continuity in who lectures, or does it vary most of the time?

<MSIIMary> and floor mats and milk and graham crackers

<MSIIMary> Ben07, it depends on the class

<PritzkerJoni> I want naps. All I ask is naps.

<MS1Adam> Ben...

<MSIIMary> Some classes are taught primarily by one person, but most have at least some guest lecturers.

<PritzkerDavid> and the milk is warmed on the radiator, and the graham crackers are fresh.

<MSIIMary> Other classes are broken into sections each taught by a different person.

<MS1Adam> it depends on the class most are taught by one faculty memeber but they do have some with a few lecturers based on the topic

<PritzkerJoni> And the health care disparities offering has a LOT of guest lectures  
<Ben07> Thanks.  
<clif\_brock> Health Care Disparities is taken at the beginning of first year, isn't it?  
<MDPhDBen> It's nice too because all the lecturers Adam is talking about are expert clinicians in their field.  
<MSIIMac> HCD will take place during the August-Sept anatomy session and will include didactic lectures; workshops to teach history, present conditions; potential solutions to disparities. 30+ leaders from the community and across the city will be brought in as speakers. Students also visit local free clinics, community centers, ERs; hospitals.  
<PritzkerJoni> And yes, this is in your first year.  
<Ben07> Do you guys find that you've developed relationships with faculty at Pritzker?  
<MSIIMac> Ben...  
<MDPhDBen> That's unethical.  
<MS1Adam> define 'relationships'  
<clif\_brock> lol  
<wg313> lol  
<MSIIMac> I was lucky enough to be one of the orientation week co-chairs so I got to know the faculty and staff really well  
<MS1Adam> is it like gray's anatomy...  
<MS1Adam> kind of...  
<MS1Adam> haha jk  
<wg313> what have your experiences with the free clinics been like, for those of you who've volunteered at them? and what other kinds of student groups/service activities have you been involved with?  
<MS1Adam> Pritzker chooses their students to mix well...thus it makes sense that sometimes 'relationships' develop  
<MDPhDBen> But yes, you can make really important relationships here with faculty you do research with, people you run into all the time, people you work really well with during the clinical years...  
<MSIIMary> wg...  
<Ben07> Ha! I guess I just mean do you just see them on the podium, or can you chat/work with them outside the lecture hall?  
<MDPhDBen> I obviously have a very good, close relationship with my research advisor and he's been extremely helpful in making connections and other career development stuff.  
<MSIIMary> I've worked with the Community Health clinic and it was a great experience  
<wg313> what did you do there?  
<walter> Over the span of my four years I developed mentor relationships with everyone from Dean Madara the president of the hospital to Dean Humphrey and Dean McDade. Many of these relationships have been helpful for research and career advancement.  
<Ben07> Thanks, MDPhDBen.

<MS1Erin> wg, I am involved with HIP Corps and we go to middle schools to teach students about HIV prevention and education

<clif\_brock> Community Health is great! I've been volunteering there for a long time.

<MDPhDBen> You can definitely strike up conversations with them outside of the classroom environment.

<MSIIMary> I was able to interview patients, take histories, and work with the attending on developing a plan of care

<MSIIMary> You can really do whatever you've learned so far and are comfortable with

<wg313> oh cool! how often do you go to middle schools, erin?

<Ben07> Unfortunately I've got to sign out. Thanks, everybody! (You guys are the best Admissions staff out there, by the way!)

<MDPhDBen> See you Ben. Stay classy.

MSIIMac> see ya

<MSIIMary> bye Ben!

<MS1Erin> The organization, in general, goes to the schools about twice a week. Each student may only go twice a month

<MS1Adam> Bye Ben

<walter> bye ben

<PritzkerJoni> bye ben, and thanks!

<PritzkerDavid> see ya Ben

<MS1Erin> You can sign up as often as you'd like, but we try to give everyone a chance to participate

<wg313> got it

<MSIIMary> feel free to pipe up and ask us... anything. Anything at all.

<alk> :)

<MSIIMac> how do you like 2nd year mary

<MSIIMac> What do you think of CPPT

<MSIIMary> I love 2nd year, Mac. CPP&T is the best class I've ever taken. How is it going for you?

<pinecone> what's CPPT?

<wg313> lol you guys are great

<PritzkerJoni> Thanks Pinecone! Just asked them to explain it!

<MSIIMac> pretty good...a lot of work but I love the learning all the clinical stuff

<MSIIMary> CPP&T is clinical pathophysiology and therapeutics

<Sanjay> time for me to head out as well, thanks a lot and have a good night!

<MDPhDBen> Peace Sanjay.

<PritzkerJoni> Nice chatname IlikeUC!!!

<MSIIMac> TTYL

<pinecone> is it case-based or lecture-based?

<MS1Erin> Bye Sanjay

<PritzkerJoni> Bye Sanjay!

<MS1Adam> Bye Sanjay

<PritzkerDavid> g'night Sanjay

<MSIIMary> It's the capstone course of the first two years that integrates all the basic science information into things you will actually use

<MSIIMary> It is both lecture and case based  
 <MDPhDBen> Best class you will ever take.  
 <MSIIMary> Approximately 50-50  
 <MSIIMary> The course directors are fantastic and are constantly working to  
 integrate technology to improve the learning environment  
 <pinecone> so CPPT is different from clinical skill class, right?  
 <MSIIMac> sure it  
 <MSIIMac> is  
 <alk> Is anyone involved in sports on campus?  
 <MSIIMary> We have been in it since January 3rd and have already learned  
 everything there is to know about diseases of the hematological  
 and cardiovascular systems. :)  
 <alk> either IM teams, or club teams, or even practicing with varsity  
 teams?  
 <MSIIMary> (this is only a slight exaggeration)  
 <MDPhDBen> Heck yes.  
 <MS1Adam> alk...  
 <MSIIMac> I walk to class from my car  
 <MDPhDBen> We dominate too.  
 <MSIIMac> is that a sport?  
 <MS1Adam> I have an IM basketball game right after this chat  
 <MS1Erin> your 1st experience with clinical skills is taught first year, but it's  
 expanded upon second year with physical diagnosis  
 <MS1Adam> yes we are a competitive bunch when it comes to athletics...  
 <MS1Adam> its always fun when the MS1 team plays MS2  
 <pinecone> thanks mary and erin  
 <MSIIMary> our pleasure  
 <MS1Erin> of course  
 <MSIIMary> it's why we're here  
 <MSIIMary> Hello Rebecca  
 <MS1Adam> we also played flag football, will play softball...and we play other  
 graduate schools such as the Law school and the Business school  
 <wg313> this may have already been addressed, but how many people have  
 cars and how far from campus do you all live? (i know housing  
 came up when i left the chat for a second back there :P)  
 <Rebecca29> Hello!  
 <PritzkerDavid> Hi Rebecca  
 <MSIIMary> I don't have a car and I live a 15 minute walk from campus  
 <wg313> so you usually walk?  
 <MSIIMac> I drive and I live pretty close  
 <MDPhDBen> I live in the south loop and love it.  
 <wg313> or use the shuttle?  
 <MS1Erin> I live approx. 6 blocks from campus and I walk everyday. It takes  
 me about 20 mins.  
 <alk> does anybody play soccer?  
 <MS1Adam> i drive but i could take the bus from Regents  
 <MSIIMary> Probably 60% of students have cars and about 30% use them  
 to commute to campus

<MDPhDBen> Car is good, but not necessary by any means.  
 <wg313> thanks everyone  
 <alk> and do you know anyone who is involved in sports beyond the IM level?  
 <alk> or is there just not time?  
 <MDPhDBen> Alk, yep, there are a bunch.  
 <MSIIMac> a bunch of my classmates play chicago club soccer  
 <MS1Adam> alk...i do not think that anyone has time for sports beyond the IM level  
 <MSIIMary> I walk most of the time but I use the bus in inclement weather or late at night  
 <Rebecca29> is there still a strong sense of community among students even though students don't live on one central campus?  
 <MS1Adam> oh well I guess Mac knows  
 <pinecone> is there any clinical rotations that require a car?  
 <MDPhDBen> In my class alone there were people involved with the track and field hockey clubs.  
 <MSIIMary> Absolutely there is a very strong sense of community and identity  
 <MDPhDBen> Coaching and participating.  
 <MDPhDBen> Another guy in my class was in the NFL.  
 <pinecone> wow  
 <Rebecca29> what features of the school promote a strong sence of community? the societies?  
 <PritzkerDavid> there are a couple of ex-professional football players here, too.  
 <wg313> yeah, i wanted to know more about the societies, too  
 <MSIIMac> pinecone....there are a few  
 <MSIIMac> most of your rotations will be at U of C  
 <MSIIMary> The societies are a great way to get to know other students  
 <alk> Are there any runners in the chat, who might be able to comment on running in the hyde park area (I don't usually run in cities)?  
 <MSIIMary> Each has it's own flavor that's imparted by the various faculty leaders.  
 <MSIIMac> I run  
 <MS1Adam> Pritzker has an abundance of student organizations, ranging from a group to take medical supplies to an underserved country, to groups for those interested in salsa dancing. As part of the U of C, you will also have access to all of the student groups on campus.  
 <clif\_brock> Thanks so much for you time everyone! Its time for dinner..  
 <walter> In particular the family medicine rotation is off site  
 <MSIIMac> the lake is AWESOME for running  
 <Rebecca29> I am originally from hyde park and running along the lakefront is AWESOME  
 <MSIIMary> I'm in Phemister, which is of course the best society, and we love to have a great time  
 <pinecone> mac, so for those rotations that need a car, how do you manage to get there?  
 <MS1Erin> And societies are also a good way of getting to know faculty members well

<alk> whoa, ok, duly noted

<MS1Adam> i love running on the lakefront

<wg313> do people have time to take other classes at U of C? do many people end up doing so?

<PritzkerJoni> I'm just starting to run and so far I use a treadmill...I don't want to collapse and not have anyone around to help me :-). I can't wait to run at the lake though

<wg313> yeah, i ran around the lake the weekend i interviewed and it was awesome!

<IlikeUC> what is Comer like? how does UC compare to Northwestern in terms of pediatrics?

<MSIIMary> I took a joint class between the law school and the med school and it was fantastic

<wg313> wait, not completely AROUND the lake, but along the lakefront

<wg313> :P

<walter> If you don't have a car you can car pool. The clerkship director tries to match people up so that they can do so.

<pinecone> that's sweet, thanks walter.

<alk> (sorry to keep asking sports questions) but is there a gym that pritzker students can use?

<Rebecca29> what do you all like most about pritzker?

<wg313> what was the class called?

<MS1Erin> Basically, the incoming students are assigned to one of four societies. Each of these societies are comprised of students from all four classes, which is great for networking and mentoring my classmates

<MSIIMac> by far

<Rebecca29> do you stay in the same society all four years?

<wg313> how often do the societies get together?

<MSIIMac> yep

<Rebecca29> do you take classes in your societies too?

<MS1Adam> alk...

<MS1Adam> the gym is awesome

<MS1Erin> Yes rebecca

<MSIIMac> no, societies are not for classes

<MS1Adam> i go to the gym quite often

<MSIIMac> just social and mentoring stuff

<MSIIMary> Yes, same society all four years. Societies meet a few times a quarter and then there are some all-society events

<Rebecca29> what do you do in the societies?

<wg313> are they mandatory?

<MS1Adam> a lot of us would go between classes or after class

<MSIIMary> Well, next week is our book club meeting, where we meet to have a great dinner and discuss a book

<wg313> oh awesome

<Rebecca29> that's wonderful!

<MSIIMac> the socities are mandatory but events are optional

<MS1Adam> my society took us to play whirlyball

<MS1Adam> it was awesome  
 <Rebecca29> what book are you reading?  
 <MSIIMary> We have whirlyball nights and baseball games and beach volleyball  
 <wg313> what book are you reading?  
 <MDPhDBen> A book other than Robbin's Pathology.  
 <MS1Adam> whirlyball...  
 <MSIIMary> We are reading J.D. Salinger's Franny and Zooey  
 <PritzkerJoni> Uhhh...what's whirlyball?  
 <pinecone> a random question, is it possible to ride bikes to and from class?  
 <wg313> ha, jinx rebecca =)  
 <Rebecca29> he he  
 <MS1Adam> whirlyball is essentially like lacrosse combined with bumper cars and basketball  
 <MSIIMac> pinecone...  
 <Rebecca29> this chat is awesome  
 <MSIIMac> sure is  
 <MS1Erin> Absolutely pinecone  
 <MSIIMac> a few of my classmates do everyday  
 <PritzkerJoni> Pinecone...absolutely! There are bike racks outside the building, and outside most buildings  
 <MSIIMary> Thanks, Rebecca, I'm glad you like it  
 <PritzkerDavid> Yeah it is a great way until the snow gets deep  
 <wg313> how bad is the cold, honestly?  
 <MS1Adam> not that bad  
 <MS1Adam> you deal with it  
 <Rebecca29> hi tanya!  
 <PritzkerDavid> and Adam is from Texas  
 <MS1Erin> I'm from Florida and I'm surviving!  
 <PritzkerJoni> I LOVE it...seriously! I find cold invigorating. But I'm a midwesterner so I don't know any better :0)  
 <MSIIMary> COLD IS WONDERFUL. IT MAKES YOU STRONGER.  
 <wg313> hahaha idk if i'd go that far  
 <Rebecca29> cold is refreshing!  
 <MS1Erin> Hi Tanya  
 <Tanya> Hi  
 <IlikeUC> speaking of snow...how difficult does it become to get to class in the winter?  
 <MS1Adam> not hard at all  
 <PritzkerJoni> And the summers get really HOT...I think sometimes people think Chicago is a frozen tundra!  
 <MSIIMary> Sledding down 55th street is an experience I highly recommend  
 <MS1Adam> chicago takes care of the streets really well  
 <MDPhDBen> I ride my elk in every day.  
 <Rebecca29> did you all like the health care disparities course you took at the beginning of your first year?  
 <PritzkerJoni> The city of Chicago does a great job with plowing/snow removal.  
 <wg313> hahah that sounds like fun!

<MSIIMary> <i am just kidding>  
<IlikeUC> is the bus system reliable in other words?  
<PritzkerJoni> Oh yeah, the busses are always running.  
<MS1Adam> yes the bus is reliable always running  
<MSIIMary> the bus system is reasonably reliable  
<PritzkerJoni> Most people use public transportation in the snow if they usually drive because it's easier.  
  
<wg313> what are your favorite things to do in chicago?  
<MSIIMac> blues clubs  
<wg313> ooh nice!  
<MSIIMary> love the museums and the theatre  
<MDPhDBen> Never gotten elk-jacked before...crossing my fingers.  
<MS1Erin> Rebecca, I really enjoyed the HCD course. It was amazing to see what disparities exist and how to recognize them  
  
<wg313> (you're kidding about the elk, right?)  
<PritzkerJoni> Cubs games, street festivals, movies in the park, randomly walking around neighborhoods to explore  
  
<MS1Adam> a bunch of us go out the clubs and bars on the weekends...a lot of great sporting events  
  
<MSIIMary> Ben never lies  
<MDPhDBen> Yes. It's a moose.  
<MS1Adam> there are so many great things  
<wg313> hahaha  
<PritzkerJoni> We have carrots on hand for ben's moose always.  
<PritzkerJoni> Be careful though...it drools.  
<MS1Erin> It was also nice to be able to come up with some solutions  
<Rebecca29> how did you find housing your first year?  
<PritzkerDavid> Checkerboard is in Hyde Park, too and one of the best blues clubs in Chicago  
  
<MSIIMary> i looked on the university's marketplace  
<MSIIMary> it's a website that's kinda like craigslist just for the university community  
  
<Rebecca29> oh neat  
<walter> Marketplace as well  
<MDPhDBen> But no, it's not hard to get around in the winter. The streets are pretty clean most of the time.  
  
<PritzkerJoni> There is a grad student housing office that is really helpful, and also a roommate matching board. So you can find a roommate and make them do the work :-)  
  
<Rebecca29> thanks!  
<MSIIMary> also, students who are leaving their apartments will send emails about them.  
  
<MSIIMary> Sometimes this can be a mixed blessing. ;)  
<MDPhDBen> SO MANY EMAILS.  
<wg313> ha  
<MSIIMary> SO LITTLE TIME  
<wg313> you guys have been really helpful - thanks so much! im signing off now

<MS1Adam> Bye!  
 <MS1Erin> Bye wg  
 <MDPhDBen> Take care wg.  
 <PritzkerJoni> Bye WG! Thanks for joining us!  
 <MSIIMac> see ya  
 <MSIIMary> Bye WG  
 <walter> wg have a great night  
 <PritzkerDavid> g'night wg  
 <Rebecca29> bye wg!  
 <MSIIMary> ok, 15 minutes left...  
 <MDPhDBen> What other questions do you folks have?  
 <MSIIMary> it's your last chance. I know that there are questions locked deep in your heart of hearts that you are dying to have answered  
 <PritzkerJoni> Just as a brief advertisement....we'll be doing another chat in a few weeks with some of our faculty members. Are there certain people/topics you'd like to hear from?  
 <alk> Well, you guys have been really helpful...I'm sorry to be boring, but I just can't think of anymore questions right now  
 <PritzkerJoni> It's okay Alk! We still like you!  
 <MSIIMary> lol, it's ok  
 <alk> haha, thanks  
 <MDPhDBen> Take care alk.  
 <alk> I really appreciate it, hopefully I'll meet you all soon!  
 <alk> bye  
 <MSIIMary> bye!  
 <MS1Erin> bye  
 \* MSIIMary (Plays Sound: explosion.au) explosion  
 <Rebecca29> i think that it would be great to hear about research opportunities for med students  
 <MSIIMary> I'm so glad you asked!  
 <MSIIMac> The Pritzker School of Medicine is part of the Biological Sciences Division of the University of Chicago. This nearly unique arrangement means that there are about 100 basic science faculty and about 800 clinical faculty, almost all of whom are doing bench or clinical research. Finding research here is very easy. Plus, in the summer after the first year of med school, there is a formal (and funded) research program  
 <MSIIMary> I did the summer research program last summer and it was great  
 <Rebecca29> that's wonderful!  
 <MSIIMary> There are lots of opportunities and it's easy to find a project that really suits your style  
 <Rebecca29> do students have time to do research during the school year too?  
 <MDPhDBen> Most people do the SRP, and it's a really good program even if you've never had any research experience.  
 <MSIIMary> If it is a priority for you, and your project lends itself to that type of involvement, then yes, you can  
 <Rebecca29> do a lot of students do volunteering?  
 <MSIIMac> Friday, February 15 Friday, March 7 Monday, April 7 Friday,

April 18 Friday, May 2 To schedule your Revisit Day, please contact Audrey Sparks at least 2 weeks in advance of your intended revisit: [asparks@bsd.uchicago.edu](mailto:asparks@bsd.uchicago.edu)

<MSIIMary> I'd say that most students do at least some volunteering  
<MDPhDBen> A handful of people start doing work on their summer projects during the spring quarter.  
<MS1Erin> Yes, a lot of students volunteer with various organizations and clinics  
<MDPhDBen> And then many do projects here and there during 4th year.  
<MDPhDBen> Or take time off to do full time stuff.  
<Rebecca29> was the transition to med school smooth for you all?  
<Rebecca29> what was most challenging to adjust to?  
<MSIIMary> It will be smoother, I think, with the new curriculum  
<MSIIMac> pretty smooth for me, I took two years off so I was excited to go back  
<MDPhDBen> For me it was converting from semesters to quarters. Moves a lot faster than I was used to.  
<MSIIMary> The sheer volume of material was the most challenging for me  
<MS1Erin> It was definitely an adjustment, but after a few weeks, it was okay  
<MS1Adam> Rebecca i found the transition to be pretty smooth I was not really caught off guard by anything  
<Rebecca29> are students competitive or collaborative?  
<MSIIMary> Very collaborative  
<MSIIMac> I agree  
<MS1Adam> too collaborative  
<Rebecca29> he eh  
<MSIIMary> hahaha  
<MS1Adam> my email is too full  
<Rebecca29> that's great!  
<Rebecca29> are there lots of opportunities to go abroad to do clinical work/research?  
<MDPhDBen> For the rest of you, a new podcast episode is coming soon...we promise.  
<Rebecca29> what percentage of students will take time to do this?  
<MDPhDBen> It's going to cover everything about the new curriculum changes and whatnot.  
<MS1Erin> Many students will go abroad. The Remedy student group has a trip each year to take medical supplies to a caribbean country. Students will also do clinical or research experiences abroad in their first summer, during 4th year elective time, and/or take a year leave to do so. There is also the Geographical Medicine Scholars Program.  
<walter> Have a great night everyone  
<PritzkerDavid> rebecca,  
<MDPhDBen> Should be out during the first week of February or thereabouts.  
<MSIIMary> Have a great night, everyone! I'm off to catch the shuttle. Take care!  
<MS1Adam> Okay everyone I need to get going it was great chatting with you

all1  
<MS1Adam> Take care!  
<MS1Erin> Okay everyone, take care. It was great talking to you!  
<Rebecca29> thank you so much for all of your help with questions!  
<Rebecca29> you all are fabulous!  
<MDPhDBen> See you Rebecca!  
<PritzkerDavid> about 5%% of the first year class goes abroad in the summer after the first year, and about 15%% of the 4th years for a clinical rotation.  
  
<MDPhDBen> Oh stop.  
<Rebecca29> bye ben!  
<Rebecca29> that's a good proportion!  
<PritzkerJoni> bye all!!!!  
<PritzkerDavid> and another 10 ro so go abroad through Remedy in teh summer after first year.  
  
<Rebecca29> bye Joni, thank you!!!  
<MDPhDBen> Bye folks.  
<PritzkerDavid> Good night all! Thanks for coming!  
<Rebecca29> bye david, thank you for answering all of our q's  
<pinecone> thanks david.  
<pinecone> goodnight everyone! looking forward to seeing all you guys in the summer!  
  
<Rebecca29> sweet dreams!  
<MJA> goodnight!  
<Rebecca29> good night everyone and thank you!