Greetings to all - hard to believe February is almost here!! At least the days are getting longer even if the temp is not getting any warmer!! Some items of interest this month are:

1. Dates and Deadlines for Spring 2014
   ♥ Last day to apply for graduation in May 2013 is February 11. A link to the online graduation application is posted on each Pre-Health webpage, or you can go directly to it at: https://apps.und.edu/graduationonline/
   ♥ The preliminary SUMMER 2014 course schedule will be available February 3
   ♥ The preliminary FALL 2014 course schedule will be available March 3
   ♥ Spring Break is March 17-21
   ♥ Your registration time will be available on the Campus Connection on April 4
   ♥ Summer and Fall Registration begins April 7
   ♥ Last day to drop a course or change a course to S/U grading is April 7
   ♥ Easter Break is April 18-21

2. Freshmen Pre-Health advising sessions run this month only!!
Remember.......Freshman group advising sessions for Pre-Health students (regardless of major) on 4 year plans run on Fridays, February 7 – 28 only! We will be discussing your schedules for next fall and some options for summer activities. You must attend one of these sessions before I will see you one-on-one again next year. Only athletes, ROTC, or any other students on 5 year plans, may make individual appointments for the purpose of planning schedules – be sure to come in before spring break. Call the main office of the College of Arts and Sciences at 777-2749 ASAP to sign up for a meeting or to pick a time. If none of the meeting times work with your current schedule, or if you have other concerns you need to discuss, call the A&S Office before spring break.

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3. Don’t forget to check out my Pre-Health web pages!
Be sure to take a look at the web page that covers your Pre-Health Program and add it your bookmarks! You can get at the pages directly from the UND A-Z index, or through the main Pre-Health page at: http://arts-sciences.und.edu/pre-health/. On these pages you’ll find links to: Pre-Health Guides (which include sample class schedules), Pre-Health handouts/info (which include test prep suggestions), Pre-Health announcements/events, my monthly newsletters, my office hours, etc. I am still in the tweaking stages so if you have any suggestions for what else I can include or how I can improve these pages, please let me know! Thanks!!!
4. ADEA GoDental Workshop and Recruitment Fair
Registration is Now Open for the 2014 American Dental Education Association (ADEA) GoDental Workshop and Recruitment Fair for Predental Students. The event will take place on Saturday, March 15, from 11:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m., at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio, TX.

For more information and to register for the 2014 ADEA GoDental Workshop and Recruitment Fair for Predental Students and Advisors, visit www.adea.org/workshopandrecruitmentfair.

GoDental is a program of ADEA, and is the official web resource for students on the pathway to dental education and exciting oral health careers. The website offers an interactive experience for social networking, community development and engaging in dialogue: http://info.adea.org/dep/.

5. Reminder of Summer Research Opportunities
While many professors do summer research, here are a couple of formal research programs offered during the summer at UND:

♥ REU (Research Experience for Undergraduates)
This program will run June 2 – August 8, 2014 and participants will receive a stipend to cover room, board and travel to/from UND. Additional funding is also available for childcare. Applications available now and due in March – get them in early!! Learn more about this at: http://www.dozelab.com/reu/. Still have questions? Contact Dr. Van Doze in the UNDSMHS PPT department.

♥ EPSCoR AURA
Learn more about this program at: http://www.ndsu.nodak.edu/epscor/programs/soar.htm. The 2014 applications will be available after February 5th and are usually due in early March. Still have questions? Contact Dr. Mark Hoffman in the UND Chemistry department.

6. Honor Societies
It seems this time every year, students who have been reasonably successful academically, are invited to join all sorts of "honor societies". Most of these societies are really not worth it and will not make your resumes or applications to health professional school look "better". Some provide good benefits in exchange for the membership fee. Here are some hints to help you decide whether to join or not:

♥ If you get a letter on UND letterhead asking you to join their chapter of a national society, then check into it. Phi Beta Kappa is a very distinguished society - join it if you are offered the opportunity (offers usually go out in your senior year). Mortarboard is also a worthwhile society because of the leadership and community service emphasis. Others may not be so distinguishing - check their entrance requirements. If they require only a 3.2 GPA, then skip it! You can get more info on the local chapter of any honor society at: http://www.union.und.edu/involvement/studentorgs/directory.htm

♥ If you get a letter directly from a society, check on membership requirements and membership fees versus what you get in return. Unless the criteria for membership are very exclusive (3.7+ GPA), most of these societies won't help your application to health professional schools. Some, like the Golden Key, offer reasonable benefits in exchange for the membership dues (hotel and rental car discounts – helpful during interviews), but you need to decide if it is worth it!

That’s all for now – happy February!! Kim Ruit, UND Health Sciences Advisor