

age combined score ever on the Medical College Admission Test, the M.D. students aren't all work and no play. They profess to enjoying martial arts, mountain biking, skiing, fly-fishing, and even brewing beer.

Some are talented performing artists, too. Kristina Hennessey-Severson, a 2002 graduate of Dartmouth College, directed an *a cappella* group. Judy Lin founded a Pan-Asian dance troupe. Tim Huang is an accomplished classical musician, having placed in several competitions. And during the Broadway show *Cats*, Gerard Carroll received a standing ovation for a performance of another kind—he successfully performed CPR on an ailing audience member!

Half of the M.D. students are women, and 30% are of color or international origin.

Other programs: In addition to the M.D. Class of 2009, the crop of new DMS students includes 79 who began graduate studies in the Center for the Evaluative Clinical Sciences and 45 who entered the doctoral programs in the biomedical sciences—molecular and cellular biology, pharmacology and toxicology, and physiology.

Regardless of the program the students are entering, they all seem eager to begin this journey. Mary Schwab, who just began the graduate program in physiology, says she is “looking forward to her new life as a graduate student,” while new M.D. student Haitham Ahmed hopes that “everybody is as excited as I am to be at DMS this year!”

KRISTEN GARNER

Q: When is a desk more than a desk? A: Read on . . .

In 1877, a group of Dartmouth undergraduates presented the retiring College president—the Reverend Asa Dodge Smith, an 1830 graduate of Dartmouth—with a special gift: a “Wooten cabinet secretary,” a fancy name for a very fancy desk. With its “110 compartments, all under one lock and key,” the desk created a system in which “order can be obtained, confusion avoided, time saved, vexation spared,” as a Wooten Desk Company advertisement put it.

President Smith passed the desk onto his son, Dr. William Thayer Smith, DMS 1879 and dean of the Medical School from 1896 to 1909. Dean Smith, in turn, gave the desk to his son, Thayer Adams Smith, DC 1910. Even though Thayer

Smith's children included five DC grads, one DMS grad, and three doctors, when he died in 1973 his children decided the desk should go back to Dartmouth. Today, the elaborate “cabinet secretary” is on display in a central hallway of the DMS dean's office, for all to enjoy. J.D.



Made of black walnut, with poplar shelves and burl-walnut, satinwood, and curly-maple veneers, this elaborate desk once belonged to Dr. William Thayer Smith, dean of DMS.



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