The Jefferson School of Population (JSPH) has awarded the Joseph S. Gonnella, MD Scholarship to Jonathan Musyt, a Jefferson Medical College (JMC) student who recently completed his third year of medical school. Musyt entered the Master of Public Health (MPH) program at JSPH in September 2011.

The Joseph S. Gonnella Scholarship is named in honor of Dr. Gonnella, Distinguished Professor of Medicine, former Dean of Jefferson Medical College, and founder and director of JMC’s Center for Research in Medical Education and Healthcare. This merit-based award is intended specifically for highly qualified students of JMC who wish to pursue an MPH in addition to their medical degree.

Musyt graduated from the University of Scranton in 2007 with a degree in Biochemistry and Philosophy. After college, he spent a year working with the Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program as part of the AmeriCorps Community HealthCorps program.

Since entering medical school, he participated in the Bridging the Gaps Community Health Internship Program, by working with a fellow medical student and a social worker at My Brother’s House, a transitional housing facility for chronically homeless men with a dual diagnosis of mental illness and substance abuse. He was also a student volunteer in the JeffHOPE program and the Jefferson Medical Education Initiative.

Musyt plans to pursue a Family Medicine residency after completing medical school. Regarding the scholarship, Musyt states, “I believe that acquiring a formal education in public health will enable me to become a well-informed, more effective advocate for both individual patients and improved health care implementation and delivery in my future career as a physician.”