Dear Readers:

It is a priority for BNGAP to create an inclusive space for osteopathic learners, faculty and staff. Osteopathic community members have always been present in the BNGAP network but have not always been recognized. The recent announcement of a new business agreement, between the AAMC and AACOM, to expand AAMC services to osteopathic students, faculty and deans further highlights an effort to better align the two communities.

BNGAP has notable osteopathic leaders who can help the BNGAP community learn how to better support our osteopathic colleagues. I’m grateful to Dr. Joel Dickerman, Founding Dean for the Kansas Health Sciences Center and distinguished BNGAP presenter and author, for his contributions to this newsletter and decision to serve as an inaugural member of the National Center for Pre-Faculty Development.

I’m grateful to osteopathic medical student Sabri Zooper for her dedication to the Student National Medical Association (SNMA), serving as the inaugural SNMA representative to the Advisory Council of the National Center for Pre-Faculty Development, and contributing to this newsletter. She is a future faculty member and administrative leader!

Special thanks to all of the participants and speakers of the 2020 BNGAP Mid-Year Pre-Faculty Development Conference and Summary Report. We had nearly 200+ participants, including Dean Deas (UC Riverside School of Medicine), Dean Park (Rocky Vista University College of Osteopathic Medicine), Dean McGrew (University of New Mexico School of Medicine), Dean Homan (Eastern Virginia Medical School), and Dean Dickerman. Towards the end of the newsletter you will find ads highlighting pre-faculty development efforts and opportunities for diverse learners as well as a new publication by Dr. Silva, Dr. Garcia et al. Taking Care of the Puerto Rican Patient: Historical Perspectives, Health Status, and Health Care Access (perfect for Hispanic Heritage Month 2020!)

I hope you enjoy this letter and remember to VOTE!

Un abrazo,

J.P. SÁNCHEZ MD, MPH
PRESIDENT, BNGAP INC.
THE COVID-19 pandemic has challenged health care providers across the world to provide care for millions of individuals who have been infected in less than a year’s period of time. The pandemic has also brought to light the racial disparities in our health care system witnessed by the inordinate number of under-represented minority individuals who have contracted severe disease and died as a result of COVID-19 infections. Medical students, residents, and physicians, both primary care and specialty based work in teams to provide care, participate in patient screenings and provide support and care to stricken colleagues. Knowledge about this unique virus, its management, and effect on our population has grown exponentially and has been disseminated at a record pace to help those most in need. These collaborative efforts promise to encourage new partnerships and a continued sense of inclusiveness and cooperation. On July 9th, 2020 Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) announced collaborative business agreement that expands AAMC service to Osteopathic students, faculty, and deans. Services include: Careers in Medicine® (CiM), Financial Information, Resources, Services, and Tools (FIRST), Visiting Student Learning Opportunities™ (VSLO®), and Curriculum Inventory (CI). Collaborations such as this promise to bring organizations together over Diversity and Inclusion, Social Justice, Social determinants in health care, Racial disparities, and promotion of careers in academic medicine.
Medical school enrollment (Osteopathic and Allopathic Medical schools) have experienced a 52% increase in enrollment since 2002-2003. The projected shortage of physicians looming in the next decade has prompted this increase as a means to assure adequate health care to U.S. patients. This growth has provided an increase in opportunities for prospective medical students across the county, but at the same time has revealed a need for additional academic faculty to teach these students. Inherent in this shortage of academic faculty is the need for a diverse faculty that help students to provide optimal care to the diverse patients they will see in clinical practice.

BNGAP has been helping to promote the next generation of academic physicians that will serve the ever changing needs of the patients of the future. BNGAP conferences, webinars, Chapters, and networking opportunities serve to promote a career in academic medicine and identify future faculty positions. Academic fellowships and scholarships, such as the AACOM Dr. Rose M. Green Thomas Academic Medicine Scholarship Award (https://www.aacom.org/become-a-doctor/financial-aid-and-scholarships/dr-rose-m-green-thomas-academic-medicine-scholarship-award) and individual medical school academic scholarships support the development of future faculty. Additional scholarship information can be found at: https://services.aamc.org/fed_loan_pub/index.cfm?fuseaction=public.welcome.

We encourage all medical students and residents – DO and MD - to become involved in BNGAP activities to consider a future career in academic medicine.
Are you a medical student interested in emergency medicine (EM) and in improving your chances to matching in an EM residency program?

If Yes, then apply to a NEW innovative educational program entitled EM Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Academic Medicine Writing Fellowship sponsored by the Department of Emergency Medicine, University of New Mexico SOM

Apply Now! The purpose of the on-line fellowship is to guide learners in the development, implementation, evaluation, and submission of a DEI-related educational project to MedEdPORTAL for publication consideration. The fellowship will primarily focus on content related to Indigenous health, Hispanic health (including medical Spanish), anti-racism work, border and migrant health, sexual and gender minority health, and gender discrimination. Fellows will be advised by EM faculty and residents and will network with the entire department.

Who should apply?
EM bound medical students from across the country. This is a rolling application process but applications by October 15 are recommended.

What is the application deadline?
This is a rolling application process but applications by October 15 are recommended.

Is there a stipend?
Fellows who successfully submit their project to MedEdPORTAL will be compensated with a $2,000 stipend.

What is the time commitment?
The time commitment is variable and depends on the type of educational project undertaken (e.g. simulation, workshop, etc.) Learners are encouraged to set aside at least one initial month of elective time AND approximately 10 hours a month for five additional months to ensure successful completion of the MedEdPORTAL submission.

How do I apply?
Complete the following link https://forms.gle/6hxZ9Gqq1XkPstw28

Inquiries can be submitted to J.P. Sánchez MD, MPH, Vice Chair, DEI, EM and Senior Advisor to Vice Chancellor, Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Health Sciences Center, UNM at jopsanchez@salud.unm.edu
In consideration of our present state that we are facing as a nation of people, the outcry for justice is one that is challenging the very structure and foundation of America. Not only are we being faced with governmental, societal, and cultural reconstruction, but at the medical educational level, we have been blessed with an opportunity to do an internal investigation of where we can better shape the physicians of tomorrow. With so many conversations centered around diversity, equity, and inclusion happening within our allopathic and osteopathic institutions and overseeing organizations like the AMA, AAMC, AACOM, and AOA, there is a glimpse of hope and change for so many underrepresented minorities within the field of medicine. One such conversation took place virtually on July 29th within the framework of AACOM. The speakers on the panel included Dr. Barbara Ross Lee, DO, first African-American woman to become a dean of any medical institution, Dr. William McDade, MD, Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer representing the ACGME, student doctor Chantel Thompson, SNMA President-Elect, of the Student National Medical Association, Dr. Darla Spence Coffey, Ph.D., MSW, President and CEO of the Council on Social Work Education, and Dr. Brian Smedley, Ph.D., Chief of Psychology in the Public Interest and Acting Chief Diversity Officer for the American Psychological Association. All of these speakers did a wonderful job of explaining the perspectives of the underrepresented healer, student learner, and the societal and medical educational prospects as well.

However, as a student doctor, the highlight of the panel was the presentation that demonstrated the student learner’s experience while in the osteopathic institution. Astounding that only 31.4% of osteopathic institutions have an Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). Highlighting these statistics is the first simple step to supporting our black and brown students. Greater spaces are needed to provide emotional security and respect for historically marginalized groups.
So what do we do? What can we do as current students and residents? How can we seek to change the dynamic of medicine that we have become accustomed to? Where do we find the available resources to create positions for diverse faculty and staff? Many osteopathic schools like the Health Science Center at Fort Worth - Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine have taken into consideration the voices and petitions of their students and are seeking to enact change on its campus. Plans of hiring a Dean of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion are underway. Collectively the entire Health Science Center campus has hired Rear Admiral Dr. Sylvia Trent-Adams, U.S Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health, an African-American woman who will serve as the campus’s Strategy Officer in efforts to help the Health Science Center at Fort Worth achieve their strategic initiatives both now and in years to come.

There are many steps that need to be cautiously taken so that we do not repeat the mistakes of the past. However, the point is that they are taken and not ignored. With more representation in the student body, faculty, and administration of those marginalized groups we can and will begin to experience the dream that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. had within our very own institutions.

One of the main goals of BNGAP is to make sure that students are equipped with the resources they need to become successful clinicians and academicians. One of the greatest benefits of being a part of the BNGAP organization is the networking opportunities available to the students, residents, and faculty. With the new National Center for Pre-faculty Development, there are representatives from every major minority student organization including the SNMA, LMSA, APAMSA, MSPA, as well as SOMA. Within each of these organizations, there are osteopathic student representatives that any osteopathic BNGAP affiliated student and resident can reach out to and build a network with. Within BNGAP there are also affiliated BNGAP chapters that are continuously being established in allopathic as well as osteopathic institutions. If you are interested in getting more involved with becoming an institutional liaison or starting a chapter please reach out to Nicholas Brutus at BNGAPCOORDINATOR@gmail.com.
JUST IN TIME FOR 2020 HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH, THE LATEST BNGAP PUBLICATION IN MEDEDPORTAL IS ENTITLED:

Taking Care of the Puerto Rican Patient: Historical Perspectives, Health Status, and Health Care Access


Co-authored by Débora H. Silva Díaz, MD, MEd, Glenn Garcia, Camille Clare, MD, MPH, Julia Su, Erica Friedman, MD, Renee Williams, MD, MHPE, Juan Vazquez, John Paul Sánchez, MD, MPH

Learners will be able to:

1. Describe the history of Puerto Rican identity within the United States.
2. Compare and contrast health issues and disparities of Puerto Ricans residing on the island and on the mainland.
3. Explain how at least one state or federal policy has impacted the health outcomes of Puerto Ricans on the mainland and/or the island.
4. Identify at least two health care access problems faced by Puerto Ricans on the mainland and/or the island.)
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Not a member yet?
Register at www.BNGAP.org/registration