

BNGAP National Pre-Faculty Conference/15th Anniversary Celebration
Impact through Community Building, Scholarship and Resilience
Tentative Schedule (as of April 9, 2026)

Thursday (April 30) EST	
5:00 – 8:00pm	<p>Opening Reception</p> <p>Elmhurst Hospital-San Juan Bautista School of Medicine-Ponce School of Medicine (ESP) Bilingual Medical Education Program</p> <p><i>Together Building the First Mainland LHS+ Health Equity/Bilingual Medical Campus</i></p> <p><i>Ernesto Vazquez-Nevarez MSIV, Universidad Central Del Caribe School of Medicine</i> <i>Ely Cuberos Paredes, OMS IV, Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine</i> <i>Wilmel R. Cosme-Aguilar MSIV, Ponce Health Sciences University</i> <i>Isaac Gordon MD, Pediatric Emergency Medicine, Elmhurst Hospital</i> <i>Laura Salgado-Lopez MD, PhD, Director, Neurosurgery, Elmhurst Hospital</i> <i>Jenny Mirabel MD, Psychiatry, Elmhurst Hospital</i> <i>Jose Ginel Rodriguez Irizarry, MD, FAAP, Dean San Juan Bautista School of Medicine</i> <i>Norma Arciniegas-Medina, MD FAAP, Associate Professor, Associate Dean For Faculty and Clinical Affairs, Ponce School of Medicine</i></p>
Friday (May 1) EST	
7:45 – 8:30am	Breakfast and Registration/Career Advising
8:30 – 9:45am	<p>Opening Session: BNGAP 15 Years and the Next 15 Years (Stories of Success)</p> <p><i>Moderator: TBA</i></p> <p><i>Cheryl Brewster EdD, Professor and Senior Executive Dean, Access, Opportunity & Collaboration, College of Medicine, Roseman University of Health Sciences</i> <i>Edward J. Callahan PhD, Associate Vice Chancellor, Emeritus, Academic Personnel, Schools of Human Health Sciences, University of California, Davis</i> <i>Valerie Romero-Leggott, MD, Vice President and Executive Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer, Health Sciences Center, University of New Mexico</i> <i>John Paul Sánchez MD, MPH, Director/P.I., Bilingual/ Bicultural SJB/Ponce/Elmhurst Hospital Project, Interim Executive Director, BNGAP</i> <i>Nelson Sánchez MD, Interim President, BNGAP Inc., Associate Professor of Medicine, Weill Cornell Medical College</i> <i>Dennis J. Spencer MD, PhD, Director, EDI, Division of Gastroenterology and Nutrition Associate Program Dir, Boston Combined Residency Program, Boston Children’s Hospital</i> <i>Rosa Lee, MD, Senior Associate Dean for Curricular Affairs, Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons</i> <i>Joel Dickerman, DO, Regional Director for Clinical Education, Rocky Vista University</i> <i>Ashley Rodgers, MD, Pediatrics Residency Program, Chief Resident, Children's Hospital at Montefiore</i> <i>Lindy Zhang, M.D., Ph.D, Pediatric Oncologist, Assistant Professor, Department of Oncology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine (virtual)</i> <i>Nicholas Brutus MD, BNGAP Treasurer, PGY2, Urology Residency, Yale School of Medicine</i> <i>Kaitlyn Pommells, MS, Coordinator, BNGAP Writing Program</i> <i>Dan Guzman MD Assistant Professor, Medicine in the Division of General Medicine, Columbia University</i></p>
9:45 – 11:00am	<p>Memory Circles: Why GDI and It’s Longstanding Impact</p> <p><i>Moderators: Juan Amador, FASAE, CAE, Executive Director, SACNAS</i> <i>Michelle Oliva, PMP, Director, Constituent Engagement, Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)</i> <i>David Acosta MD, Former Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer, AAMC</i></p>

	<p><i>Cynthia Boyd MD, Chief Compliance Officer for the Rush University for Health and Senior Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion at Rush Medical College</i> <i>Edward J. Callahan PhD, Associate Vice Chancellor, Emeritus, Academic Personnel, Schools of Human Health Sciences, University of California, Davis</i> <i>Maria Soto-Greene, Professor and Executive Vice Dean at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School</i> <i>Sheryl L. Heron, MD, MPH – Associate Dean, Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer – Emory University School of Medicine</i> <i>Leon McDougle MD, MPH, Chief Collaborating Officer, OSU Wexner Medical Center</i> <i>Ana Núñez, MD, FACP, Vice Dean, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, University of Minnesota Medical School</i></p>	
11:00 – 12:00pm	<p>AAMC & The Future of Faculty Leadership Development Moderator: <i>Dowin Boatright MD</i> <i>Malika Fair, MD, MPH, FACEP, Chief Community, Opportunity, and Engagement Officer, Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)</i> <i>Jennifer M. Schlener, Chief of Staff, AAMC</i></p>	
12:00 – 1:00pm	<p>NETWORKING LUNCH</p>	
1:00 – 1:50pm	<p>Moderator: <i>Ed Callahan PhD</i> RWJ Foundation: Efforts to Build the Academic Workforce & Equitable Care <i>Monica Hall, Program Associate at Robert Wood Johnson Foundation</i></p>	
2:00 – 2:50pm	<p>Advancing Equity and Inclusion in Board Certification: Standards, Data, and Programs Shaping Academic Pathways Moderator: <i>Laura Castillo-Page, PhD, Chief People and Culture Officer, American Board of Medical Specialties</i> <i>Gina M. Badalato, MD, Professor of Urology, Vice Chair of Education & Faculty Affairs, Advisory Dean, Columbia VP&S, Columbia University Irving Medical Center</i> <i>Katherine Torres, MOL, Associate Vice President, Certification Standards and Programs, American Board of Medical Specialties</i> <i>Lynne M. Holden, M.D., Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine Senior Associate Dean for Community Engagement and Outreach, Albert Einstein College of Medicine</i></p>	<p>Invisible Until Invited: Rewriting the Pre-Faculty Pipeline in Rural Medical Schools Through Data, Identity, and Academic Socialization Moderator <i>Cheryl Brewster PhD</i> <i>Paris Johnson DrPH, MPH, Master of Science in Health Informatics, Clinical Epidemiologist, Data Analyst/Researcher, Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine</i></p>
3:00 – 3:50pm	<p>The State of Diversity in Academic Medicine Moderator: <i>Francisco Lucio JD</i> <i>Dowin H. Boatright MD, Vice Chair, Research, Emergency Medicine, NYU Grossman School of Medicine</i></p>	<p>Pre-Faculty Dashboard and Registry Moderator: <i>Mekbib Gemeda EdD</i> <i>John Paul Sánchez MD, MPH, Director/P.I., Bilingual/ Bicultural SJB/Ponce/Elmhurst Hospital Project, Interim Executive Director, BNGAP</i></p>
4:00 – 5:00pm	TBA	TBA
5:00 – 9:00pm	<p>BNGAP Pre-Faculty & LGBT Awards Ceremony <i>Nelson Sánchez MD, Interim President, BNGAP Inc., Associate Professor of Medicine, Weill Cornell Medical College</i> ‘D.J.’ <i>Dan Guzman MD Assistant Professor, Medicine in the Division of General Medicine, Columbia University</i></p>	
<p>Saturday (May 2) EST</p>		

8:00 – 8:45am	Breakfast and Registration/Career Advising	
8:45 - 9:00am	Introductions	
9:00 – 9:50am	<p>Advancing Medicine & Science in NY: Resilience in a Changing Environment <i>Moderator: Mill Etienne MD</i> <i>Jonathan Teyan, MPA, President and Chief Executive Officer, Associated Medical Schools of NY</i> <i>Alyssa A. Alvarez, MPH, Associate Director of Medical Education Initiatives, Associated Medical Schools of New York AMSNY</i></p>	<p>Navigating Generative AI in Academic Medicine: Applications, Opportunities, and Equity <i>Moderator: Rosa Lee MD</i> <i>Angel Rosario MD, MPH, MD, MPH, General Surgery Resident and Inaugural Surgical Equity Fellow, Columbia University Medical Center/New York-Presbyterian</i> <i>Gezzer Ortega, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor of Surgery and Lead Faculty for Research and Innovation for Equitable Surgical Care at the Center for Surgery and Public Health, Department of Surgery at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital (BWH), Harvard Medical School</i></p>
10:00 – 10:50am	<p>Medical Student Organizations and Pre-Faculty Development –ANAMS, APAMSA, LMSA, MSPA, SNMA <i>Moderator: Allison Acevedo</i> <i>Tyler Gore, President-Elect, Association of Native American Medical Students</i> <i>Cristhian Gutierrez PhD, MD Candidate, President, LMSA National Inc.</i> <i>Kara McBurnett, BNGAP Liaison, Medical Student Pride Alliance</i> <i>Nina Uzoigwe, National President-Elect, Student National Medical Association</i> <i>James M. Chua, MS, OMS-III, National President, Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association</i></p>	<p>Mentor Development as a Scalable Organizational Strategy to boost mentee career outcomes: What works & doesn’t? <i>Moderator: Laura Castillo-Page PhD</i> <i>Akshay Sood, MD</i> <i>Tenured Professor of Internal Medicine Assistant Dean of Mentoring and Faculty Retention MCMC Endowed Chair in Mining-Related Lung Diseases SOM - Internal Medicine</i> <i>Valerie Romero-Leggott, MD, Vice President and Executive Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer, Health Sciences Center, University of New Mexico</i></p>
11:00 – 11:50pm	<p>Physician Organizations and Pre-Faculty Development – NAMME, NHMA, NMA <i>Moderator: Dennis Spencer MD, PhD</i> <i>Elizabeth Lee-Rey MD, Board Member, National Hispanic Medical Association</i> <i>Brandi Kaye Freeman MD, President-Elect, National Medical Association</i> <i>Bernard Roper, PhD, National Association of Minority Medical Educators</i></p>	<p>The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Clinical Medical Education: A Workshop Based Study for Healthcare Workers <i>Moderator: Mill Etienne MD</i> <i>Ellen N. Huhulea MS, New York Medical College</i> <i>Lilian Huang MSIV, New York Medical College</i></p>
12:00 – 1:00pm	NETWORKING LUNCH	<p>MedEdPORTAL/Presentation and Discussion of new ESR Template (BRING LUNCH) <i>Moderator: Kaitlyn Pommells</i> <i>Hannah Turner, MPH, Senior Staff Editor, MedEdPORTAL, Association of American Medical Colleges</i></p>
1:00 – 1:50pm	<p>AAMC MedEdPORTAL/Academic Medicine Journals - The Way Forward <i>Moderator: Dennis Spencer MD, PhD</i> <i>Hannah Turner, MPH, Senior Staff Editor, MedEdPORTAL, Association of American Medical Colleges</i> <i>Kaitlyn Pommells, MS, Coordinator, BNGAP Writing Program</i></p>	<p>Reclaiming Acorns and Health: A Case-Based Learning Module on Food Sovereignty as Clinical Advocacy in Addressing AI/AN Health Disparities <i>Moderator: Mekbib Gameda EdD</i> <i>Viviana Vega, MD Student, UC Davis School of Medicine</i> <i>Juan Novoa, M.S., MD Student, UC Davis School of Medicine</i></p>

2:00 – 2:50pm	<p>College Student / Post-Bacc Workshop “Applying to Medical School” Norma Poll-Hunter <i>Moderators: Norma Poll PhD</i> <i>Nicholas Brutus MD, BNGAP Treasurer, PGY2, Urology Residency, Yale School of Medicine</i> <i>Kemile Jackson, Pre-Health Advising, Hunter College</i> <i>Kara McBurnett, Medical Student, Keck School of Medicine of USC</i> <i>Martin Silguero, Medical Student, Texas A&M University Naresh K. Vashisht College of Medicine</i> <i>Tyler Gore, Incoming President, ANAMS Representative, APAMSA</i></p>	<p>NBME: Advancing Equitable Workplace and Learning Environments <i>Moderators: Rafael Durant, Senior Program Administrator for Community Collaborations and Contributions (C3) Unit, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Unit</i> <i>Allison Acevedo, Philanthropy Director, NBME</i> <i>Rafael Durant, Senior Program Administrator for Community Collaborations and Contributions (C3) Unit, NBME</i> <i>Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Unit</i> <i>Boris Vilic, MBA, Vice President of Program and Stakeholder Management at the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME)</i></p>
3:00 - 4:45pm	<p>Career Fair for Pre-medical Students Applying to Medical School and Medical Students Applying to Residency in collaboration with AAMC, Hunter College, AMSNY, & SACNAS <i>Moderators:</i> <i>Moderators: Norma Poll PhD, Juan Amador, FASAE, CAE, Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics & Native Americans in Science</i></p>	<p>Research Poster Session <i>Moderators: Rosa Lee MD & Louisa Holaday MD</i></p>
5:00 - 6:00pm	<p style="text-align: center;">Closing Session: The Next 15 Years of Impact: Reimagining Academic Career Development <i>John Paul Sánchez MD, MPH, Director/P.I., Bilingual/ Bicultural SJB/Ponce/Elmhurst Hospital Project, Interim Executive Director, BNGAP</i></p>	