

BNGAP

Building the Next Generation
of Academic Physicians

OUR MISSION

TO HELP DIVERSE MEDICAL STUDENTS AND RESIDENTS EMBARK UPON AN
ACADEMIC MEDICINE CAREER

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

The month of June celebrates Pride Month—a time to honor the resilience, achievements, and contributions of LGBTQ+ individuals while reaffirming our commitment to equity, inclusion, and, importantly, leadership in medicine and healthcare.

This spirit of community and progress was on full display at the 2026 BNGAP National LGBT Health Workforce Conference and National Pre-Faculty Career Development Conference. Together, these events brought hundreds of students, residents, fellows, faculty members, and allies from across the country to learn, connect, mentor, and inspire one another. The energy, scholarship, and dedication demonstrated throughout the conferences reaffirmed the strength of our growing network and the critical importance of building pathways for LGBTQ+ individuals in healthcare leadership, education, research, and clinical practice. We extend our sincere gratitude to every attendee, speaker, volunteer, sponsor, and partner who helped make this year's conferences an extraordinary success.

As BNGAP continues to expand its reach, we encourage members, trainees, faculty, and allies to consider establishing BNGAP chapters within their own institutions and communities. Local chapters play a vital role in fostering mentorship, advocacy, professional development, and community engagement. By building new chapters, we strengthen our collective ability to support the next generation of LGBTQ+ healthcare professionals and allies while advancing our shared mission of creating a more equitable, inclusive, and affirming healthcare workforce.

Thank you for being part of the BNGAP family. We invite you to celebrate Pride Month with us, reflect on the successes of the past year, and join us as we continue building a future where all individuals can belong, lead, and succeed.

NELSON SANCHEZ, MD
PRESIDENT, BNGAP INC.



UPCOMING EVENTS

**BNGAP Chapter
Orientation
August 2026**



BNGAP CELEBRATES PRIDE MONTH

Pride Month 2026

The last 15 years brought transformative legal and social milestones for the LGBT movement. Key victories include nationwide marriage equality, sweeping workplace anti-discrimination laws, the end of the blood donation deferral for gay men, and historic strides in global decriminalization and political representation.

- **Nationwide Marriage Equality (2015):** The U.S. Supreme Court's landmark *Obergefell v. Hodges* ruling legalized same-sex marriage in all 50 states, cementing federal recognition and marriage equality.
- **Workplace Protections (2020):** In *Bostock v. Clayton County*, the Supreme Court ruled that the Civil Rights Act of 1964 protects LGBTQ+ employees from discrimination based on sex, securing nationwide workplace protections.
- **Repeal of Discriminatory Bans:** The U.S. lifted the ban on gay and bisexual men donating blood (moving to gender-inclusive, individual risk assessments) and repealed the military ban on openly transgender service members.
- **Global Decriminalization:** Several countries advanced rights by overturning colonial-era bans. For example, India decriminalized consensual homosexual acts in 2018, and numerous nations legalized same-sex marriage, including Costa Rica and various others across the Americas and Europe.
- **Political Representation:** The past decade saw exponential gains in elected representation, including the election of the first openly gay Cabinet member confirmed by the U.S. Senate (Pete Buttigieg) and openly transgender state representatives.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR PRE-FACULTY DEVELOPEMENT

Edward Callahan Leadership Award

**BNGAP is Proud to Continue Recognizing
Our Current and Future Leaders Through Endowed Awards**



New! Dr. Ed Callahan Leadership Award

This endowed award is given to an individual or organization who has exhibited community building, scholarship, and / or resilience in advancing LGBT inclusion in academic medicine.

Donate Now at



Nelson Felix Sánchez, MD
LGBTQ+ Excellence Award at
Weill Cornell Medicine



Valerie Romero-Leggott MD
DEI Excellence Award
University of New Mexico
Health Sciences Center

Unsung Hero Award: National Hispanic Medical Association Annual Conference

J.P. Sanchez Babilonia MD, MPH wins Unsung Hero Award at 2026 National Hispanic Medical Association Annual Conference.



View speech at <https://www.facebook.com>

BNGAP COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

Brandi Kaye Freeman MD

BNGAP congratulates alumnist Brandi Kaye Freeman MD, MS in her upcoming installment as President of the National Medical Association at this year's annual conference. Join us in Puerto Rico.

<https://nmanet.org/convention26/>



Brandi Kaye Freeman, M.D., MS
NMA President-Elect



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Join Us
in San Juan
PUERTO RICO

JULY 25-29

The New Reconstruction
Mobilizing Healthcare Justice for a New America.
Our Patients, Providers, and Policy

**ANNUAL CONVENTION
& SCIENTIFIC ASSEMBLY**



NATIONAL CENTER FOR PRE-FACULTY DEVELOPEMENT

Become a center member

Now more than ever, it is important that we stand together to promote our mission of providing equitable opportunities to marginalized communities. Membership in the National Center for Pre-Faculty Development provides this opportunity by fostering a national network dedicated to developing a diverse and well-prepared faculty pipeline in academic medicine.

Your institution plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of academic medicine. We invite you to become a Center Member to further enhance your commitment to cultivating the next generation of diverse and skilled faculty members.

The National Center for Pre-Faculty Development serves as a national hub dedicated to supporting pre-faculty development initiatives, providing institutions with resources, networking opportunities, and best practices to enhance the pipeline of future educators and scholars in medicine. By becoming a Center Member, your institution will gain access to exclusive benefits, including:

- Tailored Development Resources – Gain access to comprehensive materials and programming designed to support aspiring faculty members.
- Collaborative Networking Opportunities – Engage with a national network of institutions committed to faculty development.
- Institutional Recognition – Demonstrate your leadership and dedication to advancing academic medicine by being featured as a partner in national initiatives.
- Priority Access to Events and Workshops – Stay at the forefront of innovative strategies in faculty recruitment, mentorship, and retention.
- Academic Writing Fellowship - For higher tier members, selected students will have access to the writing fellowship where they'll learn how to formulate medical curricula to be published in an academic journal.

We recognize that fostering a diverse and well-prepared faculty pipeline requires a collaborative effort, and we would be honored to have your institution as part of this transformative movement.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the National Center for Pre-Faculty Development please contact J.P. Sánchez MD, MPH, President, BNGAP Inc. at BNGAPinc@gmail.com

Learn more here <https://bngap.org/pre-faculty-development-conference/>





HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LGBT HWC



2026

From Advocacy to Action

Community Partnerships Leading an Inclusive Healthcare Workforce



NEW ACADEMIC YEAR, NEW BNGAP CHAPTER LEADERS!

BNGAP Chapters

Congratulations to the new BNGAP Chapter Leaders! We are thrilled to welcome the new class of medical student leaders as we work together to build a more diverse, inclusive, and representative academic medicine workforce.

Your leadership represents a powerful commitment to mentorship, advocacy, and equity. As a chapter leader, you are not only shaping the experiences of your local members, but also contributing to the national movement to diversify the academic medicine pathway.

The BNGAP National Leadership Team is excited to meet you at the upcoming Chapter Orientation on Saturday, August 3rd. Following meetings will occur every other month. This session will be an opportunity to connect with fellow leaders, learn about resources and expectations, and begin strategizing for an impactful year ahead.

We look forward to supporting you and watching your chapters thrive. Thank you for stepping into this important role—your leadership makes a difference.

For more information about BNGAP Chapters please visit: <https://bngap.org/bngap-chapters/>



HAPPY PRIDE MONTH

At BNGAP, we celebrate the LGBTQIA+ community and the powerful impact of authenticity, visibility, and inclusion.

We honor the progress made, uplift the work still ahead, and stand in solidarity today and every day.



RESPECT

We honor every identity and experience.



INCLUSION

We create spaces where everyone can be their true selves.



COMMUNITY

We build stronger communities together.



EQUITY

We advocate for justice, access, and opportunity for all.



ALLYSHIP

We listen, learn, and stand with our LGBTQIA+ community.

HAPPY PRIDE MONTH FROM ALL OF US AT BNGAP.

Join our community today!
Register at www.BNGAP.org/registration

