

**Group on Student Affairs-Minority Affairs Section (GSA-MAS)
Annual Report
2006-2007**

GSA-MAS National Chair's Message

As National Chairperson of the GSA-MAS, I am pleased to submit this Annual Report of projects and activities undertaken by GSA-MAS during the reporting period of November 2006 to November 2007. This report reflects the contributions of many members of the GSA-MAS, Division of Diversity Policy and Programs (DDPP), and several other constituents of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC). The GSA-MAS has had a very successful year in terms of accomplishing goals and objectives. The level of success would not have been possible without the dedication and commitment of the GSA-MAS Coordinating Committee and all the members of the GSA-MAS. As National Chair, I am particularly grateful for the level of cooperation and assistance provided by Dwight Davis, M.D., National Chairperson of GSA, and to the GSA membership.

GSA-MAS Anniversary

The GSA-MAS will celebrate its 30th year anniversary during this year's AAMC Annual Meeting, in Washington, DC.

GSA-MAS Coordinating Committee Meetings

The GSA-MAS Coordinating Committee has expanded its winter and summer meetings by one day (Sunday) to continue its work on updating and implementing goals and activities of the GSA-MAS Strategic Plan. The Committee also continues to utilize an electronic and paper-less format for all information dissemination at its meetings.

GSA-MAS Strategic Plan

The GSA-MAS Strategic Plan Implementation Team continued to evaluate and modify the GSA-MAS Strategic Plan. Realizing that the Plan was not conceptualized and developed to be a static, rigid document, but a document responsive to both internal and external changes, the Team modified the strategic plan in a manner consistent with making it more practical, yet dedicated to the original precept of its formulation. Steve Ellis, M.S., will serve for an additional year as the GSA-MAS Strategic Plan Implementation Team Leader. The numbers of teams were condensed from six to four and new team leads were assigned, as follows:

- I. Communication and Awards Team: Gloria V. Hawkins, Ph.D., Ms. Sonia Beasley, and Wanda Lipscomb, Ph.D.
- II. Data, Research, and Publication Team: Ms. Karen Lewis, Virginia Hardy, Ph.D., and Brenda Latham-Sadler, M.D.
- III. Professional Development Team: Sunny Gibson, M.S.W., Linda Don, Med., and Valarie Romero-Leggott, M.D.
- IV. Recruitment and Outreach Team: Gary Butts, M.D., Carlyle Miller, M.D., and Martha Trujillo

New GSA-MAS Leadership and National Election

Dr. Cynthia E. Boyd (Rush) will assume the position of National GSA-MAS Chair at the conclusion of the AAMC Annual Meeting. The GSA-MAS will also hold an election for the National GSA-MAS Chair-Elect position, on Sunday, November 4, 2007. As the Immediate Past National GSA-MAS Chair, Dr. James L. Phillips (Baylor) chaired the 2007 GSA-MAS Nominating Committee and presented the Committee's report. The three nominees for the GSA-MAS National Chair-Elect position are:

- Steve Ellis, M.S. (East Tennessee)
- Ronald Garcia, Ph.D. (Stanford)
- Maria Soto-Greene, M.D. (UMDNJ-NJMS)

GSA-MAS Meeting with the AAMC Leadership

On Monday, August 13, 2007, Drs. Ted Williams and Wanda Lipscomb met with Drs. Darrell Kirch and Carol Aschenbrener, President and Executive Vice President of the AAMC, to discuss several important issues relating to GSA-MAS. Unfortunately, because of a prior commitment, Dr. Cynthia E. Boyd, National GSA-MAS Chair-Elect, could not attend this meeting.

The AAMC is currently gathering information for its governance review process, which is anticipated to take about 18 months. Dr. Kirch assured us that the GSA-MAS will be very much involved in decision-making processes associated with the governance review process. This process is focused on determining the best governance model for the AAMC.

Overview of GSA-MAS Projects, Activities, and Updates

1. New liaison – The Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP) has a liaison to the GSA-MAS Coordinating Committee as of July 2007.
2. Stereotype Threat – During the 2005-2006 AAMC Annual Meetings, the GSA-MAS presented sessions on Stereotype Threat. Sunny Gibson, M.S.W., GSA-MAS Liaison to the GSA Committee on Admissions (COA), developed a cogent and informative PowerPoint presentation on Stereotype Threat. The GSA-MAS Communication and Awards Team is currently collaborating with Ms. Gibson to disseminate the salient aspects of this PowerPoint presentation to the AAMC constituents.
3. GSA-MAS Awards – The GSA-MAS Communication and Awards Team selected award recipients for the three GSA-MAS awards (see 2007 AAMC Annual Meeting section).
4. GSA-MAS Survey – The GSA-MAS Data, Research, and Publication Team will work with the AAMC Division of Diversity Policy and Programs to distill data from the recent GSA-MAS Survey. This data will be used to further define the expanding roles of MAS officers.
5. GSA-MAS Mini-Professional Development Conferences (PDC) – The GSA-MAS Professional Development Team successfully hosted four regional mini-PDC.
6. Minority Student Outreach – The GSA-MAS Recruitment and Outreach Team will work with the AAMC Division of Diversity Policy and Programs to increase outreach efforts to minority student who are interested in a career in medicine using tools as AspiringDocs.org and the Minority Student Medical Career Awareness Workshops and Recruitment Fair.
7. Enhance Lines of Communication – The GSA-MAS National Chair will send semiannual electronic reports to the GSA-MAS membership entitled, “*Your GSA-MAS Coordinating Committee at Work for You.*”
8. Title VII Advocacy – The GSA-MAS continues to work with the AAMC Office of Governmental Relations to advocate for the restoration of funding for Title VII Programs.

9. Holistic Admissions and Enhancing Diversity – The GSA-MAS Coordinating Committee unanimously supports the Holistic Admissions and Enhancing Diversity project and will continue to provide feedback on the developing admissions tools.
10. Medical School Graduation Questionnaire (GQ) Advisory Group – Dr. Cynthia E. Boyd, GSA-MAS National Chair-Elect, represents the GSA-MAS on the GQ Advisory Group.
11. National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) – Dr. Gary Butts, Northeast MAS Chair, is the new GSA-MAS representative to the NBME Medical School Advisory Committee.
12. GSA COA – Sunny Gibson, M.S.W., Sunny Gibson’s term on COA was extended by one year.

2007 AAMC Annual Meeting

At the GSA-MAS Program, the GSA-MAS Service Award will be presented to Dr. Edward B. Christian (Jefferson) and Dr. Edward Helm (Louisiana State-New Orleans); the GSA-MAS Special Recognition Award will be presented to Dr. Robert Lee (Emory); and the GSA-MAS Institutional Leadership Diversity Award will be presented to Dr. Deborah E. Powell (Minnesota). The 2007 Herbert W. Nickens Awards will also be presented.

On behalf of the GSA-MAS, Drs. Cynthia E. Boyd (Rush) and Ronald Garcia (Stanford) organized a session entitled, “The Call for Expanding Class Size: Implications for Diversity,” which will focus on the impact of medical school class expansion from the perspective of diversity. Dr. Cynthia E. Boyd will also moderate a joint GSA-MAS session with the AAMC Division of Medical Education and Division of Diversity Policy and Programs entitled, “Cultural Competence Education Assessment Measures Forum.”

The GSA-MAS and Division of Diversity Policy and Programs will continue with its tradition of hosting the Minority Student Medical Career Awareness Workshops and Recruitment Fair. This year, some new changes will include an online student registration system, an online recruiter registration system, a new workshop for prehealth advisors, guidance counselors, and school administrators, advertisements in English (*The Express* of the Washington Post) and Spanish in local newspapers, and co-sponsoring a “meet and greet” session with the Organization of Student Representatives and hosting an “AspiringDocs.org internet cafe” with the AspiringDocs team.

Thank You

As National Chairperson of GSA-MAS, it has been my privilege to serve the GSA-MAS. I extend my appreciation to the AAMC Division of Diversity Policy and Programs for their invaluable support of the GSA-MAS as a strategic resource for academic medicine and for the assistance in accomplishing our GSA-MAS goals and objectives. Last, but not least, thank you to the membership of the GSA-MAS for your dedication, work, and support.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Williams, Ph.D.
GSA-MAS National Chair, 2005-2007

