

**Group on Student Affairs
Western Region Annual Report 2009**

The Western GSA meeting was held in Santa Fe and was entitled, Promoting reflection and cultural awareness: The Arts in Medicine. The meeting was hosted at the La Fonda Hotel in Santa Fe, NM and was quite successful; total attendance was 400, including 64 WGSA members, 179 WGEA members, 98 WAAHP members, and 48 students. The keynote was given by Dr. Abraham Verghese and was a thought provoking discussion on reflection and professionalism. This year, the WGSA decided to allocate \$1,500 per school in the region to sponsor students, accounting for the number of students from other institutions. A total of \$7,700 was spent bringing students in.

Next year, there will be a small GSA presence at Asilomar's UC Davis-sponsored meeting (4/25-4/27/2010) given the competing quadrennial GSA meeting in Austin (4/17-4/20/2010). The Asilomar meeting will be primarily WGEA; GSA members may attend but are encouraged, if a choice need be made, to attend the quadrennial meeting in Austin, organized by national with WGSA planning help from Neil Parker. The UC Davis meeting is titled "Health and Interprofessional Education for the Underserved: Model programs and innovations." (http://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/ome/educational_conferences.html)

The WGSA is considering whether WGEA and WGSA meetings should be combined on a regular basis (like the Santa Fe meeting) in the future. Potential plans are underway for a collaboration of WGEA/WGSA/WAAHP/WOSR at Stanford for 2011.

Additionally, at our spring business meeting, a consensus was made to include a student member of the OSR at the business meetings of the national and regional western GSA.

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Chair, GSA Western Region 2009-2010