Meet Nathan Lott, DO . . .

After spending his childhood watching his grandfather struggle with health problems, including his open heart surgery, Nathan Lott realized that he wanted to help others the same way the doctors were helping his grandfather. Dr. Lott attended a Minority Medical Education Program in Chicago as an undergraduate, which not only offered him free preparation for the Medical College Admission Test, but increased his enthusiasm for medicine by exposing him to other minority students with the same goals. He then applied to the Summer Scholars program at the Center of Excellence (COE) at the Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine (OUCOM). The program provided six weeks of rigorous coursework, including clinical experience and seminars on case-based problem solving, time management and study skills, and cultural competency, designed to simulate the schedule of a first year medical student. This program provided him with the extra boost he needed to achieve his goal. Dr. Lott graduated from OUCOM and completed the internal medicine residency at Doctors Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, where he is currently working as an internist.

“The importance of having a culturally diverse student body is that it helps to educate the majority students about cultural influences, more so than what reading a book does.”

About the Program

- The Health Careers Opportunity Program and COE are authorized under Title VII of the Public Health Service Act. Together, they function to increase the representation of minority and disadvantaged students in the health professions.
- The OUCOM Summer Scholars program provides students with an introduction to osteopathic medicine. The program teaches students the basics of biomedical sciences and research methods, and allows them to become familiar with problem-based learning using case studies, small group discussions, lectures, labs, independent study, use of computers and pre-clinical observations. Additionally, the program helps with interviewing skills.
- The OUCOM Summer Scholars program strives to build cultural competency by allowing students to work as part of a team with other pre-medical students from diverse backgrounds.
- For more information on the OUCOM COE, please go to: http://www.oucom.ohiou.edu/coe-mm.

The Effect of Funding Cuts . . .

If funding for the Summer Scholars program is lost, many minority students would lose the opportunity to get additional preparation and gain additional skills needed for medical school.

The OUCOM COE program is the only COE program offered at an osteopathic medical school. The program’s mission is to help produce a culturally and ethically diverse physician workforce. Without this program, there would be fewer minority applicants to such schools, resulting in less diversity among the student body.

For more information, contact: Association of American Medical Colleges, Government Relations

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