Meet Susan Rasul…

Susan was born and raised in Bronx, NY. Ever since she could remember, Susan knew that she wanted to pursue a career as a physician. Her family moved to New Jersey in order to have better educational opportunities and a better living environment. However, being the first in her family from Guyana to pursue a college education, she did not have any guidance to know exactly how to accomplish her academic goals, especially medical school. During her freshman year in college, Susan became part of the Northeast Regional Alliance (NERA) Program at the New Jersey medical School. Throughout her 3 years in the program, Susan gained a vast amount of knowledge (academic, professional, social, and internal) that allowed her to see just how attainable her goal of becoming a doctor could be. The program structure provided Susan with everything she needed to know in order to pursue a career in medicine. Susan is currently a senior at Rutgers University and has been accepted to NJMS as an early decision to the Class of 2016.

“Every aspect of the NERA program helped reinforce and strengthen my decision to become a doctor.”

About the Program

The Health Careers Opportunity Programs (HCOP) are authorized under Title VII of the Public Health Service Act. Together with the Centers of Excellence (COE), HCOPs function to increase the representation of minority and disadvantaged students in the health professions.

Program activities include an intense reading and science enrichment program during Phase 1, MCAT preparation during Phase 2, and research during Phase 3. Each phase is supplemented with clinical experiences.

More information on the HCOP program activities is available on the program website: http://njms.umdnj.edu/education/ODACE/NERA/index.cfm

According to Susan…

The Med Prep program at NJMS was a valuable program for me. It proved to be an essential resource throughout my undergraduate time at Rutgers and helped with the pre-med process, since my family had no clue about applying to medical school. The program truly cares about their students because they were available all year round, and not just during the summer, which helped ease some of the stress in college. It helped me to stay focused and determined, which resulted in me working hard to get the results I needed in order to be a qualified applicant for medical school. They helped me realize what I am capable of achieving and how to look beyond my limitations in life.

The program directors, coordinators, teachers, and fellow students were extremely supportive and helpful. By participating in the program, I became aware of what it was like to be a medical student. Med prep was and still is a major reason of how I got accepted to NJMS. The impact of this program on my life is priceless and is a hidden treasure for premed students.

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