Future Leaders of Academic Medicine – Herbert W. Nickens
Faculty Fellowship and Medical Student Scholarships

HERBERT W. NICKENS

Awards

Honoring individuals who assist medical schools in achieving their diversity objectives and advancing health equity

LEARN SERVE LEAD 2023: THE AAMC ANNUAL MEETING
AAMC
EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

Norma Poll-Hunter, PhD
Senior Director, Workforce Diversity Portfolio

For information about this event or the awards, contact:

Angela R. Moses
Manager, D&I Programs and Resources
202-862-6203
amoses@aamc.org

Alysia L. Rieves
Administrative Coordinator
Workforce Diversity
202-862-6143
arieves@aamc.org
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
2024 Herbert W. Nickens Awards
Honoring individuals who assist medical schools in achieving their diversity objectives and advancing health equity

Accepting Nominations
Herbert W. Nickens Award: Oct. 1, 2023
Herbert W. Nickens Faculty Fellowship: Jan. 2, 2024
Herbert W. Nickens Medical Student Scholarships: Jan. 2, 2024

You are invited to join us as we celebrate the Herbert W. Nickens Awards. In recognition of the life of Herbert W. Nickens, MD, and his dedication to eliminating health care disparities, we look forward each year to celebrating his legacy. Plan to join us Nov. 8-12, 2024, at Learn Serve Lead 2024 The AAMC Annual Meeting.
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SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The AAMC would like to acknowledge the members of the Herbert W. Nickens Award Selection Committees. Thank you for generously contributing your time and energy to the selection of the recipients from among so many deserving candidates. This award would not be possible without your support.

We would also like to acknowledge the continued dedication of Patrice Desvigne-Nickens, MD and family. Their unwavering support of the award recipients is a true testament to the importance of equality in health care and Dr. Nickens’ vision of the future of health care in the United States.

“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”

Mahatma Gandhi

“Everybody can be great — because anybody can serve.”

Martin Luther King, Jr.
ABOUT THE HERBERT W. NICKENS AWARDS

The work of Herbert W. Nickens, MD, MA, inspires others today just as much as when he was alive. Nurturing and supporting the aspirations of underrepresented minorities (URMs) was a driving factor in his efforts to increase the numbers of URMs in the medical workforce. This program book recognizes individuals for their contributions to underrepresented racial and ethnic minorities in medicine and supports the efforts our medical institutions are making to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Dr. Nickens was the founding vice president of the AAMC Division of Community and Minority Programs, now the Diversity Policy and Programs unit. Dr. Nickens’ passionate leadership contributed greatly to focusing national attention on the need to support underrepresented racial and ethnic minorities in medicine. His efforts resulted in a multitude of programs and initiatives that advanced the career development of minorities in medicine. Dr. Nickens’ untimely death on March 22, 1999, was a significant loss to academic medicine.

1973 – Dr. Nickens received the Philadelphia Medical Society’s Kenneth Appel Award and the Laughlin National Psychiatric Endowment Fund Award.

1974–1975 – Dr. Nickens interned at Chestnut Hill Hospital in Philadelphia and then completed one year of residency in psychiatry at Yale University.

1975 – Dr. Nickens returned to the University of Pennsylvania as a resident and a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar.

1978 – Dr. Nickens was named assistant professor and director of psychiatry emergency services at the University of Pennsylvania.

1979 – Dr. Nickens accepted an additional position of faculty assistant to the president and the provost at the University of Pennsylvania.


1985 – Dr. Nickens was named director of the Office of Policy, Planning, and Analysis of the National Institute on Aging, a part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), after serving as deputy chief of the Center on Aging of the National Institute of Mental Health at NIH. Dr. Nickens contributed substantively to a landmark federal report, the eight-volume Report of the Secretary’s Task Force on Black and Minority Health: A Summary and a Presentation of Health Data With Regard To Blacks. An in-depth investigation of disparities in key health indicators, the report was released on October 16, 1985, by then U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Margaret Heckler, and it is often referred to as the “Heckler Report.”

1985 – Minority Students in Medical Education: Facts and Figures was created.
Herbert W. Nickens: Life and Career

Born on Dec. 28, 1947, in Washington, D.C., Herbert W. Nickens attended John Burroughs Elementary School, Taft Junior High School, and St. Johns College High School before matriculating at Harvard College, where he received his AB degree in 1969. He earned his MD as well as a Master of Arts in sociology from the University of Pennsylvania, graduating in 1973 and earning the university’s History of Medicine Prize.
LaShon Sturgis, MD, PhD
Assistant Dean for Academic Advising
Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine
Assistant Professor, Department of Physiology
Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University

Dr. LaShon Sturgis was born just outside of Atlanta, Georgia, and raised in Decatur, Georgia. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in biology at Paine College in Augusta, Georgia. She then went on to attend graduate school at the Medical College of Georgia (MCG). After completing a PhD in cardiovascular and renal physiology, she spent two years teaching medical physiology at Ross University School of Medicine and University of Medicine and Health Sciences, and biology at Paine College. Dr. Sturgis then attended MCG for both medical school and emergency medicine residency. While a medical student, Dr. Sturgis served as chapter president of the Student National Medical Association and, in 2011, hosted the first Igniting the Dream of Medicine conference. Her passion and commitment to minority mentorship won her the AAMC Herbert W. Nickens Award in 2011. In 2017, Dr. Sturgis joined the faculty at Augusta University as a clinical educator. She served for four years as director of the clinical skills program. Her passion for mentorship and desire to see the next generation of physician leaders excel has led her to her current role as assistant dean for academic advising for the MCG.

Dr. Sturgis has an unparalleled passion for student advisement and support. However, her favorite learners to support are her two children, Taylor and Tyler.
HERBERT W. NICKENS AWARD

The AAMC established the Herbert W. Nickens Award in 2000 to honor the late Dr. Nickens and his lifelong concerns about the educational, societal, and health care needs of racial and ethnic minorities. The award is given to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to promoting justice in medical education and health equities for people in the United States.

Dr. Nickens believed that a multidisciplinary approach is needed to address inequities in health. Because of this, nominees may come from a wide range of fields, including medicine, dentistry, education, law, nursing, pharmacy, public health, and social and behavioral sciences.

Neil R. Powe, MD, MPH, MBA
Chief of Medicine, Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center
Constance B. Wofsy Distinguished Professor and Vice Chair of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine

Real heroes don’t wear capes, but some of them wear white coats. One of American medicine’s most distinguished, white-coated champions of health care equity and justice is Neil Richard Powe, chief of medicine at the Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center (ZSFG), and vice chair of medicine and Constance B. Wofsy Distinguished Professor at the University of California, San Francisco, (UCSF) School of Medicine.

Dr. Powe graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in biochemical sciences from Princeton University in 1976. He earned an MD from Harvard Medical School and an MPH from the Harvard School of Public Health in 1981. While completing postgraduate residency and fellowship work in internal medicine at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, in 1986, he received an MBA in health care from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Powe began his medical-faculty career at Johns Hopkins University in 1986, and, by 1998, he had risen through the ranks to become the first African American full professor in Hopkins’ department of medicine’s more than 100-year history.

Herbert W. Nickens Lecture
Sunday, Nov. 5, 2023
3-4:15 p.m. PT
The Quest for Health Equity: Precision, Outcomes, Wisdom, and Evidence
Speaker: Neil R. Powe, MD
Moderator: Cara V. James, PhD
An advocate for women in science and medicine, Dr. Powe was the founding director and principal investigator of Hopkins’ NIH Roadmap Institutional K12 and T32 grants, which support women and underrepresented students and faculty. In addition, through a relationship he forged with Howard University, Dr. Powe helped build a pathway for underrepresented students to pursue research training at Hopkins.

In 2009, the UCSF Department of Medicine at ZSFG recruited Dr. Powe to lead San Francisco’s flagship public safety-net hospital.

Throughout his stellar career, focused on aiding society’s historically marginalized patients and medical students, Dr. Powe “has unified specialty and primary care medicine, bridged clinical, biological and social sciences, translated research into policy, and trained aspiring scholars in health equity research,” says Catherine R. Lucey, MD, executive vice chancellor and provost at UCSF. “He has improved millions of patients’ lives and influenced equitable policies and allocation resources by government, providers, and payers.”

A leader in the field of health equity and a mentor to scores of learners, Dr. Powe also is a prolific writer, having published more than 500 manuscripts, serving as a voice for social justice in the practice of medicine and education of clinicians. Dr. Powe has also mentored many diverse academic medicine faculty members, further extending his reach, Lucey says. “Dr. Powe’s mentoring has had a ripple effect, amplifying future generations of diverse academic leaders and mentors.”

Recognized for his impact in medicine, Dr. Powe has received numerous awards including election to the National Academy of Medicine in 2003, the John Phillips Memorial Award for Outstanding Work in Clinical Medicine from the American College of Physicians in 2021 and the Robert J. Glaser Award for Exceptional Contributions in Research, Education, Leadership and Mentoring from the Society of General Internal Medicine in 2023.

In 2010, Dr. Powe received the Diversity Award from the Association of Professors of Medicine and was named a Master of the American College of Physicians. In 2019, the National Kidney Foundation awarded him its David M. Hume Memorial Award, the highest honor given to a distinguished scientist-clinician in the field of kidney and urologic disease. In 2023, he received the National Medical Association and W. Montague Cobb Institute Cato T. Laurencin Distinguished Lifetime Research Award.
HERBERT W. NICKENS FACULTY FELLOWSHIP

This fellowship recognizes an outstanding junior faculty member who has demonstrated leadership in the United States in addressing inequities in medical education and health care; has demonstrated effort in addressing the educational, societal, and health care needs of racial and ethnic minorities; and is committed to a career in academic medicine.

Luis Godoy, MD
University of California, Davis, School of Medicine

Dr. Luis Godoy was born in Tacatztzuro, Michoacan, Mexico. When he was a child, his father moved their family from their small village to northern California, where, from the age of seven, Godoy worked with his parents picking and cutting fruit. As a sophomore, Godoy dropped out of high school to avoid gang activity and help support his family. He eventually realized the sacrifice his parents had made in search of a better future, so he enrolled in an independent study, where he was able to focus on his studies, away from the gang environment. After proving his academic ability to the school district, Godoy was allowed to return to high school in his junior year. His parents had instilled in him a strong work ethic, which enabled him to overcome many challenges throughout his life, including becoming a teenage father during his senior year. So, even though he struggled to balance work, family, and school, he managed to graduate on time.

After high school, Godoy worked as a medical assistant and acted as an interpreter for Spanish-speaking patients. By communicating with patients in their native language, he was able to optimally address their needs, concerns, and fears while instilling a sense of trust. This experience and others lit a fire within him to pursue a career in medicine. In his mid-20s, he decided to go back to school to pursue his dream of becoming a doctor. He enrolled at Solano Community College and then transferred to the University of California, Davis, where he graduated with a bachelor’s degree in biology in 2008, becoming the first college graduate in his family. He remained at UC Davis for medical school and then completed his surgical residency in the Integrated Cardiothoracic Surgery program there.
Dr. Godoy has traveled a nontraditional path, one that has taught him valuable lessons about health care disparities, social inequalities, poverty, societal scripts, and racism. More importantly, he learned more about strength, resilience, grit, gratitude, and hope. Currently, he is an assistant professor and assistant program director of the Cardiothoracic Surgery Residency program at UC Davis.

Throughout his academic and medical career, Dr. Godoy has focused on DEI to contribute to institutional and societal change that will positively impact future faculty, trainees, staff, and most importantly, his patients. He serves as the UC Davis Department of Surgery Diversity and Inclusion director, a role he is passionate about, and he is a member of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons, where he serves on the Workforce for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Dr. Godoy was inducted into the Gold Humanism Honor Society in 2013 and the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society in 2019. In addition to numerous teaching awards, Dr. Godoy also received the UC Davis University Medal in recognition of his extraordinary contributions.
HERBERT W. NICKENS MEDICAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

These awards consist of five scholarships given to outstanding students entering their third year of medical school who have shown leadership in efforts to eliminate inequities in medical education and health care and demonstrated leadership in addressing the educational, societal, and health care needs of minorities in the United States.

Amani Allen
University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine

Amani Allen’s childhood inspired her to live a life of service. Raised in a single-parent household, her immigrant grandmother was disabled and required care and sacrifice when Allen was young. Before she became a teenager, her African American grandparents died because they did not receive necessary, early treatment for their health conditions due to systemic racism and cultural distrust of the health care system. These experiences fueled her desire to become a physician and improve health outcomes within underrepresented populations.

Allen graduated from Cornell University in 2020, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in human biology, health, and society. Thereafter, she spent a service-learning year as an AmeriCorps member at a Federally Qualified Health Center, where she gained an appreciation for health systems that focus on removing barriers, expanding access, and delivering comprehensive, quality health care services regardless of an individual’s insurance status or ability to pay.

Today Allen is a third-year medical student at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine (PSOM), where she is demonstrating her commitment to serving and improving the health of at-risk populations, actively expanding health care access to Chicago’s South Side community members. In collaboration with PSOM and the community organization Project H.O.O.D. (Helping Others Obtain Destiny), Allen and her classmates developed the student-run South Side Free Clinic, which offers free, primary care medical services to Black adults. The clinic aims to improve health outcomes, ameliorate medical mistrust.
within the surrounding communities, and implement a robust referral network to provide longitudinal care for patients, while developing culturally competent medical students.

Committed to improving medical school education through the incorporation of advocacy and student-run community initiatives, Allen and a team of PSOM medical students received a Medical Student Service Leadership Project grant from the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society to pilot a curricular program aimed at developing physician-community leaders. Students in the program will learn to better understand the health disparities in Chicago’s South Side and become competent community advocates. Allen was also selected as a National Medical Fellowships Scholar for the Health Equity Leaders Program. The program provided $10,000 for Allen to conduct research to examine and disrupt the systems and structures of historical racism that have led to health disparities that disproportionately impact people of color, particularly Black and Indigenous communities.

Allen owes her success to her colleagues, faculty mentors, and family. She is especially grateful for the support and sacrifices that her mother, Sonali Allen, has made. Regardless of the specialty she ultimately pursues, Allen intends to become a physician who actively listens, encourages transparency, and incorporates her patients’ perspective into her daily practice to provide communities with the highest quality of care.
Max-Edouard Cornely, MPH
Emory University School of Medicine

Max Cornely moved from Port-au-Prince, Haiti, to South Florida when he was 6 years old. The son of two physicians, Cornely’s early childhood experiences instilled the guiding principle that practicing medicine is a privilege and an opportunity, not only to heal, but to fight for equity and justice. His vibrant and unapologetic cultural upbringing inspired in him a passion for health equity, and the memory of his mother, Dr. Marie-Ena Monosiet-Cornely, and her values continues to motivate Cornely to center his life and career on amplifying marginalized voices. As a third-year student at Emory University School of Medicine, Cornely has pursued every role, action, and endeavor with this guiding principle and his mother’s legacy at the forefront.

Before attending medical school, Cornely worked as a data coordinator at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, Massachusetts, where he provided expertise on qualitative research methods for racial concordance studies.

Cornely matriculated at Emory University as both a Gates Millennium and Questbridge College Prep scholar, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in neuroscience and behavioral biology with a minor in music. As a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., the oldest, intercollegiate Greek-letter fraternity for African American men, Cornely provided inclusive spaces for marginalized students on campus and spearheaded civil-engagement opportunities by registering nearly 100 new voters in a non-presidential election year.

Viewing medicine through a more empathetic lens, Cornely obtained his Master of Public Health in behavioral science and health education from Emory’s Rollins School of Public Health. Cornely’s pursuit for equity and advocacy further developed through graduate research assistantships with the Morehouse School of Medicine, Emory Primary Care Clinic, and the Rollins Global Health Department. His academic and professional endeavors have culminated in peer-reviewed publications on pulmonary microbiology, mixed-methods clinical research, cultural and racial concordance in doula care, and health outcomes for patients with placenta accreta.
In his first year of medical school, Cornely was elected chapter president of the Student National Medical Association, where he led efforts to remove socioeconomic barriers for the organization by coordinating with leadership to reestablish funding for chapter initiatives. Cornely also collaborated with the Association of Black Public Health Students at Emory’s Rollins School of Public Health to create a peer-mentoring program between current Black medical and premedical students.

Despite establishing a supportive community, Cornely felt like there still was something missing from the school, so he co-founded an affiliate chapter of Black Men in White Coats at Emory, for which he served as the inaugural vice president. Through collaborative and supportive efforts, Black Men in White Coats tackled issues surrounding underrepresentation in medicine. Its inaugural symposium for marginalized students was such a success that the national organization granted financial support for its continued growth. As a student member of Emory’s Actionable Education Initiative’s Anti-Racism Committee, Cornely is currently leading work to publish the committee’s work on anti-racism in medical school education.

Through the years, Cornely’s experiences have taught him that mentorship and investment in communities are essential for inspiring the next generation. He hopes to enter his surgical career with the same values, diligence, and humility with which he has always approached advocacy and more equitable health care. Cornely remains steadfast in his ultimate goal — to lead a life much like that of his mother — one that centers on improving the lives of others through service.
Andrés Antonio Maldonado
University of California, Davis, School of Medicine

Andrés A. Maldonado is a Mexican American, first-generation college graduate from Fremont, California. As a young boy, he witnessed health inequities afflicting his relatives and the families in his low-income, Mexican immigrant community. These early experiences inspired him to become a physician who will compassionately care for underserved communities and ardently advocate for diversity, equity, and inclusion in medicine and society.

Maldonado graduated with honors from Columbia University, where he double majored in neuroscience and behavior and Hispanic studies. Prior to medical school, he investigated post-migration health stressors among Latino immigrants at the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health. He also served as co-director of Caregiving Programs for the Youth Movement Against Alzheimer’s (YMAA), the nation’s largest youth-led, Alzheimer’s nonprofit organization. At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, he led YMAA’s virtual, nationwide caregiving and respite program for elders with dementia and their caregivers.

Maldonado’s commitment to health equity and social justice brought him to the University of California, Davis, School of Medicine, one of the nation’s most diverse medical schools. He is a third-year Community Health Scholar in the Transforming Education and Community Health for Medical Students (TEACH-MS) Program. With TEACH-MS, he actively engages in scholarly, clinical, and community-based experiences to address and mitigate health inequities. Drawing on his public health background and the support of his TEACH-MS faculty mentors, he has developed a longitudinal scholarly project to examine population-level disparities in food security and other social determinants of coronary heart disease in California. As co-president of the Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA) Chapter at UC Davis, Maldonado led health events and diversity initiatives in his local and school communities, including the inaugural celebration of National Latino/a Physician’s Day. As a co-director and undergraduate liaison for Clínica Tepati, one of the nation’s oldest student-run clinics, he provided uninsured and undocumented Latinos in Sacramento with free primary care services. With the goal of supporting aspiring health professionals from diverse backgrounds, he
developed and led an ongoing academic and professional mentorship program for Clínica Tepati’s undergraduate volunteers.

As a leader on the school’s Diversity Advisory Council, Maldonado worked to foster a diverse and inclusive learning community for underrepresented medical students. His staunch commitment to dismantling inequities in medical education led him to champion a reform to the school’s student-travel funding policy, enabling additional financially disadvantaged students to attend diversity conferences that they otherwise could not have afforded. As a result of this policy reform, Maldonado and his peers attended the 2022 LMSA National Conference, where he received the LMSA National Scholarship for his leadership and advocacy for the Latino community.

Maldonado is pursuing a career in academic emergency medicine. He hopes to serve marginalized communities as he actively investigates health inequities, strengthens the health care safety net, and nurtures the next generation of underrepresented physicians.
Shaheed Marquis Muhammad
Kaiser Permanente Bernard J. Tyson School of Medicine

Shaheed M. Muhammad is a first-generation college graduate and third-year medical student at the Kaiser Permanente Bernard J. Tyson School of Medicine (KPSOM) in Pasadena, California. He was born in Portland, Oregon, but spent much of his childhood in Las Vegas, Nevada, before attending high school in Vancouver, Washington. Growing up with a disabled mother and experiencing financial instability allowed him to gain early insight into the complex healthcare system and, specifically, the social inequities that plagued his community and many others. These experiences inspired him to pursue medicine and advocate for justice for communities in need.

Muhammad attended Pomona College, where he not only prepared for medical school, but also was able to pursue his many passions. He majored in molecular biology while minoring in music to fulfill a promise he had made to himself to invest in his musical education—an opportunity he could not afford in his youth. When not in class, he captained the club volleyball team and enjoyed playing the cello in the Pomona College Orchestra. As part of the music department, he received the Cecil H. Short Grant, which honors graduating students who have shown dedication to leadership, service, and performance. Muhammad also took every opportunity to mentor others, including in STEM programs dedicated to underrepresented students in science, working for the Housing and Residential Life Office as a resident advisor and head of the live-in mentor program, and connecting with underclassmen as a queer resource mentor, Office of Black Student Affairs mentor, and prehealth mentor.

After graduating from Pomona, Muhammad immediately began his medical education at KPSOM, where he continues to make a difference. He has worked to build Black community as the president of KPSOM’s Student National Medical Association chapter, and he utilizes his position as an admission ambassador to mentor and connect with prospective, incoming, and current Black underclassmen. As part of the MedPride board, he works to build a safe space for all students, no matter their gender identity or sexuality.
Muhammad’s current research is focused on oropharyngeal screening and sexually transmitted infection transmission rates in the queer male community of Portland, Oregon. As someone on PrEP, he is working to make HIV prevention and education on campus more inclusive and representative of the queer community. Additionally, to combine his love for music and medicine, Muhammad is working with Dr. Deepthiman Gowda to create a narrative-medicine curriculum on “Music in Medicine.”

Inspired by the many hours he spent in the emergency room with his family, Muhammad is interested in pursuing emergency medicine. He aspires to be a kind and empathetic emergency provider, and plans to keep mentorship, advocacy, and music a part of his future career.
Noelle Thompson
University of Toledo College of Medicine

Noelle Thompson is a third-year medical student at the University of Toledo College of Medicine (UTCOM). Currently, she is participating in a clinical research year with the University of Michigan Department of Plastic Surgery. She also serves as the junior medical-student leader for the Surgeons in Humanitarian Alliance for Reconstruction, Research and Education (SHARE) program and is a subcommittee medical-student leader for the American Council of Educators in Plastic Surgery’s (ACEPS) social media team.

From Cincinnati, Ohio, Noelle credits her brother, parents, and grandparents for instilling in her a heart of service, which has inspired her passion for medical education, diversifying the health care workforce, mentoring, and bridging gaps in equity. Before medical school, Thompson spent three years working in Washington, D.C., as a senior health consultant, health equity intern, and evaluation intern for Booz Allen Hamilton, Families USA, and the Obama Foundation, respectively. As an undergrad, Noelle co-led a food-insecurity project at 12 separate ambulatory locations throughout the Columbus community. Thompson’s work and volunteer experiences have allowed her to work across the public and private sectors to improve metric development, dashboard development, research quality, health equity, health systems financing, community partnerships, and process improvement. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in neuroscience from The Ohio State University.

During the past two years, Thompson has led further development of a two-week pre-matriculation program for incoming first-year medical students, who are underrepresented in medical school at UTCOM, to help ease students’ transition into medical school and help them move successfully toward their career goals in medicine. This program has positively impacted over 50 medical students thus far. Last summer, Thompson served as a Duke Sanford School of Public Policy Geneva Fellow, which enabled her to work in Geneva, Switzerland, at the Foundations for Innovative Diagnostics (FIND). At FIND, she collaborated with team members in South Africa, Uganda, and India to help lead a research project that focused on how to improve equitable diagnostic access in low- and middle-income countries.
She also served as the 2022 Student National Medical Association (SNMA) president for UTCOM, where she oversaw six volunteer activities throughout the year. Under her leadership at SNMA, more than 300 elementary through undergraduate students in the Toledo community were introduced to careers in medicine and given tools and advice on how to apply to medical school. Recognizing the advancements that Thompson has made in equity at her medical school, she was invited by the dean of UTCOM to be the student representative from her class to be on the dean’s advisory committee for diversity, equity, and inclusion and the health equity curriculum committee.

Thompson aspires to be a plastic and reconstructive surgeon and an international health care leader who continues to strengthen local and global equity.
GROUP ON DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
EXEMPLARY LEADERSHIP AWARD

This award recognizes innovative leadership and impact from an individual or team responsible for developing and implementing an outstanding and highly effective program that demonstrates evidence-based best practices for enhancing diversity and inclusion in academic medicine and biomedical sciences.

Dr. John Paul Sánchez led the development of Building the Next Generation of Academic Physicians, Inc. (BNGAP), a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to supporting diverse learners’ pursuit of academic medicine careers. In partnership with diversity-related national organizations, the Group on Diversity and Inclusion, AAMC colleagues, and over 70 academic medical centers, he has opened a national dialogue on pre-faculty development, providing trainees with foundational self-efficacy, knowledge, skills, and experiences to be successfully appointed and eventually promoted and tenured within an academic institution.

John Paul Sánchez, MD, MPH
Executive Associate Vice Chancellor,
Health Sciences Center, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI),
University of New Mexico
President, Building the Next Generation of Academic Physicians (BNGAP), Inc.
Executive Director, Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA) National, Inc.

John Paul Sánchez has worked extensively to promote health equity in minoritized communities and to advance diversity and inclusion in the medical and academic medicine workforces.

Sánchez is co-founder/president of BNGAP, Inc., which has become nationally recognized for developing the concept of pre-faculty development, and he has taught leaders in medical schools and academic health centers how to develop diverse medical trainees to become faculty and senior academic leaders.

Through partnerships with numerous national diversity-related organizations, Sánchez has published seminal research work in *Academic Medicine* and other journals on the barriers encountered by minoritized individuals pursuing academic careers. In 2020, BNGAP launched the National Center for Pre-Faculty Development to support
institutions in integrating pre-faculty development as a new approach for diversifying academic medicine.

Since joining the Health Sciences Center (HSC) at the University of New Mexico, Sánchez has been appointed to numerous leadership positions. As the executive associate vice chancellor for DEI, he has advised and guided the planning, organization, and alignment of numerous DEI activities.

Dr. Sánchez has advocated for LGBTQ+ health equity for 25 years. In the late 1990s, he served as a co-founder of the Bronx Lesbian and Gay Health Resource Consortium, Inc., the first LGBTQ center in the Bronx. As a resident and junior faculty member at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, he led the formation of the first LGBT Steering Committee and institutional action plan for greater inclusion. In 2012, with BNGAP and Group on Diversity and Inclusion (GDI) colleagues, he led the development of the National LGBT Health Workforce Conference, and in 2016-19, he served as a member of the Sexual and Gender Minority Research Working Group of the National Institutes of Health. Also in 2016, the Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA) National voted to establish the J.P. Sánchez LGBTQ Health and Leadership Award.

Dr. Sánchez has also been a dedicated leader for LHS+ (Latina/o/x/e, Hispanic, or of Spanish Origin+) communities’ inclusion and equitable treatment in medicine. He served as the chair of the Council of Residents, was founder of the Council of Young Physicians of the National Hispanic Medical Association, and was secretary of the board of the Hispanic Serving Health Professions Schools. Since 2017, Sánchez has served been a leader of LMSA, the country’s largest Latino medical-student association. In 2017, he led the development of the LMSA Faculty Physician Advisory Council as well as the National Center for LMSA Leadership and Advancement, in 2021.

Since 2018, Sánchez has been an associate editor for MedEdPORTAL and has guided the development of the DEI, Native American, and Language-Appropriate Health Care and Medical Language Education collections. For his mentorship of diverse academicians, in 2021, he was designated the AAMC MedEdPORTAL Outstanding Associate Editor. He served on the AAMC GDI Steering Committee between 2009 and 2011 and on the board of Academic Medicine between 2017 and 2021. Sánchez has co-authored 75 peer-reviewed journal publications and book chapters and edited three books.

Defying the odds, at 11 years post-residency, Sánchez achieved the distinction of full professor with tenure.

He received his medical degree from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in 2006, completed his residency training at Jacobi/Montefiore in 2010, and is board certified in emergency medicine. He completed an MPH at the Yale School of Public Health. He is of Puerto Rican ancestry, identifies as gay, and was raised in the Bronx.
NATIONAL MEDICAL FELLOWSHIPS AWARDS

To recognize and support the outstanding work of the National Medical Fellowships (NMF), the AAMC honors the 2022 Franklin C. McLean Award and the William and Charlotte Cadbury Award winners. We are pleased to highlight these very deserving recipients.

FRANKLIN C. MCLEAN AWARD

Instituted in 1968 in memory of the NMF founder, this title award recognizes outstanding academic achievement, leadership, and community service.

Oumou Fofana
Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine

Oumou Fofana is a Guinean American, second-year medical student at the Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine. Her alma mater is The Ohio State University, where she received her Bachelor of Science degree in biochemistry with a minor in French. She graduated with Latin honors and received the Outstanding Senior Award, granted to less than 1% of graduating seniors in her class.

One of Fofana’s most memorable experiences during her undergraduate years was serving as president of Ladies of Leadership, a mentorship program designed to help first-year women-of-color students on campus. She also worked as a teacher’s assistant for a general chemistry course. Off campus, Fofana directed a volunteer initiative at a downtown church, which prepared meals for people experiencing homelessness.

Currently, Fofana is a medical school mentor for Project SHORT, a program that helps economically and socially marginalized applicants get into graduate school. She also is a member of the diversity and equity taskforce at Wright State University and is involved in research in the department of obstetrics and gynecology there. She was awarded the Underrepresented in Minority Scholarship at the Boonshoft School of Medicine and participates in Physicians Diversity Scholars, the prestigious mentoring program for minority medical students at OhioHealth.

Fofana is interested in a career in primary care, specifically, as a gynecologist, and she hopes to play a role in reducing health care disparities, such as maternal mortality, in local and global Black communities.

In her free time, Fofana enjoys watching YouTube videos, reading, and running her blog, “Oumou’s Personal Posts.”
NATIONAL MEDICAL FELLOWSHIPS AWARDS

WILLIAM AND CHARLOTTE CADBURY AWARD

Established in 1977 in honor of the NMF’s former executive director, William Cadbury, and his wife, Charlotte Cadbury, this title award recognizes outstanding academic achievement, leadership, and community service.

Luis Torres-Gonzalez
University of Illinois College of Medicine

A first-generation, second-year medical student at the University of Illinois College of Medicine in Chicago, Luis Torres-Gonzalez has demonstrated his commitment to helping economically and socially marginalized people through volunteering and mentoring. In 2016, he obtained a Bachelor of Science in education and an associate degree from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. Currently, Torres-Gonzalez serves as the lead physiology peer educator for the Urban Health Post-Baccalaureate Admissions Program, where he teaches graduate level physiology and also serves as a mentor to the students who are underrepresented in the field of medicine. For his leadership in this position, he was nominated for the Wilson Scholars Program at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science by the College of Medicine Urban Health Program.

In his discretionary time, Torres-Gonzalez volunteers at Shriners Hospital for Children in its Motion Analysis Center, where he works alongside the lead biomechanical engineer to implement a system designed to provide treatment recommendations using gait parameters for children diagnosed with cerebral palsy. He also volunteers with the Illinois Spina Bifida Association, where he is currently working with a team to develop a lecture series that will educate medical students about spina bifida. In addition, Torres-Gonzalez enjoys serving as a mentor to high school, undergraduate, and first-year medical students through various groups, including Guide, a student-run organization, and the I Am Abel’s Urban Bridges Medical Mentoring Program.
PREVIOUS HERBERT W. NICKENS AWARD RECIPIENTS

2022
Thomas A. LaVeist, PhD
Tulane University

2021
Judith Salmon Kaur, MD
(Choctaw and Cherokee)
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

2020
Cato T. Laurencin, MD, PhD
University of Connecticut

2019
Maria L. Soto-Greene, MD, MS-HPED, FACP
Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

2018
Griffin P. Rodgers, MD, MACP
National Institutes of Health

2017
George C. Hill, PhD
Vanderbilt University School of Medicine

2016
Somnath Saha, MD, MPH
Oregon Health & Science University and Portland Veterans Affairs Medical Center

2015
Ana E. Núñez, MD
Drexel University College of Medicine

2014
Lisa Cooper, MD, MPH, FACP
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

2013
Aaron Shirley, MD
Jackson Medical Mall Foundation

2012
David Hayes-Bautista, PhD
David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

2011
Elijah Saunders, MD, FACC, FACP, FAHA, FASH
University of Maryland School of Medicine

2010
Alvin F. Poussaint, MD
Harvard Medical School

2009
Jeanne C. Sinkford, DDS, PhD
American Dental Education Association

2008
Vivian W. Pinn, MD
National Institutes of Health

2007
M. Roy Wilson, MD, MS
University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center

2006
Spero M. Manson, PhD
University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center

2005
Joan Y. Reede, MD, MPH, MS
Harvard Medical School

2004
Michael V. Drake, MD
University of California Systemwide

2003
Anna Cherrie Epps, PhD
Meharry Medical College

2002
David Satcher, MD, PhD
Morehouse School of Medicine

2001
Lee C. Bollinger, JD
University of Michigan

2000
Donald E. Wilson, MD
University of Maryland School of Medicine
PREVIOUS HERBERT W. NICKENS FACULTY FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

2022
Ofole Mgbako, MD
NYU Langone Health

2021
Utibe R. Essien, MD, MPH
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

2020
Cherisse D. Berry, MD, FACS
NYU Grossman School of Medicine

2019
Joshua Barocas, MD
Boston University School of Medicine

2018
Marlene Camacho-Rivera, ScD, MPH
CUNY School of Medicine

2017
Risha Irvin, MD, MPH
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

2016
Stanley Frencher, MD, MPH
David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

2015
Jed Gonzalo, MD, MSc
Penn State College of Medicine

2014
Roberta Capp, MD, MHS
University of Colorado School of Medicine

2013
Philip A. Chan, MD
The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University

2012
Olateju M. Simoyan, MD, MPH, BDS
The Commonwealth Medical College

2011
Tumaini Coker, MD, MBA
David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

2010
Carmen Peralta, MD
University of California, San Francisco

2009
Elizabeth Miller, MD, PhD
University of California, Davis, School of Medicine

2008
Marcella Nunez-Smith, MD, MHS
Yale School of Medicine

2007
Thomas D. Sequist, MD, MPH
Harvard Medical School

2006
Alfredo Quiñones-Hinojosa, MD
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

2005
Ugo A. Ezenkwele, MD, MPH
New York University School of Medicine

2004
Katherine J. Mathews, MD, MPH
Washington University School of Medicine

2003
Monica J. Mitchell, PhD
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine

2002
Janice C. Blanchard, MD, MPH
George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences

2001
Vanessa B. Sheppard, PhD
Eastern Virginia Medical School

2000
Charles E. Moore, MD
Emory University School of Medicine
PREVIOUS HERBERT W. NICKENS MEDICAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

2022
Kemi Alabi
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

Cameron D. Clarke
Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians & Surgeons

Amanda L. Collar
University of New Mexico School of Medicine

Sarah E. Rowley
Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania

Ana M. Viteri
Medical College of Wisconsin

2021
Kaylin G. Batey
University of Kentucky College of Medicine

Tegan Marie Carr
University of Minnesota Medical School

Victor A. Lopez-Carmen, MPH
(Hunkpati Dakota Oyate and Yoeme)
Harvard Medical School

Nyah Iman Rodman
University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine

Christian Tejeda
University of California, Los Angeles, David Geffen School of Medicine

2020
Russell J. Ledet, PhD
Tulane University School of Medicine and Freeman School of Business

Bernadette N. Lim
University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine

Itzel López-Hinojosa
University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine

Rubén D. Vega Pérez
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Lauren West-Livingston, PhD
Wake Forest University School of Medicine

2019
Betial Asomerom
University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine

Sylvia Guerra
Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth

Pauline Ngoc Anh Nguyen
University of California, Davis, School of Medicine

Bria Peacock
Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University

Alex Villeda
Duke University School of Medicine

2018
Tyler K. Carcamo
University of California, Davis, School of Medicine

Catherine Castro
University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine

Chad Lewis, MPH
Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth

Sang Minh Nguyen
University of California, Riverside, School of Medicine

Lawrence Rolle
Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California

2017
Yvorn Aswad
Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science/University of California, Los Angeles, David Geffen School of Medicine

Nattaly Greene
Oregon Health & Sciences University

Linda Magaña
Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University

Nancy Rodriguez, MPH
University of California, Davis, School of Medicine

Denisse Rojas Marquez
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
PREVIOUS HERBERT W. NICKENS MEDICAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP recipIENTS

2016
Kirsten Concha-Moore
University of Arizona
College of Medicine
Edgar Corona
University of California, Los Angeles, David Geffen School of Medicine
Santiago Diaz
University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine
Kamaal A. Jones
Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine
Giselle Lynch
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

2015
Jessica Buck
Weill Cornell Medicine Medical College
Maximilian Joseph Vincent Cruz
Cooper Medical School of Rowan University
Lucy Ogbu-Nwobodo
University of California, Davis, School of Medicine
Jaire Saunders
University of California, Riverside, School of Medicine
Mary Tate
Harvard Medical School

2014
Frank Garrett Conyers
Harvard Medical School
Ami E. Kumordzie
Stanford University School of Medicine
Alexa M. Mieses
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
Adam J. Milam, PhD
Wayne State University School of Medicine
Maria Tobar
University of California, Los Angeles, David Geffen School of Medicine

2013
Robert Bonacci
Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania
Keith Glover
Stanford University School of Medicine
Shermeeka Hogans-Mathews
Florida State University College of Medicine
Tyler Mains
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Ray Mendez
Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine

2012
Ndang Azang-Njaah
University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine
Olivia Marie Campa
University of California, Davis, School of Medicine
Senyene Eyo Hunter, PhD
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine
Elaine Khoong
Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis
Alison L. Smith, MPH
Mercer University School of Medicine
Brett A. Thomas
Florida State University College of Medicine

2011
Monique Chambers
University of California, Davis, School of Medicine
Toussaint Mears-Clarke
University of Chicago Division of the Biological Sciences and Engineering
Teresa K.L. Schiff
University of Hawaii at Manoa John A. Burns School of Medicine
LaShon Sturgis, PhD
Medical College of Georgia at Georgia Health Sciences University
Martha Tesfalu
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Noemi LeFranc</td>
<td>Florida State University College of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shazia Mehmood</td>
<td>University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Marizabel Orellana</td>
<td>University of California, Los Angeles, David Geffen School of Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jaime W. Peterson</td>
<td>University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kara Toles</td>
<td>University of California, Davis, School of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Olatokunbo M. Famakinwa</td>
<td>Yale School of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yohko Murakami</td>
<td>Stanford University School of Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lisa M. Ochoa-Frongia</td>
<td>Mount Sinai School of Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Blayne Amir Sayed</td>
<td>Northwestern University School of Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lloyd A. Webster</td>
<td>University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-New Jersey Medical School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Aretha Delight Davis</td>
<td>Harvard Medical School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nereida Esparza</td>
<td>University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tamika E. Smith</td>
<td>Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jorge A. Uribe</td>
<td>University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bryant Cameron Webb</td>
<td>Wake Forest University School of Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Christian A. Corbitt</td>
<td>University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cherie C. Cross</td>
<td>David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Maria-Esteli Garcia</td>
<td>Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Marlana M. Li</td>
<td>Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Danielle Ku'ulei Potter</td>
<td>Creighton University School of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Nehkonti Adams</td>
<td>Eastern Virginia Medical School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dora C. Castaneda</td>
<td>Stanford University School of Medicine</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Luis I. Garcia</td>
<td>New York University School of Medicine</td>
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<td></td>
<td>AeuMuro G. Lake</td>
<td>University of Kentucky College of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Katherine L. Neuhausen</td>
<td>Emory University School of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Erik S. Cabral</td>
<td>Stanford University School of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christopher T. Erb</td>
<td>University of Illinois College of Medicine at Urbana-Champaign</td>
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<td>Harlan B. Harvey</td>
<td>University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Osita I. Onugha</td>
<td>University of California, Los Angeles, David Geffen School of Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sloane L. York</td>
<td>Eastern Virginia Medical School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PREVIOUS HERBERT W. NICKENS MEDICAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

2004
Nicolas L. Cuttriss
George Washington University
School of Medicine and Health Sciences

Joy Hsu
University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine

Angela Chia-Mei Huang
Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University

Risha R. Irby
Harvard Medical School

Richard M. Vidal
University of Pennsylvania
School of Medicine

2002
Aimalohi A. Ahonkhai
Johns Hopkins University
School of Medicine

Lukejohn W. Day
Stanford University School of Medicine

Tarayn A. Grizzard
Harvard Medical School

Alejandrina I. Rincón
University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine

David T. Robles
University of Colorado School of Medicine

Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California

2000
Opeolu M. Adeoye
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

Diana I. Bojorquez
Yale School of Medicine

Jim F. Hammel
Harvard Medical School

Yolandra Hancock
University of California, Los Angeles, Medical School

Sonia Lomeli
University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine

2001
Alberto Mendivil
University of Utah School of Medicine

Constance M. Mobley
Vanderbilt University School of Medicine

Chukwuka C. Okafor
Boston University School of Medicine

Sheneika M. Walker
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine

Melanie M. Watkins
Stanford University School of Medicine

2003
Cedric Dark
New York University School of Medicine

Francine E. Garrett
Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University

David Montgomery, PhD
Northwestern University
Feinberg School of Medicine

Johnnie J. Orozco
University of Washington School of Medicine

Nicholas J. Smith
University of Alabama School of Medicine
Dr. Herbert W. Nickens graduated from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine on May 21, 1973.
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Please send contributions to the following address:

Herbert W. Nickens Memorial Fund
c/o Angela R. Moses AAMC
655 K Street, NW, Suite 100
Washington, DC 20001-2399

Engage With Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI)
Learn more about AAMC EDI initiatives at aamc.org/about-us/equity-diversity-inclusion/initiatives.