

2016

Student Group Activity

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In 2015, SKMC took a team approach to recruitment. A team comprised of students, residents, and faculty, along with the diversity deans staffed recruiting tables at a variety of national venues. SKMC regularly recruits at the AAMC Minority Career Fair, the Student National Medical Association, and the Latino Medical Student Association. At the National Medical Association (the oldest and largest medical association for black physicians) in August 2015, the team included Mr. Joseph Hill, Chief Diversity Officer for Thomas Jefferson University.

Visits to smaller recruiting fairs and individual colleges or universities were conducted by Drs. Lopez and Trice. These visits included Lincoln University, University of Maryland – Baltimore County, Delaware State University, Xavier University of Louisiana, and Rutgers University.

In January 2016, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives, with the assistance of underrepresented minority and LGBTQ medical students, began hosting a reception for URM and LGBTQ students during their SKMC interview day. This allowed applicants who desired more information about diversity and inclusion at SKMC and TJU to spend time with the diversity deans as well as SKMC medical students who are involved in diversity activity. In April, the ODII will host a reception as part of SKMC's Office of Admissions Second Look Visit during which accepted URM and LGBTQ applicants can interact with current SKMC students to gain further insight and aid potential students in their decision to matriculate.

Student Group Activity



SNMA leaders with Dr. John Rich who spoke to students about addressing community violence.

Student National Medical Association (Salam Beah, SKMC 2018)

- SKMC and SNMA hosted: Addressing Community Violence in the City of Brotherly Love for Black History Month
- A mentorship program between SNMA and the MAPS chapter at Jefferson has been established
- A minority faculty-student mentorship program has been developed
- Indyah Brown, president-elect and Alexis Cooper, vice-president-elect (both SKMC 2019), are part of a team of students, residents and faculty recruiting at the SNMA Annual Medical Education Conference March 24-26 in Austin, TX
- Discussing the Peter Liang conviction with SNMA and APAMSA

- Speaker: Nellie Fitzpatrick, Director LGBTQ Affairs out of the Office of the Mayor discussing an LGBTQ Pipeline program and the LGBTQ movement in Philadelphia
- Participation in Clinical Care for Gender Non-Conforming and Transgender Adolescents Cardea Webinar
- Creating Safe Spaces/Clinical Skills for LGBTQ People, Speaker: Jaymie Campbell of Mazzoni Center
- PreP & Safe Safe for LGBTQ Individuals, Speaker: Dr. Helen Koenig of Philly Fight
- LGBTQ Patient Interviewing: Applied Skills Share, Co-facilitated by Dr. Bill McNett, Dr. Joe DeSimone, Dr. Kathleen Squires
- LGBTQ Journal Club & Discussion
- LGBTQ Interdisciplinary Curriculum Development



JeffLGBTQ members with Nellie Fitzpatrick, Director LGBTQ Affairs and Mayor Jim Kenney at the Philly Trans* March

Jewish Student Association (Talia Stark, Katy Scharff, Brian Dahlben SKMC 2018)

- Lunchtime talks explaining Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur and Sukkot
- Cider and doughnuts on the Sukka
- Shabbat dinner in the Sukkah
- Multiple Shabbat dinners at student's homes
- The Jewish Patient and Doctor Talk on practices you may encounter

Jefferson Muslim Society (Tanziyah Muqeem)

- Septa Anti-Muslim Bus Ads: A group called the American Freedom Defense Initiative had purchased ad space on Septa buses for an ad depicting hateful speech against Muslims, specifically regarding Muslim-Jewish relations. Qasim Rashid, a prominent Muslim activist and author, facilitated a discussion on debunking widely held perceptions about Islam and Muslims as well as held a Q&A session to answer any questions the audience members had about Islam's perception of non-Muslims and other religions
- Muslims in the Media - The Syrian Refugee Crisis: A hot topic in the news after the November 2015 Paris attacks was about the growing refugee crisis and influx of refugees from countries deeply affected by ISIS. We asked Qasim Rashid to return to Jefferson one more time to talk about the perception of Muslims in the media with a specific focus on the Syrian Refugee crisis. The event started with a number of brief news clips on the Syrian Refugee Crisis regarding very polarizing opinions presented by various news outlets as well as American politicians. The rest of the event was a discussion facilitated by Qasim Rashid about xenophobia, compassion, and human rights issues.

Latino Medical Students

Association (Joseph Villavicencio, SKMC 2018)

- Andres Fernandez, MD, a neurologist at Jefferson, was appointed faculty mentor for LMSA.
- Through MyHealthCareers Academy, LMSA provides education at Esperanza Academy Charter High School, where a majority of the students are Latino and native Spanish speakers. Every 2-3 weeks, LMSA students meet with 10th grade students and present emergency department case studies to help students understand the relevant science and motivate them to pursue their career interests.
- LMSA has hosted a number of events on campus including Spanish standardized patient interviewing and a talk by a community physician on private practice in a diverse community. On Feb. 25th, Dr. Victor Diaz, a Jefferson Family Medicine discussed the care of the Latino patient and community



Dr. Mauricio Hernandez spoke to students about his experience in medical school and practicing as a surgeon within the Spanish speaking community in Miami

Medical Spanish Translator Program

Communication between the physician and patient is vital to ensuring the best patient care. When English is not the patient's primary language, a potentially significant barrier may exist that prevents the proper exchange of information needed for the best outcome.

Two second year SKMC students, Daniel Sentena Lledo and Joseph Villavicencio, SKMC 2018, in collaboration with Dr. Bernie Lopez (Office of Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives) and Dr. Sal Mangione (Director of the Humanities section of Introduction to Clinical Medicine-1), developed a new course designed to train SKMC students who are fluent in Spanish to become certified Medical Spanish translators. In the first year, students complete a six-month intensive on-line Medical Spanish Course (Canopy Medical Spanish, developed by the National Institutes of Health) designed to allow the student to successfully pass the certification exam for medical translation. Students who successfully complete the course receive credit for their first year humanities. Those who pass the exam will then use their skills to translate at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital during their second and third years. In the fourth year, students will be offered the opportunity to spend a one-month elective abroad to further develop and hone their medical translation skills.



Holidays Around the World event celebrating diversity on campus.



Leaders of Jeff APAMSA at the APAMSA Regional Conference hosted by Jefferson.

Diversity Council (Dilru Amarasekera, Ann Vachaparambil, Tanziyah Muqeem, Keri Bergin)

- Holidays Around the World
- Diversity Council has partnered with the Office of Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives to create the first Diversity Newsletter. This publication, slated to be published quarterly, serves as the communication vehicle for diversity news both in SKMC and at TJU
- Diversity Week 3/14-3/18: Diversity Council Committee members host events around topics of race, culture, religion, gender, sexuality and disabilities including:
 - Speaker: Eastern Medicine Ayurvedic Practitioner
 - Alyssa Armstrong OT student: Working with Patients with Disabilities
 - Sex Work: Guidelines for Medical Professionals
 - Panel on Muslim Healthcare Providers with JeffMSA
 - How to Handle bias about Gender & Sexuality in Medicine with AMWA and AMSA

Asian Pacific American Medical Students Association (Carolyn Tsai, SKMC 2018)

- Hepatitis B Screening in Philadelphia Chinatown at the Chinese Christian Church, October 18th, 2015
- Medical Chinese Classes at Thomas Jefferson University (monthly), October 2015-February 2016
- "Can" Documentary Screening at Thomas Jefferson University, October 22nd, 2015
- Mentor Dinner at Thomas Jefferson University, November 30th 2015
- Inter-Philly APAMSA Chapters Social, August 5, 2015 and September 15, 2015
- 2015 APAMSA National Conference at UC Irvine School of Medicine, September 26th, 2015
- 2015 APAMSA Hepatitis B/C Conference in San Francisco at Park Central Hotel, November 14th, 2015
- 2016 APAMSA Mid-Atlantic Region III Conference at Thomas Jefferson University, February 6th, 2016

Diversity and Inclusion Student Advisory Board

- In January 2016, a group of first year SKMC students (Kevin Gutierrez, Indyah Brown, Julie Christensen, Samantha Schoer, Prachi Priyam, Linda Magaña and Nishant Pandya), under the guidance of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, formed the SKMC Diversity and Inclusion Student Advisory Board
- The board will serve as a liaison between the student body and the Office of Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives, providing information and suggestions to the Office to expand diversity and inclusion in the student body and throughout the educational curriculum