Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

In the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine (CCOM), we are mindful of all aspects of human differences and define diversity in the broadest sense to mean inclusion of all persons, regardless of ethnic and racial background, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, ability, language, citizenship status, age, veteran status, socio-economic status, and other attributes, who contribute to a welcoming, inclusive culture across the enterprise.

Did you know...

Here’s a taste of medical triumphs from University of Iowa Health Care, which today includes UI Hospitals & Clinics, UI Stead Family Children’s Hospital, and UI Carver College of Medicine.

• First public institution to admit men and women on an equal basis
• Recognized by the Human Rights Campaign as a leader in health equality for serving the healthcare needs of the LGBTQ community
• First university with a program to rehabilitate children with disabilities
• First Big Ten institution to promote an African American to an administrative vice president position (Dr. Philip Hubbard, 1966)
• First state-university to officially recognize the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, and Allied Union (1970)
• First public university in the US to include optional questions on admissions applications regarding students’ sexual orientation (2012)
• Granted the first MD to an African American graduate (1903) and first PhD to an African American woman (1980)
• America’s first co-educational medical school (1870)

RANKINGS

Carver College of Medicine
• Among top 100 institutions awarding doctoral degrees to Latinx students by Hispanic Outlook

UI Health Care
• One of the “Best Employers for Diversity” by Forbes

HOW WE SUPPORT STUDENTS

• Welcome and community-building events
• Mentoring programs featuring faculty, researchers, and residents
• Sponsor student organizations’ programs and events
• Programming for students
• Career coaching and professional development activities
• Diversity and inclusion educational programs
• Pipeline programs

medicine.uiowa.edu/diversity
Student Organizations supported by the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Association of Multicultural Scientists (AMS) is a graduate student-run organization seeking to promote diversity within the biomedical sciences through support, recruitment and retention of students from a variety of cultures and backgrounds. AMS is founded on the premise that in order to establish and maintain diversity within the biomedical community, it is imperative that members belonging to historically underserved groups be present, active, and supported. Our primary role is to assist members in the successful completion of the Ph.D. by offering programs and support which will meet academic, social, and professional needs in an atmosphere of cultural context and comfort.

Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association (APAMSA) is a national organization of medical and premedical students committed to addressing the unique health challenges of Asian and Pacific Islander American (APIA) communities. APAMSA serves as a forum for student leaders to engage these health issues and develop initiatives and projects addressing those needs. The local, regional, and national activities of APAMSA aim to promote the health of the APIA community and help healthcare workers understand how to care for APIA patients in a culturally sensitive manner.

EQUAL Meds is an organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer people and allies. We are dedicated to helping make the Carver College of Medicine a comfortable and supportive place for all. Our mission is to serve as a bridge between the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and straight communities by raising awareness of issues concerning LGBTQ patients and students, educating about healthcare issues specific to LGBTQ individuals, providing a social support network for LGBTQ and straight people in the College of Medicine, and providing a forum where students may express themselves without binding claim to sexual or affectional orientation.

The purpose of the Latino Medical Student Association at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine is to address the health needs of the Latino community, as well as to create an environment for recruitment and academic support of individuals in the health care professions who will strive to improve the access and delivery of healthcare to Latinos and medically underserved populations.

Mixed-Race in Medicine is an organization comprised of students and faculty interested in learning more about mixed-race topics and how being from a mixed background has shaped their lives in medicine and beyond. Our mission is to increase awareness on these types of experiences and provide a network among our club members and community. Our events include guest speakers, discussion panels, and fundraisers that support the health of mixed-race individuals.

The Student National Medical Association (SNMA) is the oldest and largest medical student organization dedicated to people of color and underserved communities. Committed to increasing the number of culturally capable and sensitive physicians, the SNMA is also dedicated to the academic and clinical success of medical students and pre-medical students. Community service is the heart and soul of the SNMA and eliminating disparities in health care delivery, disease morbidity, and disease mortality are among our highest priorities. SNMA invites all students to participate in its programing which is designed to promote healthy living and stress the preventative nature of health care delivery.

White Coats for Black Lives (WC4BL) is a national organization led by medical students that are called to action by the Black Lives Matter movement. Medicine represents another system affected by racism, and as such, it is important that we, as students of the system, acknowledge and address this issue as a public health crisis. Though White Coats for Black Lives originated with the National White Coat Die-In Demonstrations that occurred on December 10, 2014, there has since been a shift away from performative demonstrations, with a focus instead on actions promoting real change in our communities. Here at Iowa, we are committed to fighting for racial justice within medical education, medical care, and in the community around us, and hope to be a space where people of all backgrounds feel empowered to understand and improve the systems we live in.

Grant Supported Medical School and PhD/Graduate School Preparation Programs

PREP@Iowa

PREP@Iowa is a post-baccalaureate research education program designed to enhance the participants' qualifications and competitiveness for graduate programs in biomedical and behavioral sciences. www.medicine.uiowa.edu/prep

Summer Health Professions Education Program (SHPEP)

The Summer Health Professions Education Program (SHPEP) is a free summer enrichment program focused on improving access to information and resources for college students interested in the health professions. www.medicine.uiowa.edu/shpep

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