

Medical Alumni Association Annual Meeting, Thursday, May 27

2020-21 Medical Alumni Association Special Projects

The Special Projects Committee is responsible for planning, implementing and supporting events and programs designed to increase alumni affinity with the SOM, fellow graduates and students. From admissions, mentoring, community and more, there is a place for everyone to engage with the Medical Alumni Association. Get connected with us today to learn more and find your place in our extensive menu of opportunities. Visit alumni.med.wayne.edu, email alumni@med.wayne.edu or call 313-577-1380 to learn more.

Student- Alumni Engagement Programs

The COVID-19 outbreak has had a significant impact on medical education. Amidst event cancellations and face-to-face meeting limitations, it has been critical to provide engagement and mentorship opportunities between alumni and medical students.

- *Virtual Alumni/Student-Engagement Programs:* The Medical Alumni Association continues to offer four virtual engagement programs to connect students and alumni in response to in-person gathering limitations.
 - Medical Specialty Webinars
 - One-on-one Virtual Mentoring
 - E-Roundtable with a Doc
 - M4/M3 E-Mentoring
- *Medical Specialty Webinars:* 70 Medical Specialty Webinars were held April-November 2020. In Spring 2021, 18 sessions were conducted. This series has been a mix of panels and individual speakers in a moderated Q&A program. We also welcomed admitted students to the webinars, sharing our Warrior pride with these future physicians-in-training.
 - Contact Emily Stone (emily.stone@med.wayne.edu) if you are interested in hosting a webinar in fall 2021!
- *One-on-one Virtual Mentoring:* Virtual mentoring brings together current medical students and SOM alumni for one-time or continuous mentoring to discuss both medical practice and its influence on everyday life.

The WSU Medical Alumni Association also offers a number of avenues for alumni to engage with peers, students and the medical school in traditional, face-to-face circumstances.

- *Medical Specialty Lunches:* The Office of Alumni Affairs, in conjunction with the Office of Student Affairs, hosts a series of medical specialty lunches for first and second year students. Physicians speak informally with students about their chosen specialty and

answer any questions students may have. It's a beneficial way for students to learn about specialties they might be interested in, and to get some insight as to what life is like as a practicing physician. Physicians will speak to students about their education, residencies and career, as well as professional and personal experiences in their specialty.

- *Shadowing*: We offer this program to first, second, third and fourth year medical students. Deciding on a specialty can be overwhelming for medical students, especially if they lack a full perspective. Shadowing allows for students to gain a great perspective and alumni to build relationships with future colleagues in the Wayne State University School of Medicine family while educating them at the same time.
- *Dinner with a Doc*: This program matches first, second and third year medical students with practicing physicians in the Detroit metro area. Physicians host dinner for a current student in their home or restaurant. The purpose of the program is to bring together current medical students and SOM alumni in an informal setting where they can learn more about specific specialties and receive practical tips and advice.
- *Help Our Students Travel*: HOST is designed to reduce students' residency travel expenses and connect alumni and students throughout the country. Alumni volunteers provide students with a free place to stay as well as invaluable advice about residency training, and the prospective medical center and community in which they are interviewing.

Further Engagement Opportunities

- *Alumni Voices*: The Wayne State University Medical Alumni Association Virtual Town Hall Series: Alumni Voices, is sponsored by the Medical Alumni Association and hosted by the Medical Alumni Association Board of Governors. Alumni Voices provides a forum for the WSU SOM alumni community to discuss timely and relevant topics while highlighting the expertise of WSU SOM alumni, faculty and students and their impact at the local, national and international levels.
- *Class Ambassador Program*: Class ambassadors represent their individual class graduation year. They are School of Medicine ambassadors, charged with helping to build and maintain strong connections between their classmates and their alma mater.
- *In Residence*: These events are designed to increase the network of School of Medicine supporters. They offer event hosts the opportunity to share their love of the school with friends and colleagues in a comfortable setting. Events are host-funded and considered a gift-in-kind to the SOM.

Community Engagement

- *Future Docs*: This event is designed for the children, ages 6 to 12, of School of Medicine alumni, faculty, staff, medical students and friends. This annual event provides an opportunity for children to explore the world of medicine through fun, interactive exercises. It also gives our alumni another opportunity to walk through Scott Hall and

see some of the updates that have happened since their graduation. The Kado Skills Center is always a “hot-spot”.

Resident & Ph.D. Engagement

- *Transition to Practice:* The Medical Alumni Association sponsors this educational webinar series hosted by Susan Sanford, Resident Outreach Coordinator for Trinity Health. This series is targeted toward residents nearing the end of their training and interested in finding employment. The program touches on important information beneficial for transitioning from residency to practice.
 - We reminded the residents that they are part of WSUSOM and showed our pride!
- *Dissertation Wellness Package:* The Medical Alumni Association provides Ph.D. students going through the dissertation process with a wellness package to help them through. A direct communication is sent from Diane Puhl to these students.
-Wellness package includes Kind bars, smarties, relaxation tea, stress ball (in shape of a brain), School of Medicine mug, antioxidant nuts and fruits and finally a cocktail glass for celebration!
- *Graduate Research Day Sponsorship:* The Medical Alumni Association provides annual support toward the Graduate Research Day program.

Master of Public Health Alumni Group

- *MPH Alumni Engagement & Virtual Events:* The Medical Alumni Association has enhanced its partnership in alumni strategy and engagement with the Master of Public Health program in 2020-21. Our office is assisting the program leaders in gauging alumni interest in engagement opportunities and developing programs to connect students and alumni. An MPH representative has been added to the Board of Governors for 2021-22.

Medical Alumni Association Visibility

- *Medical Alumni Association Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn:* Follow along on social media as we promote Medical Alumni Association opportunities, events, and much more!