



# SNMA

STUDENT NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION  
UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO COLLEGE OF MEDICINE CHAPTER

## Toledo Student National Medical Association 2005 Revitalization Proposal

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The Student National Medical Association (SNMA) is the nation's oldest and largest organization representing the needs and concerns of underrepresented minority (**Black, Hispanic and Native American**) medical students. Founded in 1964 by students at Howard and Meharry College of Medicine, the SNMA has over 160 chapters nation wide and the membership includes over 5,000 medical students, premedical students, physicians and allied health professions students. SNMA seeks to bridge the health disparities gap through recruitment and retention of underrepresented minority students (URM). SNMA also has a strong community service and mentoring initiative by providing mentoring, health care education, science awareness and academic enrichment activities to students at the elementary, junior high, high school and college level. SNMA seeks to expand the resources available to URM students interested in the health professions. The University of Toledo College of Medicine chapter is strongly committed to the aforementioned goals.

The University of Toledo College of Medicine SNMA chapter was revitalized in 2005. To initiate and facilitate this revitalization, I wrote a proposal and initiated the following activities to address areas of minority recruitment, retention, educational outreach, on campus seminars and community outreach. The action and results of the proposal are outlined below.

### RECRUITMENT

**Purpose:** 1) To formally link SNMA with the College of Medicine admission's office in recruiting more underrepresented minority students to the College of Medicine. 2) To personalize the recruitment process for prospective matriculants by contacting them prior to the interview through matriculation.

#### Action/Results

- October 2005-June 2006: SNMA kept track and followed up with a total of 60+ prospective URM students (from October 2005 – Present),
- April 2006: SNMA organized and hosted the first annual second look weekend and received excellent feedback in the SNMA surveys. 14 URM students expected to matriculate this year. 7 of the 8 students who participated in the SNMA second look weekend matriculated to the College of Medicine. In addition 4 other students who did not participate in the second look weekend were in continual contact with SNMA reps through the course of the academic year. 10 students were hosted in the home of an SNMA member during the interview and/or second look weekend.
- August 2006: College of Medicine matriculants filled out a second SNMA survey and ranked the SNMA initiatives as a strong factor in their decision to come to matriculate at UT
- September 2006 –Present: Theresa Adeliyi-Burcher, Sharon Walker and Jose Jiron are continuing with the SNMA recruitment efforts of Black, Hispanic and Native American Students. Second look weekend projected for April 2007

### RETENTION

**Purpose:** To bring together underrepresented minority students in the professional schools of the UT Health Science Campus in a forum in which supportive and collaborative networks can be established.

#### Action/Results



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- SNMA had 3 minority dinners supported by the MUO foundation: December 2005, March 2006 and August 2006. Next Dinner: Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> 2006 Guest Speaker: Dr. Frederick Cason, Topic: History of Minorities in Medical Education: What is happening in US College and Medical Schools now?
- Various social activities (ie. Movie night and bowling night-held October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2006) are being planned for SNMA members (Social coordinators Uzoma Anaba and Jason Myers), Regional conference (November 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>, 2006), and National Conference (April 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> 2007)

### ON CAMPUS SEMINARS

**Purpose:** To bridge the health disparities gap through on campus seminars/events for faculty, staff and students

#### Action/Results

- April 2006: Dr. Cason gave an outstanding seminar on the history of minorities in Medicine.
- Invited Seminars: December 7<sup>th</sup> 2006 Dr. Hays (UT College of Medicine graduate) gave a talk (Coordinator: Verne Rochford) Topic Cultural Sensitivity in Health Care.
- Spring 2007: SNMA food for the soul event celebrating cultural diversity on campus (Theme: What does Soul Food mean to you? Soul food has different meanings in different cultures. The student population will bring a dish that represents their culture and a written description of what soul food means to them. (coordinators: Sarah Gates and Sharon Walker),

### EDUCATIONAL PIPELINE PROGRAMS

**Purpose:** In an effort to address the disparity in access to information to the health professions. SNMA will set up an affiliation with a High School with a large representation of underrepresented minority/disadvantaged students to serve as a conduit of information to the health professions. SNMA will also be involved in speaking with current educational pipeline efforts with the College of Medicine.

#### Action/Results

- SNMA members have participated in talks with students participants of the Gear-Up program and REACH program hosted by the College of Medicine.
- October 2006: Dana Rollerson, Educational Pipeline coordinator has facilitated two visits to Scott High School to set up an educational outreach program. Ten students in Scott High School have expressed an interest in being part of a PreMed Club in which SNMA members will make monthly visits to give various informational seminars.

### COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

**Purpose:** To reach out to the community through volunteerism.

#### Action/Results

October – December 2006: SNMA Food Bank/Coat Drive/Toy Drive is in progress for the Fall/Spring semester, Boxes can be found around campus in the Health Education building, Mulford Library Building, Collier Building and Block Health Science Building. coordinator: Verne Rochford

NAACP Partnership: SNMA formed a partnership with the Toledo branch of the NAACP to establish a community mentorship program under the auspices of Mrs. WilleAnn Moore, President.

SNMA Toledo is on the Move!