



## 2009 Leadership Awards

### Medical Student Recipients

#### **Robert Evan Accordino, MSc**

Mount Sinai School of Medicine

Robert Accordino, a medical student at Mount Sinai School of Medicine, graduated summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Princeton University with a degree in psychology and certificates in music and theatre and received an MSc from Oxford University in experimental psychology where he was supported by Fulbright and Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarships. During medical school, Mr. Accordino founded and has served as the executive director of Music for Autism, a 501c3 organization that aims to improve the quality of life, education and clinical care of individuals with autism, particularly those in underserved areas. For his work with the charity's sister organization in the United Kingdom, Mr. Accordino was honored by Cherie Blair, wife of Prime Minister Tony Blair, for his "service to individuals with autism and their families." He has served as his class' representative on the Executive Curriculum Committee and founded the Class of 2010 Clinical Medical Education Focus Group at Mount Sinai. At Princeton, he served as chair of the Student Health Advisory Board. Mr. Accordino hopes to pursue a career in academic pediatrics with a focus on advocacy, clinical research, and medical education.

#### **Stephanie Lyn Andrus**

State University of New York at Buffalo School of Medicine & Biomedical Sciences

Stephanie Andrus is currently completing her MD/MBA at the State University of New York at Buffalo and is planning to pursue a career in pediatrics. She has been a leader in her community, serving as the student coordinator for a free medical clinic in downtown Buffalo and developing a program to education children about healthy living. Her advocacy efforts have focused on topics from reducing childhood obesity to improving the quality of and access to medical education.

#### **Manisha Bahl**

University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine

Harvard School of Public Health

Manisha Bahl grew up in Chico, California, and is currently taking a leave of absence from the UCSF School of Medicine, where she is a fourth-year medical student, to pursue an MPH in Healthcare Management and Policy at the Harvard School of Public Health. Manisha graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Stanford University. At UCSF, Manisha served as the Vice President of the Associated Students of the School of Medicine and as the Coordinator of the UCSF Homeless Health Clinics. She has a strong interest in research, having completed projects at UCSF, Stanford, the National Institutes of Health, the Weizmann Institute of Science, and the California Department of Public Health. Manisha hopes to be involved in shaping health care policy, as her experiences with preventive health outreach, free clinics, veterans' health care, and local and state-wide advocacy have underscored the importance of easy access to care.

**Richard A. Brucker**

Tulane University School of Medicine

Richard Brucker, a second-year Tulane medical student, is currently working on a program to provide both First Aid/CPR/AED Training and AEDs to various community settings around town. He also co-runs a TB and Flu clinic at Ozanam Inn Homeless Shelter, is Co-President of Tulane Physicians for Social Responsibility (Student Chapter) and is the Vice President of Tulane Jewish Medical Student Organization. As a first year medical student, Brucker saw the need of educating the many homeless individuals in New Orleans about available free and low cost health care. He created a resource guide as well as a website, [www.nolafreehealthcare.com](http://www.nolafreehealthcare.com), targeted for healthcare providers and community leaders to convey up-to-date information about available free/low cost medical assistance. This website also provides physicians and patients with a quick way to see if their drugs are covered under the Wal-Mart or Target \$4 prescription program.

**Enrico Castillo**

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

Enrico Castillo is a third-year medical student at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine (UPSOM). He was born and raised in rural, southwestern Virginia. He graduated from the University of Virginia with a focus on Filipino-American literature, and his interests are in health disparities and mental health care for underserved minority populations. He is currently on research sabbatical through UPSOM's NIMH Research Fellowship Program, focusing on depression care in African-Americans and Psychiatrist communication. He has been a member of the AMA Medical Student Section's Minority Issues Committee since 2006, serving both as Chair and Vice Chair, and he has organized national and local minority health seminars on African-, Asian-, Hispanic/Latino-American, Native Hawaiian, women's, and LGBT health. Upon graduation, he hopes to pursue a career in Cross-cultural Psychiatry.

**Erica Dommasch**

University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey - Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

Erica Dommasch is a fourth-year medical student at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Brunswick, NJ. She has served over two years on the Board of Trustees of the Medical Society of New Jersey (MSNJ), two years as delegate and alternate delegate to the AMA House of Delegates, and as chair of her local AMA chapter. Recognizing the impact that medical students will have on the future of health care, she helped found the MSNJ-Medical Student Section and also worked to formally integrate health policy education into her medical school's curriculum. Ms. Dommasch is a summa cum laude graduate of New York University with a degree in psychology. She enjoys traveling, and has studied abroad in Paris, France and participated in medical outreach endeavors in Kenya. At present, she is at the University of Pennsylvania completing a year of clinical and epidemiological research in dermatology.

**Jamie S. Eng**

Chicago Medical School

Jamie S. Eng is currently a fourth year medical student who seeks to pursue a career in emergency medicine. Her interests include clinical research focusing on the impact of protocol-driven pre-hospital care on patient outcomes in the emergency department. Ms Eng is a Baltimore native, and received a Bachelor of Science degree in marine biology from Eckerd College, as well as a Master of Science in physiology from the University of Hawaii.

Prior to medical school, she directed a number of clinical research studies focusing on the systemic inflammatory response in coronary bypass patients, and the correlation with post-operative mortality. Since entering medical school, Ms Eng served as vice president of her class for three years, planning committee member of the University's Service Learning Council, third year clerkship representative for Emergency Medicine, student member of the medical school's Strategic Planning Committee, and co-chair of the planning committee for the Miles for Smiles Charity 5K. She also implemented the Faculty-Student Advising Program, a student-driven group providing guidance, support and advice to fellow students. She is honored to be the 2008 recipient of the AOA Ashley Evans Professionalism Award. Ms Eng has also traveled extensively, both for leisure and service; her most recent trip was a medical expedition to India's Himalayan region, providing health care to Tibetan refugees and remote villagers.

**Hayley M. Fischer**

Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University

Hayley Fischer is a second-year medical student pursuing a career in pediatrics. Her interests include expanding access to health care both domestically and abroad, as well as community service. Ms. Fischer spent last summer in Bolivia, where she worked to improve the efficiency of and access to health care in a rural community outside Cochabamba. While working through a self-designed fellowship in Costa Rica during undergraduate, Ms. Fischer also initiated public health education classes for Nicaraguan refugees. She currently serves in various leadership roles, including the Brody School of Medicine AMA chapter chair, representative to the Pitt County Medical Society Board of Directors, and member of the North Carolina Medical Society Communications and Membership Advisory committee. She has been instrumental in revitalizing her local AMA chapter, initiating long-standing service projects in the community and coordinating over 250 hours of community service for her chapter members.

**Jason Franasiak**

University of Virginia School of Medicine

Jason Franasiak is a 4<sup>th</sup> year medical student who will be pursuing a career in Obstetrics and Gynecology focusing on women's health policy. He is particularly interested in screening protocols and their implementation internationally. As a medical student Jason founded Building Tomorrow: Destination Kampala at the University of Virginia. The organization sought to raise funds and awareness for schoolbuildings in Kampala. In addition, he served as President of the UVa SOM and the UVa chapter of AMSA advocating for fellow medical students on a local and national level.

**Felicity L. Kelly**

University of Texas at Houston Medical School

Felicity Kelly is a third year medical student who is currently attending the University of Texas at Houston Medical School. During her time in medical school, she has founded a service organization that teaches science lessons to first grade inner city children. She has also founded an initiative to help indigent patients obtain health care access within the county. She has been an active leader in multiple organizations through her medical school career including Texas Medical Association, American Medical Association, Student National Medical Association, National Network of Latin American Medical Students, Asian Pacific American Medical Students Association and others. She hopes to continue to work in the public health sector and to continue to educate patients on pertinent health care topics.

**Nicholas Ovanda Meo**

Mount Sinai School of Medicine

Nicholas Meo is a second year medical student at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine. He serves as director of the East Harlem Health Outreach Partnership, a free health clinic for the uninsured. In this role he has expanded access to mental health services and supplemented care with several innovative medical education programs. His main interest surrounds chronic disease management in the medically underserved. Nicholas is a Medical Student Training in Aging Research Scholar and recently completed the Summer Institute for Medical Students at the Betty Ford Center.

**Abimbola Adebisi Obafemi**

University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey -New Jersey Medical School

Abi is a fourth-year medical student pursuing a career in orthopaedic surgery and academic medicine with the hope of combining her passions for teaching, research, musculoskeletal medicine, and community service. As president, Abi revived the AMA chapter at her school, inspiring a spirit of advocacy, excellence, and volunteerism. Abi is a National Institute of Health - Clinical Research Training Program scholar. Abi was born in Nigeria and has traveled extensively. She is interested in international health and hopes to create and lead a program for American orthopaedic surgeons to travel to other countries to train local doctors in advanced limb-saving techniques.

**Gina M. Porter**

University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine

Gina M. Porter, of New Orleans, Louisiana, is in her fourth-year of the BA/MD program at the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC) and seeks to pursue a career in academic urology and reproductive medicine. Her interests are in health care disparities, underserved populations, and minority retention and recruitment in medicine. Gina, only twenty-one years old, is actively involved in her community. Gina serves as a trained AIDS peer educator to employ motivational monologues portraying an HIV positive teenager in the Kansas City area to hundreds of students annually encouraging HIV testing and increasing awareness about STDs and transmission modes. Gina currently serves as the Student National Medical Association (SNMA) National Voter Registration Drive Coordinator, SNMA Region Political Advocacy Liaison, SNMA Chapter President, UMKC Medical Student Advisory Committee Community Service Co-Chair, UMKC Class Vice-President, UMKC Student Success Committee Academic Structure/Transition Co-Chair, Kansas City Free Health Clinic Youth Advisory Committee member, UMKC Minority and Retention Committee member, and Hospital Hill Diversity Council member.

**George Salloum**

Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine

George Salloum is a second-year medical student interested in developmental and pediatric medicine. He hopes to be involved extensively in academic medicine as well as outreach programs throughout his career. For two years now he has coached special olympics as well as taken charge of the Student-2-Student educational program for students K-12 that teaches students about the human body and dangers of drugs. George has also been recognized as a Distinguished Graduate at Air Force Commissioned Officer Training.

**Loren Riskin**

Duke University School of Medicine

Loren Riskin is a fourth year medical student at Duke University whose research seeks to address the intertwined effects of technology advancement, health outcomes research, and health policy. Through an undergraduate education in ethics at Wellesley College, medical education at Duke, and a research fellowship with the Stanford Center for Outcomes Research and Evaluations, Loren has brought together experts in technology, outcomes research, and policy, developing models and publishing data to address current healthcare technology and policy needs. As a member of the Healthcare Advisory Committee for the Obama Campaign, Loren gained unique insight and further opportunity to contribute. Loren has traveled extensively for both business and pleasure, including medical hospice work in South Africa, presenting on medical innovation in Vietnam, and scuba diving in Mozambique and Indonesia. In addition to her research, Loren is currently pursuing a career in academic anesthesiology.

**Resident and Fellow Recipients****Jaspal Singh Ahluwalia, MD MPH**

The Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, Preventive Medicine Residency

Jaspal Ahluwalia, MD MPH, is a third-year preventive medicine resident and a Captain in the U.S. Army Medical Corps who seeks to use his public health and medical training to bridge the gap between clinical practice and population-level health. Over the past several years, his broad ranging interests have led him to engage in ground-breaking projects in Bhutan, Kenya, and Cameroon. He is a prolific researcher producing dozens of abstracts, manuscripts, and book chapters on various topics which include international public health, local community environmental interventions, veterans' rural health, and hospital quality improvement. In addition, he is currently serving as the president of the resident physician section of the American College of Preventive Medicine.

**Alexander Ding, MD, MS**

Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School, Department of Radiology

Alexander Ding, MD, MS is a second-year resident in radiology who has held numerous leadership positions in organized medicine at the local, state, and national level and is currently the chair-elect of the Massachusetts Medical Society - Resident & Fellow Section. He has served in the AMA House of Delegates since his second year of medical school, holding the distinction of having represented two different states – California and Massachusetts. He has testified before the U.S. Department of Education on behalf of the AMA and lobbied Congress and state legislatures for control of medical educational debt. Dr. Ding holds a masters in public health and has a strong interest in health care policy and public health, having been involved in such work at the World Health Organization and in the British National Health Service. He has published research on defensive medicine, tobacco taxation policy, and physician payment and behavior.

**Sabesan Karuppiah, MD, DFM**

Bronx Lebanon Hospital, Family Medicine Residency

Sabesan Karuppiah, MD, is a Chief Resident who plans to pursue a career in Faculty Development that integrates health care policy and management. He is currently the

American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Alternate Resident delegate to the AMA - RFS, as well as the Resident Representative to the New York State Academy of Family Physicians Board of Directors. He currently serves as an alternate delegate from the Resident and Fellow Section to the AMA House of Delegates and is the President of the Bronx Lebanon Residency Chapter of NY State Academy of Family Physicians. He is the recipient of numerous awards during residency including the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine's "Resident Teacher" award, AAFP's "Tomorrow's Leader" award and the AAFP Foundations "Resident Research Grant" award. He has volunteered with numerous community outreach programs including TarWars, an anti-smoking campaign for kids, Bronx Lebanon Mobile Health Clinic, annual breast cancer screening for uninsured women, and Assistant Coordinator, Annual Sports Medicine Teaching Day at Burke Rehab. Dr. Karupiah serves on the Graduate Medical Education Committee and curriculum development committee at Bronx Lebanon Hospital. He has special interest in the care of HIV in underserved population.

**Christoph I. Lee, MD**

Stanford University School of Medicine, Diagnostic Radiology Residency

Christoph I. Lee, MD is currently in his third year of radiology residency at Stanford after previously earning his MD cum laude from Yale and BA cum laude from Princeton. He is active in national public health advocacy and education efforts in regards to CT radiation risks, having authored multiple original research articles and commentaries concerning such risks in major peer-reviewed journals. At the community health level, Dr. Lee previously helped implement a Healthcare for the Homeless program in St. Louis and helped lead a free clinic for migrant farm workers in Connecticut. At the national and international level, he was project manager of a global tuberculosis initiative for Ralph Nader in Washington, D.C. and an analyst for a prominent national health care policy research and consulting firm. Dr. Lee plans to pursue a career in health services and policy research with a focus on clinically-effective and cost-effective utilization of medical imaging.

**Beth Lawson Loney, MD**

Wesley Medical Center Family Medicine Residency

Beth Loney, MD, is a first-year family medicine resident with ambitions to practice full-spectrum family medicine in underserved, rural Kansas. Her interest in underserved populations began during a public health trip her first year of medical school to sub-Saharan Africa. She returned three years later to provide medical care to those of the Copperbelt and Sothern provinces of Zambia. Additionally, during her fourth year of medical school she served as a board member to the American Academy of Family Physicians. During her tenure she aided in the rebranding of the academy and help shaped current policy regarding national installation of the patient-centered medical home.

**Andrew Carl Miller, MD**

State University of New York Downstate Medical Center & Kings County Hospital Center, Emergency Medicine / Internal Medicine (EM/IM) Residency.

Andrew Miller, MD, a graduate of Saint Louis University (2000) and Southern Illinois University School of Medicine (2005), is currently a fourth-year resident in a combined five-year emergency medicine and internal medicine training program in Brooklyn, NY. He seeks to pursue a career in pulmonary and critical care medicine. His research interests include immune modulation in critical illness, and he is currently co-investigating an international pleural tuberculosis study. Dr. Miller performed medical relief work in Pakistan after the 2005 South Asian Earthquake and in the Dominican Republic during the 2007 Hurricane Noel. He

has co-investigated four grant-funded projects including one supported by the World Health Organization, has over 60 publications during residency, reviews and edits for numerous journals, and has been invited to lecture internationally in Europe, the Middle East, and Asia. Dr. Miller also received the 2008 Emergency Medicine Residents Association National Leadership Excellence Award.

**Rosalyn T. Nguyen, MD**

Harvard Medical School/Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (PM&R) Residency

Rosalyn Nguyen, MD, is a fourth year PM&R resident who seeks to pursue a career in hospital administration, public health, and disabilities advocacy. Dr. Nguyen graduated from Stanford University School of Medicine in 2005, where she had been the Medical Staff Coordinator of the free clinic for two years, as well as co-president of the Stanford American Medical Students Association (AMSA) and an Associate Trustee on the national board of AMSA. During residency, she was Chief Resident in the Harvard Department of PM&R. She has received the Unsung Heroine Award from a local community group, the Presidential Volunteer Service Award, and the Partners in Excellence Award for Leadership & Innovation. She holds leadership roles in several community and medical organizations and is active in Massachusetts Medical Society and AMA committees.

**Anathea C. Powell, MD**

New York University (NYU) School of Medicine, General Surgery Residency and National Cancer Institute, Surgical Oncology Research Fellowship

Anathea C. Powell, MD is a general surgery resident at NYU School of Medicine and is currently completing a three-year surgical oncology research fellowship at the National Cancer Institute. Her academic interests are in endocrine and general surgery; her policy interests are in making essential surgical services available to the underserved both in the US and abroad. She has worked extensively with the underserved through volunteer work in college and medical school, as well as during her three years as an Emergency Medical Technician for Boston EMS prior to medical school at Boston University. Dr. Powell's involvement with the American College of Surgeons (ACS) is extensive; she serves as a resident liaison member to several College committees and is a member of the Advisory Council for Operation Giving Back, the volunteerism section of the ACS. To further the national discussion about the importance of surgical resident volunteerism and international training, she has surveyed residents both at her own program and nationally, resulting in two articles to date in prominent peer-reviewed journals.

**Christian Charles Shults, MD**

Washington Hospital Center, General Surgery Residency

Christian Shults, MD is a fourth year general surgery resident pursuing a career in cardiothoracic surgery. Spurred into action by the growing obstacles physicians face while caring for their patients, Dr. Shults decided early in his career to become active in health care policy reform. His efforts have been focused on increasing physician issue awareness and activism. Dr. Shults is currently serving as chair of the AMA-RFS Legislative and Advocacy Committee, sectional delegate to the House of Delegates and serves on the American College of Surgeons Health Policy Steering Committee as well as the Governing Committee on Chapter Activities.

**Karen Marie Winkfield, MD, PhD**

Harvard Medical School, Harvard Radiation Oncology Program

Karen Winkfield, MD, PhD is a third-year resident in the Harvard Radiation Oncology Program who hopes to gain greater understanding of the sociocultural values that contribute to disparities in cancer outcomes. Her goal is to develop a platform for discussion that will enable accurate and timely dispersal of clinical information in the black community, address cultural barriers to accessing and accepting appropriate cancer care, and engage policy-makers to invest in initiatives designed to address inequalities in the healthcare delivery system. As a medical student, Dr. Winkfield developed the MSTP Annual Scientific Symposium to serve as a venue for students in the Medical Scientist Training Program at Duke University to showcase their research. She also served as President of the Student National Medical Association and the American Medical Women's Association chapters, after founding the Duke branch of the latter. In 2008, Dr. Winkfield was elected to serve as the Education and Career Development Officer for the Organization of Minority Residents & Fellows at Massachusetts General Hospital.

**Early Career Physician Recipients****Noel N. Deep, MD, FACP**

General internist, Antigo, Wis.

Noel N Deep, MD, FACP is a general internist in Antigo, a rural north central Wisconsin community and is very active in organized medicine. His many leadership roles include Chief of Staff and member of the Board of Trustees of Langlade hospital, Chair of the Wisconsin Chapter American College of Physicians Young Physicians council, Immediate past Chair of the Wisconsin Medical Society's YPS, member of the ACP National Council of Young Physicians and of the Wisconsin ACP Governor's Advisory Council and the ACP Abstract Review Board, Delegate from the ACP to the AMA YPS and the AMA HOD and a Delegate to the Wisconsin Medical Society HOD. He is the first recipient of the Kenneth Viste, Jr, MD, Young Physician Leadership award from the Wisconsin Medical Society Foundation and the Young Internist of the Year award from the Wisconsin Chapter American College of Physicians in addition to being one of the first recipients of the American College of Physicians National Leadership Enhancement and Development certificate award. He is interested in advocacy issues and healthcare reforms and medical education. He has set up scholarships for hospital and clinic employees to pursue medical education and has contributed to local organizations and charities. He expresses his gratitude for being selected for this national honor and looks forward to increasing his active participation in organized medicine at the state and national level.

**Apurv Gupta, MD, MPH**

Caritas Norwood Hospital, Norwood, MA

Apurv Gupta, MD, MPH, is currently Interim Vice President of Medical Affairs at Caritas Norwood Hospital (CNH) in Norwood, MA, overseeing clinical process redesign, quality improvement, regulatory compliance, and professional practice standards for more than 400 physicians. As Medical Director of the Hospitalist Program at CNH and CEO of Hospitalist Partners, LLC he has developed a model Hospitalist system focused on improvement and outcomes. Dr. Gupta is a Past President and current Board of Trustee of the Indian Medical Association of New England, a 30 year old organization dedicated to physician education, charitable healthcare projects, and professional networking. He is Co-Chair of the Boston Chapter of Akshaya Patra USA, a charitable organization providing food to 1,000,000 underprivileged children a day throughout India. He is a Delegate of the Plymouth District

Medical Society; an active member of the Society of Hospital Medicine (SHM), serving on its Hospital Quality and Patient Safety Committee; member of the Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS); member of American College of Physician Executives (ACPE); and Patron Member of American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI). Dr. Gupta completed his Internal Medicine residency from Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, his MD and ScB from a combined medical program at Brown University School of Medicine, and an MPH in Healthcare Management from Harvard University School of Public Health.

**Ryan Jense, MD**

University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, Wash.

Ryan Jense, MD, works as a clinical anesthesiologist at the University of Washington. He understands that growing the global health care workforce and strengthening overall global health care capacity is essential to the health and prosperity of humanity. He has a passion for improving global health care systems and contends that US academic resident physician training programs should play an integral role in this process. By linking the global health energies of academic institutions, current NGO's, and governmental organizations, he believes the United States can lead the global health charge. This can be accomplished through the formation of a sustainable resident physician global health corps that will serve in an educational, research, and clinical capacity throughout the low and middle countries of the world.

**Peter Byung-Hoon Kang, MD, FAAP**

Children's Hospital Boston and Harvard Medical School

Peter Kang, MD, FAAP, a pediatric neurologist, is director of the EMG Laboratory at Children's Hospital Boston and assistant professor of neurology at Harvard Medical School. His clinical and academic activities focus on neuromuscular disorders in children. His non-academic interests have evolved to include medical-financial issues affecting physicians, patients, and the community. He serves as chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Medical Student Debt Reduction at the Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS), a member of the Committee on Finance at the MMS, a member of the Board of Directors of the MMS and Alliance Charitable Foundation, and president of the Suffolk District Medical Society. He has presented lectures at the Child Neurology Society Annual Meeting and the American Academy of Pediatrics National Conference and Exhibition.

**Shilpen Patel, MD**

University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, Wash.

Shilpen Patel, MD, is an assistant professor at the University of Washington in the department of Radiation Oncology. His interest is in access to health care and correcting health care disparities. He currently serves on the board of Equal Rights Washington which advocates for the rights of GLBT individuals. His current work involves creating a oncology screening clinic for indigent patients.