



MINORITY AFFAIRS SECTION REPORT OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

December 2020 – June 2021

MAS Governing Council Members (2020 – 2021)

Fatima Cody Stanford, MD, MBA, MPH, MPA, At-Large Representative (Chair and Alt. Delegate)

Michael Knight, MD, National Medical Association Representative (Vice Chair)

M. Natalie Achong, MD, At-Large Representative

Oluwabukola “Bukky” Akingbola, DO, AMA Medical Student Section Representative (Co-Chair, Engagement Committee)

Sam Arce, MD, National Hispanic Medical Association Representative

Claudia Lopez, MD, AMA Resident & Fellow Section Representative

Priscilla Mpasi, MD, AMA Young Physicians Section Representative (Co-Chair, Advocacy Committee)

Luis Seija, MD, Delegate to the AMA House of Delegates (Co-Chair, Advocacy Committee)

Siobhan Wescott, MD, MPH, Association of American Indian Physicians Representative (Immediate Past Chair)

Chair’s Report

- MAS will actively promote the screening of documentary created by Black Men in White Coats. AMA members and staff will be able to view the documentary at their convenience anytime between June 16 – June 20. AMA staff are finalizing plans for a one-hour panel discussion, open to members and staff on Monday, June 21 at 7 pm, that will feature Black men physicians who will address the recent decline in medical school applications from among Black men, as well as other issues related to diversity and inclusion in medicine. The screening and panel discussion will be held in conjunction with the annual recognition of Juneteenth.
- Several MAS members were interviewed as part of the AMA’s upcoming video series on “Racism in Medicine.” A trailer for the video is expected to be shared during the special meeting of the House of Delegates.
- The MAS Governing Council met with the Board of Trustees and senior staff to address our section members’ concerns regarding a *JAMA* tweet and podcast that questioned the concept and validity of structural racism. Once results of the ongoing investigation are available, MAS plans to host a town hall meeting for MAS members for an update about the findings from the investigation, and next steps on the path ahead.
- Several MAS members have been invited guests on the AMA’s two YouTube channel web series: “COVID Update” and “Prioritizing Equity.” Web cast topics included the disparate impact of COVID-19 on marginalized and minoritized patient populations, and the need to improve vaccine confidence.
- MAS members elected Samantha Lopez to the position of Medical Student Section Representative on the MAS Governing Council. Ms. Lopez attends the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School. Her one-year term begins June 2021.
- In Spring 2021, the MAS Governing Council confirmed its three primary strategic objectives:

- To improve diversity in medicine among underrepresented in medicine;
- To develop and activate impactful policy on issues of relevance to minority patients and physicians who are underrepresented in medicine;
- To improve engagement and communications with AMA members and external audiences.

Engagement Committee Report

- On June 6 at 11:15 a.m. Central Time, MAS and the Academic Physicians Section are co-sponsoring a CME session entitled, “African, Black, and Caribbean voices: Patient narratives as a means to counter racism and unconscious bias in medicine.” Participants will listen to narratives from underserved populations, in particular African, Black, and Caribbean patients, demonstrating their experiences of systemic racism, bias, prejudice, and stereotyping in their interactions with the healthcare system. Physicians and medical students interested in progress towards health equity will gain insights into improving trust within the patient-physician relationship and expanding individual stories to actions combating health disparities at the systemic level.
- On June 6 at 1:00 p.m. Central Time, MAS will hold it’s bi-annual section business meeting virtually. The meeting agenda is as follows:

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
1:00-2:00 p.m.	Opening Session • Chair’s Opening Remarks • Reports from select MAS members and AMA business units
2:00-3:00 p.m.	Panel 1 URM Association Physician Leaders: Policy and Program Priorities Moderator: Fatima Cody Stanford, MD, MBA, MPH, MPA Panelists: • Joaquin Estrada, MD, Medical Organization for Latino Advancement • Rachel Villanueva, MD, MPH, President-elect, National Medical Association • Mary Owen, MD (Tlingit), President, Association of American Indian Physicians
3:00-4:00 p.m.	Panel 2 URM Association Medical Student Leaders: Policy and Program Priorities

	Moderator: Oluwabukola “Bukky” Akingbola, DO, MS, Co-Chair, MAS Engagement Committee Panelists: • Brandon Postoak, President, Association of Native American Medical Students • Chantel Thompson, President, Student National Medical Association • Karina Diaz, PhD, Latino Medical Student Association (invited)
4:00-4:30 p.m.	“The Doctors Lounge” virtual networking Host: Elizabeth “Liz” Valencia, MD, JD, Co-Chair, MAS Engagement Committee

- On, June 24, MAS and the LGBTQ Advisory Committee will co-sponsor its inaugural educational session as part of a series of webinars on intersectional health and medical issues that impact LGBTQ and minority health. The first installment of the series, “At the Intersection of Race Sexual Orientation, and Gender Identity” will focus on the Black queer community. Future sessions will focus on the Hispanic queer community, the Native American queer and two-spirit communities, and the transgender / non-binary patient population.
- In April 2021, several MAS members attended and/or presented during the 3-day virtual National Minority Quality Forum Annual Leadership Summit on Health Disparities, which was again co-sponsored by the AMA. The theme for this year’s Summit is “Racism Makes Us Sick.” Sessions will focus on the intersectionality of COVID, race and ethnicity. The event included remarks by AMA President Dr. Susan Bailey that focused on the association’s work in the last year related to COVID-19, and health equity. Acknowledged during the Summit were this year’s 40 Under 40 Leaders in Health Award recipients. Among this year’s honorees were 11 physician and medical student members of the AMA, including our MAS Delegate Dr. Luis Seija, and two additional, active MAS members.
- During Spring 2021, two Governing Council members (Drs. Achong and Lopez) served as liaisons to the AMA Foundation as part of the Foundation’s periodic review of scholarship programs. Several MAS members also served as reviewers for the underrepresented in medicine scholarship selection process.

Advocacy Committee Report

The Advocacy Committee drafted and submitted one resolution sponsored by MAS for consideration by the House of Delegates (pending final review and approval of the Resolution Committee):

- Res. 011 Truth, Reconciliation and Healing in Medicine and Medical Education (PDF)



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Additional resolutions and reports submitted to the House of Delegates for consideration during the Special Meeting of the House of Delegates that MAS will monitor include:

- [CLRPD 01 Demographic Characteristics of the House of Delegates and AMA Leadership \(PDF\)](#)
- [CME 05 Promising Practices Among Pathway Programs to Increase Diversity in Medicine \(PDF\)](#)
- [Res. 003 Healthcare and Organizational Policies and Cultural Changes to Prevent and Address Racism, Discrimination, Bias and Microaggressions \(PDF\)](#)
- [Res. 009 Supporting Women and Underrepresenting Minorities in Overcoming Barriers to Positions of Medical Leadership and Competitive Specialties \(PDF\)](#)
- [Res. 403 Confronting Obesity as a Key Contributor to Maternal Mortality, Racial Disparity, Death from Covid-19, Unaffordable Health Care Cost while Restoring Health in America \(PDF\)](#)
- [Res. 406 Attacking Disparities in Covid-19 Underlying Health Conditions \(PDF\)](#)

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