



MINORITY AFFAIRS SECTION (MAS)

REPORT OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

June – November 2022

Governing Council Members (2022 – 2023)

Siobhan Wescott, MD, MPH, Association of American Indian Physicians Representative (Chair and Alternate Delegate)

Priscilla Mpasi, MD, AMA Young Physicians Section Representative (Vice Chair)

Sam Arce, MD, National Hispanic Medical Association Representative

Angel Chavez-Rivera, AMA Medical Student Section Representative

Josephine Fowler, MD, At-Large Representative

Michael Knight, MD, MHL, Immediate-Past Chair

Luis Seija, MD, Delegate to the AMA House of Delegates and Advocacy Committee Chair

Theresa Rohr-Kirchgraber, MD, At-Large Representative

Rachel Villanueva, MD, National Medical Association Representative

Shannon Zullo, MD, AMA Resident & Fellow Section Representative

Staff: Craig W. Johnson, MAS Group Manager, AMA Marketing & Member Experience (MMX)

Liaisons from AMA Board of Trustees

Madelyn Butler, MD; Bruce Scott, MD; Willie Underwood, MD, MSc, MPH

Committee Leadership

Advocacy Committee

- **Luis Seija, MD**, Chair

Engagement Committee

- **Elizabeth Valencia, MD, JD**, Chair

Strategic Priorities

- To improve diversity in medicine among underrepresented physicians and medical students.
- To develop and activate impactful policies 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.

Report on MAS Activities: June – November 2022

Leader-To-Leader series

The section will continue to host Leader-To-Leader events in conjunction with meetings hosted by medical student groups comprised of those who are underrepresented in medicine (URM). These groups include the Association of Native American Medical Students (ANAMS), the Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA), and the Student National Medical Association (SNMA). These associations serve as strategic partners of MAS, and they hold representative seats in the MSS Assembly. Another Leader-To-Leader event will be hosted in conjunction with AMA Annual Meeting, in partnership with MSS (e.g., Committee on American Indian Affairs; Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Officer; Governing Council; Minority Issues Committee), and likely in partnership with key AMA business units. These events serve as an opportunity to engage top AMA leaders (trustees, governing council members, section leaders) and elected or appointed leaders from the three URM medical student associations. The goal is to provide an informal forum to develop mentoring and professional networking relationships, and to promote AMA membership and association priorities among prospective URM medical students, residents, and young physicians. The event series also fosters collaboration with key stakeholders to determine innovative opportunities across URM physician and medical student associations to achieve mutual objectives that will improve overall minority health policy and equity, as well as increase diversity and success in the physician workforce.

URMs and the Medical Education Continuum

Section leaders will also take 2022-2023 to partner with AMA's Medical Education (MedEd) business unit to examine gaps and opportunities that impact URM interest, engagement and success along the medical education continuum — from pathway programs, to pre-med programs, to medical school to the Match, to residency completion. To that end, members of the MAS Engagement Committee will serve as advisors in MedEd's pursuit of an external study on health equity and racial justice in medical education. Members will act as experts and thought leaders with breadth, depth and passion for the issues involved.

The external study is a direct result of a recommendation from CME Report 05-J-21:

"That our AMA work with appropriate stakeholders to commission and enact the recommendations of a forward-looking, cross-continuum, external study of 21st century medical education focused on reimagining the future of health equity and racial justice in medical education, improving the diversity of the health workforce, and ameliorating inequitable outcomes among minoritized and marginalized patient populations. "

The meeting schedule is as follows:

- November 11, 2022 (AMA Interim Meeting in Honolulu / hybrid)
- Late January / Early February 2023 (virtual)
- April 18, 2023 (in-person during the National Minority Quality Forum's Annual Summit on Health Disparities in Washington, DC)



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- June 9, 2023 (AMA Annual Meeting in Chicago / hybrid)

After the 2023 AMA Annual Meeting, the focus of the group is expected to shift from undergraduate medical education (e.g., pathways to, retention and success in medical school) to issues in graduate medical education (e.g., The Match; retention; residency completion; fellowships).

Summer 2022

- MAS members and BOT representatives participated in the annual meetings of the Association of American Indian Physicians, held in Washington, DC, as well as the National Medical Association (NMA) held in Atlanta, GA. Immediate-Past AMA President Dr. Gerald Harmon delivered remarks before the NMA House of Delegates. He also gave his Presidential Medallions to Dr. Valerie Montgomery Rice, President and Dean of the Morehouse School of Medicine, as well as to Dr. Edith Mitchell, past NMA President and former MAS Governing Council member.
- Following a special election held in August 2022, Dr. Rachel Villanueva was elected to fill the vacancy of the National Medical Association Representative. Dr. Villanueva is the immediate past president of the National Medical Association, a board-certified OB/GYN physician, and she is an expert on women and minority health. The special election was held to fill a vacancy that was created when Dr. Michael Knight was elected to the AMA Council on Ethics & Judicial Affairs at the AMA Annual Meeting in June 2022.

Fall 2022

- MAS co-sponsored a webinar hosted by the Academic Physician Section on "[Judicial Threats to Diversity in Medical Education](#)." Of significance during the webinar were concerns regarding two cases before the U.S. Supreme Court that may impact race-based admissions and affirmative action. MAS Engagement Chair, Liz Valencia, MD, JD, and Joaquin Baca, director of equity, inclusion and belonging for AMA Medical Education served as panelists.
- MAS members and staff attended the [Action Collaborative for Black Men in Medicine Strategy Summit](#), a two-day event co-hosted by AAMC and the National Medical Association in Washington, DC. Priorities included strategy development, collaboration, and action planning to increase the number of Black men in the physician pipeline.

2022 Interim Meeting (Honolulu, HI)

The MAS Governing Council will meet November 11 at the Hawaii Convention Center. Strategic planning, and a review of the section's Internal Operating Procedures (IOP) are among key agenda items.



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The MAS Advocacy Committee plans to submit a resolution to the AMA House of Delegates for consideration during the Interim Meeting in November:

- “Support for a Native Medical School in the United States” with the following resolve clause:
 - *RESOLVED, That our AMA support the formation of a Native medical school in the United States through appropriate advocacy channels (e.g. collaboration with key stakeholders, press release(s), support during regulatory approval process, etc.).*

MAS will also support a resolution, authored by the Integrated Physician Practice Section, entitled, “PrEP is an Essential Health Benefit,” which includes the following resolve clauses:

- *RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association support and advocate for the inclusion of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) as an Essential Health Benefit under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Directive to Take Action); and be it further*
- *RESOLVED, That our AMA support and join legal efforts to overturn the judgment rendered in Braidwood v. Becerra in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas (Directive to Take Action).*

The Advocacy Committee will host the MAS Delegates Caucus on the morning of June 13. All are welcome to join in-person.

The MAS Engagement Committee will meet at the Hawaii Convention Center on the morning of November 11, 2022.

- Dr. Sanjay Desai and Mr. Joaquin Baca with AMA MedEd will launch the new collaborative focus on URM in UME.
- Norma Poll-Hunter, PhD, senior director of equity, diversity, and inclusion with AAMC will review AAMC’s Group on Diversity & Inclusion, as well as AAMC’s partnership with the National Medical Association in an Action Collaborative on Black Men in Medicine.

The MAS Business Meeting and Education Sessions are scheduled for Friday, November 11, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Hawaii Convention Center.

- The first hour will include various reports from members and the MAS trustee liaisons.
- The second hour will be dedicated to member education. A panel discussion, moderated by Dr. Richard Pan, will focus on data disaggregation and other factors that influence population health and physician diversity in Asian-American / Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander (AANHPI) communities. All are welcome.

Immediately following the education session, MAS will host a one-hour workgroup meeting from 4:15 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Hawaii Time, where a coalition of MAS and MSS members, as well as URM medical student leaders will convene to explore opportunities to partner in 2023 and beyond. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.



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Winter / Spring 2023

- MAS, MSS and the AMA Ambassadors will co-sponsor a webinar on climate change and environmental justice. Topics will include efforts to achieve health equity; impact on minoritized and marginalized populations; and physicians as trusted sources and agents of change.
- MAS Governing Council and Engagement Committee will hold meetings in conjunction with NMQF's two-day Annual Summit on Health Disparities, an event sponsored by AMA for nearly 2 decades. The Summit, held in Washington, DC each year in April as part of National Minority Health Month, will offer clinical and policy perspectives on health disparities that impact communities of color. NMQF partners with the Congressional Black Caucus Health BrainTrust to develop programming. The Summit concludes with a black-tie awards gala, including lifetime achievement awards, as well as recognition of the year's 40 Under 40 honorees.

2023 AMA Annual Meeting (Chicago, IL)

Preliminary plans are being developed regarding the following activities during A-23:

- MAS Awards for medical students, physicians and healthcare organizations.
- Education session on URMs in GME.
- Leader-To-Leader reception.