STUDENT NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

CANDIDATES FOR NATIONAL OFFICE

ELECTIONS COMPOSITE

2015 ANNUAL MEDICAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

April 1-5, 2015
New Orleans, LA
TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction........................................................................................................................................3

2. House of Delegates Elections........................................................................................................4
   a. Overview........................................................................................................................................4
   b. National President-Elect.............................................................................................................5
   c. National Vice President............................................................................................................17
   d. Speaker of the House of Delegates........................................................................................30
   e. National Parliamentarian..........................................................................................................38
   f. National Pre-medical Board Member.......................................................................................39
   g. Professional Board Member.......................................................................................................50
   h. Strategic Planning Council Member........................................................................................51

3. Board of Directors Elections..........................................................................................................52
   a. Overview....................................................................................................................................52
   b. National Treasurer....................................................................................................................53
   c. National Secretary......................................................................................................................63
   d. Regional Director to the Executive Committee........................................................................70
   e. Professional Board Member to the Executive Committee.......................................................79

4. Announcement of the 2015-2016 Chairperson of the Board of Directors.......................80
February 15, 2015

Dear Members of the Student National Medical Association,

The following elections composite includes the application materials of the 2015-2016 candidates for elected national office. Please take the time to thoroughly review these documents in preparation for national elections at the 2015 Annual Medical Education Conference (AMEC) in New Orleans, LA.

Each of these candidates has been certified by the Elections Committee and each student is in good academic standing at their respective institution. For each candidate you will find a letter of intent, answers to four standard questions, and curriculum vitae for your review. Additionally, candidates submitted a letter of recommendation in support of their desired position.

You will have the opportunity to meet and hear from the candidates at AMEC during your Regional Meetings, House of Delegates sessions, and the designated “Meet the Candidates” session. Please check the AMEC schedule located in the conference booklet for the times and locations of these events. There may be additional opportunities to interact with these candidates so please take the time to do so.

On behalf of the Elections Committee, we thank each of these candidates for their dedication and interest in serving the Student National Medical Association as national leaders. If you have any questions regarding the elections process please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to seeing each of you soon in NOLA!

Yours in SNMA,

Anthony Kulukulualani

Student National Medical Association
National President-Elect, 2014-2015
Elections Committee Chairperson, 2014-2015
House of Delegates Elections Overview

The House of Delegates (HOD) is the supreme governing body of the Student National Medical Association (SNMA). It is made up of delegates from each active SNMA chapter to discuss the business of the organization and to elect national officers. The HOD will elect the following positions at AMEC.

Each candidate will be formally nominated during the opening session of the HOD on Thursday, April 2, 2015. They will then make a presentation to each Region that evening during Regional Meetings. On Friday, April 3, 2015, each candidate will present his or her platform to the HOD. This will be followed by a special “Meet the Candidates” session later that afternoon. On Saturday morning, each delegate will cast a vote for their preferred candidate during the HOD voting session.

Please carefully review the following candidate applications and take the opportunity to hear their presentations at the designated times during AMEC. Note that additional candidates may be nominated from the floor during the HOD opening session. Thank you in advance for your careful consideration and stewardship of our organization.
National President-Elect

Candidate:

Christen Johnson

MD/MPH Candidate
Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine

Position is open for additional individuals to run from the floor of the House of Delegates Session
Date: January 31, 2015

Anthony Kuhukulualani  
National President Elect  
Elections Committee Chairperson  
Student National Medical Association  
Presidentelect@SNMA.org

Student National Medical Association Board of Directors and Members of the House of Delegates:

It is with great joy that I humbly submit this letter of intent to run for the office of National President-Elect of the Student National Medical Association for the 2015-2016 administration. I must begin with saying it is with much consideration as to how I may be of service to the members of this great organization that I feel as though I am qualified for this position. I take the duty of serving the members of the Student National Medical Association very seriously and wish to further my commitment to this great organization and all of the lives it may touch.

For me, service to the SNMA is but a token of the gratitude I have for this organization. I don’t believe that I would be a medical student today without the support from my SNMA mentor as a MAPS student, the guidance that I received through the sessions at AMEC and the love that we as members hold for each other. It is because of this that I have been able to grow and mature in our organization. Our dedication to fostering a solid pipeline, one that I experienced first hand, allows us an opportunity to truly live up to our mission of supporting the current and future medical students from underrepresented minorities, a dedication to serving the needs of underrepresented communities, and increasing the number of clinically excellence, culturally competent, and socially conscious physicians. I have been a part of the SNMA since 2009 after attending a MAPS meeting during my freshman year of college. Since then, I have served in a very diverse body of positions, giving me a look at SNMA from within leadership and without. My passion for this organization and its work has been fueled through doing it’s work at all levels, local, regional, and national, and experiencing the rewards of true servant leadership. I’ve had a chance to attend multiple conferences on the local, regional and national level, meet countless numbers of fellow SNMA and MAPS members, and truly get a feel for both our strengths and challenges in serving our members as well as achieving our mission. It is through relationships with SNMA leaders both past and present, SNMA members and alumni, and the experiences that this organization has given me that my dedication to further contributing to the strength of our members and longevity of our organization thrives.

I was raised to live the phrase, “To whom much is given, much is required.” and with all that I have received from the Student National Medical Association, I feel as though my service is a way to do just that. The position of National President-Elect will allow me to support both present National President-Elect Kuhukulualani’s agenda as well as enrich the next generation of leaders of the SNMA, thus strengthening the organization even further. When looking towards the future of our organization, I see an opportunity for us to grow closer in achieving all parts of our mission and extending our reach in supporting our students. As we end our 50 year celebration, planning for our stability and growth for the next 50 years is even more important. It is with this goal in mind that I am running for the office of National President-Elect.

Yours in SNMA,

Christen DeAnne Johnson  
MD/MPH Candidate, Class of 2017  
Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine
Candidate Responses

1. What is your understanding of the responsibilities of the position(s) and/or committee(s) for which you are interested?

The National President of the Student National Medical Association is much more than just the face of the organization. It is his or her responsibility to steer the programmatic initiatives of the organization during his or her tenure as well as represent the organization both internally through the Presidential Newsletter and the JSNMA and externally through maintaining relationships with partner organizations. The National President has a responsibility to consider the needs and limitations of all chapters and regions in the creation of his or her executive agenda, the planning and organizing of National conferences, and the planning of programmatic initiatives. In addition to this, I believe the National President has a responsibility to be accessible and recognizably approachable by all membership.

Knowing this, it is the responsibility of the National President-Elect to spend his or her elect year learning as much as possible about the interworkings of the executive committee and the strategic plan as well as learning the presidential duties from the National President. He or She must participate as a fully engaged member of the Board of Directors and work to support the present National President’s agenda along with chairing the Elections Committee and ensuring that the next set of leaders of the SNMA are both qualified and well prepared to execute their duties. Externally, the National President-Elect should also spend time learning about the present state of relationships with partner organizations, as he or she will be continuing those in the upcoming year. During the upcoming administration, the National President-Elect also has the responsibility of acting as Student Trustee to the National Medical Association. This yields an opportunity for him or her to further the relationship between the SNMA and the NMA while allowing the SNMA voice to be heard.

Further, it is vitally important that the National President-Elect spends time interacting with and learning about the organization’s membership through opportunities like attendance at various regional conferences. This allows for the strengthening of the relationship between the membership and the Board of Directors. It also assists in creating an Executive Agenda that reflects the present needs of the organization.

2. If elected or appointed, what goals do you hope to accomplish?

If elected, I will spend my president-elect year learning as much as possible. My goal is to have developed an executive agenda that is not only pertinent to the organization’s needs but to have honestly taken into account all of the interactions and input from our membership and leaders in its creation. In this, I will be further researching the initiatives of the past to build a comprehensive executive agenda in hopes of limiting the amount of time that the organization spends trying to attempt to implement brand new ideas rather than being able to strengthen and improve upon what has already been done. I also plan to further improve the Future Leadership Project Fellowship to encourage regional and national leadership and better prepare students who do participate for the financial commitments of traveling to AMEC and the January NLI. With this, I will encourage a multitude of students with a diverse group of interests and talents to join the Board of Directors for the upcoming year, thus strengthening our reach and abilities. I am dedicated to attending as many regional conferences as possible, especially those in regions that have not had an Executive Committee member to attend their conference in the last administration to further connect with our membership.
During the 2016-2017 administration, my goals include strengthening the infrastructure and leadership of the SNMA, improving upon the SNMA’s role in supporting our membership, and maintaining our emphasis on mentorship and pipeline activities. This includes the execution of a 3-point plan (further explored in question 4) that includes Alumni outreach, revising resources for the membership like the scholarship directory and residency guides, improved communication and more. I am dedicated to bridging the gap between the Board of Directors and our membership. In hopes of fostering better communication every regional conference will have an Executive Committee member present between the next National President-Elect, the National Vice President, and myself. I also plan to continue the improvements to the AMEC scheduling to allow for more student participation in the most popular sessions as well as for students to take advantage of the opportunities presented Dr. Wilbert C. Jordan Research Forum and the responsibilities of the House of Delegates meetings through the continued work of committees.

3. Describe any chapter, regional, or national experience that you have had with the SNMA. Also include any non-SNMA experience related to your position.

I have held over 10 positions in the SNMA since beginning my journey in 2009. These positions span the local, regional, and national levels thus giving me a very broad spectrum of experiences as a member of the SNMA. I have been both a general member and a leader in both very small and larger chapters as well as seen both the committee and the directorial sides of regional leadership. I have been involved in planning 2 Regional Conferences. Nationally, I have spent much of my time observing the Board of Directors meetings through my participation in three National Leadership Institutes as well as participated in fellowships and opportunities across various national committees including writing for the Journal of the SNMA. I have strived to get a very holistic view of the opportunities that the SNMA provides to better understand how I may be able to best serve our organization.

I entered the SNMA family as a general member of my MAPS chapter as a freshman in college. I was elected as MAPS President in the Fall of 2010, beginning my term in January 2011. I was able to take our chapter from starting with 3 members to over 25 active MAPS members with funding for students to attend the next two SNMA AMECs by the end of my term in 2012. I returned to become the chapter Fundraising Coordinator in the Fall of 2012 to assist in procuring support from the campus and the community to further our ability to reach our goals. After starting medical school, I joined the SNMA as a general member. By September, I had become the chapter Health Policy and Legislative Affairs Liaison and joined the Region 5 Conference Planning Committee at school as well as had been selected as a Region 5 Future Leadership Project Fellow and the Vice-Chair of the Region 5 Health Policy and Legislative Affairs Committee. Nationally, I attended the January 2014 National Leadership Institute and participated in the 2014 Physician Researcher Initiative Fellowship. In the spring of 2014, I was elected as Assistant Regional Director for the 2014-2015 year as well as Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine (WSU-BSOM) SNMA Chapter President and Chair of the WSU-BSOM Senior Banquet Committee. This fall, I was selected as a National Future Leadership Project Fellow, serving also on the Strategy Team to assist with restructuring of the House of Delegates meetings at AMEC.

Outside of my involvement with the SNMA, I have had several opportunities to better prepare me for candidacy for the National President Elect position. I was chosen as a President’s Ambassador at Wright State University, which affords me the opportunity to represent the president of the university at various university and community events. Through this I have gained some public relations skills as well as witness organizational relationship building first hand. I have also served on the Green County College
Success Partnership Board of Directors as well as the National Board of the Gates Millennium Scholars Alumni Association as a Regional Director. These opportunities have given me the opportunity to experience having a part in running a non-profit organization. Lastly, I have served as National Director for Women Encouraging Each other, which is a small national organization for the social support of collegiate women. This has given me the opportunity to experience the responsibility of holding a national position and spearheading national membership initiatives.

4. **In your opinion, what are the national organization’s current needs and how will you contribute to fulfilling each of those needs?**

With much discussion about the current state of the SNMA, members have disclosed a break in communication from the national level to the membership. Many members are unaware of how the SNMA infrastructure actually operates and while they are interested in participating in leadership opportunities, many of the opportunities pass without their knowledge. Further as a national organization, we have challenges in both officer training and transitioning at the local and regional levels. Students often find themselves attending present training sessions but finding them ineffective and leave carrying many of the questions they had before with them afterwards. This problem in addition to the yearly addition of new programing and massive changes in protocol at a national level creates more challenges for chapters, especially our newest members, those without proper transition protocols, and very small chapters. It has also been brought to my attention that presently members on the West Coast are at a disadvantage when it comes to attending national events like National Leadership Institutes due to locations predominantly being placed on the east coast as well as Regional Conferences due the disproportionately large regions seen west of the Mississippi River. While the present regional redistribution is currently underway, some of the smaller eastern regions worry about potential losses due to expansion of regional territory that may disrupt their current advantageous proximity. Many chapters are also struggling financially and have little resources to support student participation in national and regional activities. Further, for smaller chapters, the present state of the House of Delegates presents delegates with a dilemma as they pay for registration but are many times unable to attend any sessions other than the House of Delegates meetings.

If elected as National President-Elect, I plan to help alleviate these burdens through the construction of an agenda that follows a 3 point plan entitled, “Lighting the Way”. Let’s look at the SNMA as a torch used to guide both current and future medical students towards achieving our mission. We must do three things in order to ensure that our torch burns brighter than ever in the next 50 years. We must take the time to maintain the path that we follow, support those on the path, and light the torch. In maintaining the path that we follow, we take time to reflect on past initiatives as well as our organizational infrastructure and strengthen them. Rather than re-inventing the proverbial wheel, we work to give National, Regional, and Local leadership an opportunity to further strengthen their respective levels and improve upon any areas of weakness that they may have, thus strengthening the organization as a whole. We must also support those on the path, our membership. This can be achieved through the continuation of past administration’s calls for improvements in communication and transitional procedures, following the strategic plan, as well as a revision of our membership resources and publications, offering a more relevant set of opportunities to our membership and a better awareness of all that the SNMA can afford its members. This also includes a push to better communicate with our Alumni and continued work on the AMEC and House of Delegates schedules for member satisfaction. Finally, we must light the torch. Through a continued emphasis in leadership training opportunities, pipeline programs, mentorship, and community service, we further perpetuate the work and the membership of the SNMA for years to come.
Education:

2012-Present  Wright State University, Boonshoft School of Medicine
3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy.
Dayton, Ohio 45435
- M.D. candidate at Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine graduating year 2017
- Pursuing a Masters Degree in Public Health with a concentration in Global Health and electives in Community Health Education and Promotion

2011  Columbia University Medical Center, College of Physicians and Surgeons
630 W. 168th Street
New York, New York
- Participated as an intern in the Summer Medical and Dental Educational Program, a competitive internship program offering research experience, clinical rotation experience, and professional development for students from diverse backgrounds wishing to enter the medical profession.

2009-2012  Wright State University
3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy.
Dayton, Ohio 45435
- Graduated from Wright State University with a Bachelors of Arts in Biology with a Pre-Med focus, Honors Distinction, and Certificate in African American and Women’s Gender Experiences program sponsored by the Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine.

2007-2009  Ohio University Pickerington Campus
12933 Stonecreek Dr.
Pickerington, Ohio 43147
- Participated in the Post Secondary Educational Options Program through Pickerington Central High School and Ohio University Pickerington Campus.

2006-2009  Pickerington Central High School
300 Opportunity Way
Pickerington, Ohio 43147
- Graduated from Pickerington Central High School in 2009 with honors.

Professional and Civic Organizational Memberships:

2014- Present  Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Incorporated
2014- Present  Artemis Medical Society
2013- Present  Ohio State Medical Association
2013- Present  Association of American Family Physicians
2013- Present  American Medical Student Association
2013- Present  American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology
2013- Present  Phi Rho Sigma Medical Society
2012- Present  Ohio Society for Public Health Education
2012- Present  National Association of Professional Women
2010- Present  Student National Medical Association

Employment:

July 2013-Present  
Student Experience Blogger, Merck Medical
Author an award winning blog on topics surrounding the medical school experience from the student’s perspective.
- Merck Medical Student Stories, Christen Johnson
January 2013- March 2014

Specialized Learning Tutor, Wright State University Athletics Department
Manage 3-5 student athletes per semester. Create and organize tutoring schedules and study times for each student; also organize due-dates calendars. Assist students with a wide range of course work. Encourage students to focus and motivate students to complete work before deadlines.

August 2012-June 2013

Greene County College Guide, AmeriCorps Ohio
Served as a college access advisor, mentoring first generation, low-income, and minority students and guiding them through the college process. Responsibilities included collaborating with guidance staff, principals, teachers, and others to increase the attentiveness and preparation of underserved students; providing advising and information about college, the application process, and financial aid; providing individualized support with college and financial aid applications; organizing workshops and programming for students and families; developing paper tools and a website for students and families; track student progress toward college goals through maintenance of online database; Assist students with locating and applying for scholarships/financial aid and completing the FAFSA; providing ACT test updates, registration assistance, tips, and basic prep workshops; presenting college access workshops to students and the community; Developing and coordinating college tours, college/ career fairs, college access/career speakers; Analysis of survey data from events; developing, coordinating, and participating in 5 mandatory community service activities; and Volunteer Recruitment. Also served as an employee of the Greene County College Success Partnership.

April 2010- December 2012

UVC 101 Peer Instructor, Wright State University
Taught one section of UVC 101 per year which met twice a week. Duties included planning and following a syllabus, executing activities and discussions involving academic and social success and adjustment at Wright State University, promoting diversity experiences, time management, resources on campus, and academic skills while incorporating the required reading from orientation. Coordinated service learning opportunities and multiple events that took place outside of the classroom. A grade book was also kept after grading self-assigned journals, quizzes, homework, exams, midterm and final and kept track of student attendance. Performed an item analysis on the final exam.

- Three grant proposals were written and granted to fund planned events.

Honors:

December 2014   Featured in “I am the Future of Medicine” in the JSNMA
November 2014   OhioHealth Physician Diversity Scholars Program
September 2014  National Future Leadership Project Fellow, Student National Medical Association
April 2014      Basic Sciences Award, Student National Medical Association
March 2014      2014 Dr. Martin Luther King Distinguished Service Award, Wright State University
March 2014      Physician Researcher Initiative Fellowship, Student National Medical Association Nationwide
August 2013     Region 5 Future Leadership Project Fellow, Student National Medical Association
June 2013       National Conference on Volunteering and Service Representative, AmeriCorps
April 2013      Gates Millennium Scholars Program Alumni Association Region 5 Advisor
May 2011        Distinguished Advanced Student Leader 2010-2011, Wright State University
June 2011       Wright State University: President’s Ambassador
May 2011        National Conference for College Women Student Leaders Representative, Wright State University
October 2010    Wright State University Homecoming Court Attendee

Campus Activities:

Spring 2014-Present      Assistant Regional Director, Student National Medical Association, Region 5
Spring 2014-Present      Co-President, Family Medicine Interest Group, Wright State University BSOM
Spring 2014-Present      President, Student National Medical Association, Wright State University BSOM
Spring 2014              Chairperson of the Student National Medical Association Senior Banquet Committee
Fall 2013-Spring 2014    Vice Chair of the Health Policy and Legislative Affairs Committee, Region 5
                          Student National Medical Association
Fall 2013                Regional Conference Planning Committee, Region 5 Student National Medical Association
Fall 2013-Spring 2014  WSU-BSOM Liaison, Health Policy and Legislative Affairs Committee, Region 5
Student National Medical Association
Fall 2013-Present  Student Discovery Initiative
Spring 2012- Present  Wright State University Alumni Association
Spring 2012- Present  Gates Millennium Scholars Alumni Association
Fall 2011- Present  National Director, Women Encouraging Each other
Fall 2010- Present  Mentor, Visions Mentoring Program
Fall 2012- Spring 2013  Fundraising Coordinator, Multicultural Association of Pre-Med Students
Fall 2011-Spring 2012  Freshman Transition Team
Winter 2011- Spring 2012  President, Multicultural Association of Pre-Med Students
Winter 2010- Spring 2012  President, Women Encouraging Each other
Fall 2011-Spring 2011  President, College Park and Village/ University Park Community Council

Community Service Activities:

April 2014- Present  Health Equity Ambassador, American Cancer Society
August 2013-Present  Volunteer, Reach Out Montgomery County
March 2013-Present  Mentor, Gates Millennium Scholars and United Way
December 2012- Present  Volunteer, Franklin County Children’s Services
July 2012-June 2013  Greene County Foundation Special Committee on Public Education
June 2012- June 2013  AmeriCorps Ohio
November 2006 -Present  Volunteer Coordinator, Thanksgiving Family Mission Foundation
November 2005- Present  Fundraiser, Holiday Wish, Santa’s for Seniors, and Toys for Tots
September 2008-June 2010  Volunteer, The Women’s Clinic of Columbus
March 2008-November 2012  Intern, Various Presidential Campaigns

Scholarly Works:

“Uranium Exposure or Risky Business: A Descriptive Analysis of the Sexual Risk Behaviors of Native American Adolescents”
Christen Johnson and Dr. Naila Khalil

- Explored and compared the risk behaviors for early age sexual activity of Native American Adolescents to those of Adolescents in the general population in hopes to further research the continued increase in Native American adolescent pregnancy rates. Research is being continued and will be submitted for publication.
- Presented:
  - January 2015  Second Florida Health Disparities Summit, Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa, Fl

“The Socioeconomic Status of Adolescent Mothers and its Relationship to Prenatal Care and Fetal Health Outcomes in Franklin County, Ohio”
Christen Johnson and Dr. Sara Paton

- Explored and compared the instance of WIC status of mothers age 13-19 to the health outcomes of the neonates of the respective mothers. Research is being continued and will be submitted for publication.
- Presented:
  - October 2014  Wright State University Central Research Forum
  - April 2014,  Dr. Wilbert C. Jordan Research Forum, Washington, D.C
  - April 2014  Wright State University Celebration of Research and Scholarship (Abstract Accepted)
“Student Leadership Identity Development: Narratives from Women as Leaders”
Dr. Romena Holbert and Christen Johnson

- Explored and compared the experiences of female student leaders across campus from various disciplines. Performed preliminary data collection and analysis. Research is being continued and will be submitted for publication.
- Presented:
  - April 2013, Wright State University Celebration of Research and Scholarship

Publications:

**Yes, Virginia, Sex and Human Trafficking are Problems in Ohio.**
Dr. Therese Zink, Christen Johnson, Maggie Rechel
To be published in the upcoming issue of the Ohio Academy of Family Medicine
- Article outlines the issue of Sex Trafficking in Ohio and the recommendations for physicians and health care workers to assist in combating it.

**Yáʼátʼééh: Realizations on the Reservation**
Christen Johnson
Published: Journal of the Student National Medicals Association, August 2014
- Work details a personal account of experiences on the Navajo Reservation pertaining to the affects of cultural differences, public health concerns, and health disparities on access to care in this underserved population.

Academic Enrichment Activities:

Ongoing Clinical Shadowing Experiences
- Participated in various clinical shadowing experiences including inpatient and outpatient Family Medicine, Pediatrics, Internal Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology, and Surgery through Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.
- Inpatient Family Medicine with Dr. Anne Proux, Good Samaritan Hospital
- Emergency Room After Care with Dr. Melissa Mekesa, Reach Out Montgomery County
- Pediatric Clinic with Dr. Abiodun Omoloja and Residents, Reach Out Montgomery County

June 2014 Clinical Rotation, Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine
Northern Navajo Medical Center, Shiprock, New Mexico
- Worked under the supervision of Dr. Jeff Powell and Dr. Anna Rueda at Northern Navajo Medical Center for a two-week clinical rotation.
- Experiences included:
  - Clinical shadowing with IHS physicians and public health nurses in both the Teen Life Center and the Pediatrics Clinic, Training in Cross-cultural communication specifically concerning the discussion of diabetes, alcoholism, death, and suicide, Assisting health care professions at the NNMC by completing initial patient interviews and triage exams, and Observing administration of traditional medicine in conjunction with Western medical practices
  - Presented “Healthy Bodies: How they work and how to keep them healthy” during the 8th Annual Restoring and Celebrating Family Wellness Youth Conference
- Will be returning during year 4 for a 4-8 week Clinical Rotation
March 2013 
Greater Ohio Healthcare Leaders Forum Groundhog Shadow Day
• Shadowed Craig Self, MBA, FACHE, System Vice President, Business Development at Premier Health to witness Public Health Management first hand.

April 2011
Elect Her–Campus Women Win Training
• Participated in a training presented by the American Association of University Women to encourage and educate women to become involved in Student Government on campus.
• Was chosen from this opportunity as the inaugural representative for the Wright State University to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders

Certifications:

Basic Life Support for Health Care Providers
• American Heart Association (2014)

HIPPA
• Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine (2013)
• Indian Health Service (2014)
• Department of Veterans Affairs (2014)

Baby-Friendly Protocol
• Indian Health Service (2014)
February 15, 2015

To the SNMA Elections Committee and the House of Delegates:

It is with great honor and pleasure that I recommend Christen DeAnne Johnson for the position of National President-Elect of the Student National Medical Association (SNMA) for the 2015-2016 administration. Christen has demonstrated superb leadership in the SNMA on the local, regional, and national levels. She has become heavily involved with the SNMA and has used these experiences to learn about the inner workings of the SNMA, to begin to make change within the SNMA, and to put her in a position to become an exceptional President-Elect.

My first interaction with Christen was while reviewing her application for the Region V Future Leadership Program (FLP). I remember being impressed by the detail and complexity of her responses to the application questions. As just a first year medical student Christen had already formed astute insight into some of the challenges the SNMA faced and had realistic and tangible solutions. Needless to say Christen was selected as a Region V FLP Fellow where she also served as the Regional Health Policy and Legislative Affairs Committee Vice Chair. As an associate regional board member Christen quickly distinguished herself as more active than many of the full board members. Her dedication to the SNMA became apparent as she began to attend National Leadership Institute/Board of Director Meetings. Christen went on to serve as the Region V Assistant Regional Director.

This year, serving as Regional Director to the Executive Committee, Christen has been invaluable. The level of initiative she has shown has been a benefit for the region and can only go on to benefit the SNMA. She has helped to establish new chapters in the SNMA, has taken the lead in making the Regional Conference exhibitor fair region board run. She has even chaired Regional Board Conference calls. She has been a great team player by volunteering for tasks that need to be completed and by helping other regional board members. She is always prompt and professional. This year Christen has concurrently been serving as a National Future Leadership Program Fellow and the President of Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine SNMA Chapter. With her attainment of all of the positions, as well as being a full time student Christen has demonstrated her mastery of time management and has handled all of these responsibilities with the utmost grace and diligence.

Outside of the SNMA Christen pulls from a range of experiences that help shape her into the amazing leader that she is today. She is the National Director for Women Encouraging each other, a mentor for Visions Mentoring program, and is a member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Incorporated. Her bubbly personality has the ability to corral the masses.

It is with the utmost confidence that I recommend Christen for the position of President-Elect of the SNMA. I believe she would be an excellent asset to the organization.

DaShawn A. Hickman
Region V Director, 2013-15
Regional Director to the Executive Committee, 2014-15
Yours in SNMA,

DaShawn A. Hickman  
Student National Medical Association  
Region V Director, 2013-15  
Regional Director to the Executive Committee, 2014-15  
National Chair-elect of the Board of Directors, 2015  
MD/PhD Candidate  
Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
National Vice President

Candidate:

Debra Dixon

MD/MS Candidate
Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine

Position is open for additional individuals to run from the floor of the House of Delegates Session
To Mr. Anthony Kulukualani and the National Elections Committee:

It is with great passion and humility that I submit this letter of intent to run for the office of National Vice President for the 2015-2016 Student National Medical Association administrative year.

My first exposure to SNMA was as an undergraduate student, when I attended meetings about medical school hosted by the UNC SNMA chapter. The interaction with current medical students was instructive and motivating. Upon entering medical school, I was excited to join SNMA and become actively involved in carrying out the mission to support current and future underrepresented minority medical students, address the needs of the underserved communities, and increase the number of clinically excellent, culturally competent and socially conscious physicians. Many of my experiences and leadership positions within and outside of SNMA have been in pursuit of this mission.

As a first year student, I joined SNMA and also worked with the Admissions Office and Office of Diversity to coordinate a minority presence at applicant lunches and host post-interview sessions for minority applicants. In the second semester of my first year, I was elected as Chapter Co-President of SNMA. During this term, our chapter was selected to host the Region V Conference and I served as Co-Chair of the Conference Planning Committee. As Co-Chair, it was my responsibility to develop the conference agenda and select speakers as well as to coordinate with and support the specific Conference Planning Subcommittees. This role shares similarities with the responsibilities of the Vice President and required me to coordinate several project simultaneously, provide support, and facilitate task completion. During that experience, I refined my skills in communication, problem solving, and managing details. Our chapter hosted a well-attended and enlightening conference and was ultimately named Chapter of the Year.

Subsequent to serving as Chapter President, I was appointed as Regional Political Action Liaison. As an active member of our Regional Executive Board and the National Health Policy and Legislative Affairs Committee (HPLA), I had the opportunity to interact with members and leaders at the chapter, regional, and national level. This has provided me with insight into how communication flows between these different levels and the ways in which committees are structured. While on the HPLA committee, I also held the position of Medical Education Subcommittee Chair. In this role, I was directly responsible for implementing a portion of President Johnson’s Executive Agenda for the Obesity Education Initiative. The committee created materials to educate our members as well as the general community about nutrition and obesity.

Captivated by the impact legislation has on healthcare, I sought the position of HPLA Co-Chair. As the current Co-Chair, I have had the opportunity to interact with other National Committee Chairs and learn more about each committee. I have also been able to observe the interaction of the Vice President with the National Committees. Within the HPLA committee, there are five subcommittees and managing the committee as a whole has augmented my skills in product coordination, organization, attention to detail, and communication.

The Student National Medical Association is a great organization with a powerful mission and a distinguished legacy. I would be honored to continue to serve the organization in the capacity of Vice President. The skills and experience I have gained in my prior leadership roles provide excellent preparation for this new role and will allow me to be an effective leader of this organization. My dedication to carrying out the mission of the SNMA will be further served in the role of Vice President where I can actively unite our membership, sustain our legacy, and innovate our future.
Yours in SNMA,

**Debra Dixon**  
MD/MS Candidate Class of 2016  
Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine  
Health Policy & Legislative Affairs Co-Chair 2014-2015
1. What is your understanding of the responsibilities of the position for which you are interested?

The Vice President is primarily responsible for supporting many integral components of the organization. First and foremost, the Vice President supports and carries out the mission of SNMA. This is accomplished by working with the President and President-Elect to implement the Executive Agenda, supporting the programmatic functions of the National Committees, especially the Community Service Committee, and serving as an active and voting member of the BOD and the Executive Committee. The Vice President also must be available to represent SNMA in the absence of the President.

An important method of support is proper documentation. As such, the Vice President is responsible for the documenting and reporting quarterly activities and progress on goals, updates on national projects, and protocol and non-protocol project completion by chapters.

Additionally, the Vice President provides support to the Diversity Research Committee for the planning of the Annual Dr. Wilbert C. Jordan Research Forum, to the Community Service Committee to help with the execution of the National Community Service Forum at AMEC, and serves on the Elections Committee.

The Vice President has the opportunity to engage directly with members through submission of articles to the JSNMA and the President’s Newsletter.

2. If elected or appointed, what goals do you hope to accomplish?

If elected, I would like to focus my efforts on three specific areas:

A. Documentation
   a. Problem: Documents for SNMA National Officers, Regional Officers, and Chapter Presidents are housed in various locations that often make them difficult to find, access, and pass down from year to year.
   b. Plan: To innovate by looking for alternate solutions to documentation so that all documents can be housed in a central location. This will allow SNMA to sustain the transfer of information from year to year and allow the membership to have unified resources and knowledge.

B. Leadership Transitions
   a. Problem: As a student organization, SNMA undergoes yearly leadership transitions for most positions. Leadership transitions at the chapter, regional, and national level can vary from year to year with incomplete transfer of important information, tips, and documents necessary for the success of the incoming leader.
   b. Plan: To unite past, current, and future leaders in a formalized process to facilitate a community of support for the new leader and ensure sustained transfer of important information. Many strides have been made in this area by VP Mpasi and VP Oparaji. I plan to sustain these initiatives and to continue to innovate by including more comprehensive information for each position. Starting as a pilot with the National Officers I would like to have handbooks developed that would
include timelines for the year for when things should be accomplished as well as pertinent details for the execution of the position.

C. Membership engagement
   a. Problem: Communication between the various levels (chapter, regional, national) of the organization can be impeded due to the nature of how the organization is structured. Members at the chapter level often times are not aware of the activities of National Headquarters or the National Officers. As a result many members may not seek leadership opportunities within the organization.
   b. Plan: In accordance with the Executive Agenda proposed by Mr. Kulukulualani I would like to think of innovative methods to engage our membership. I would like to help foster a sense of community among SNMA members and create opportunities for increased interaction with National Officers. Innovative tools such as an SNMA app as proposed by Mr. Kulukulualani or increased utilization of Your Membership to encourage discussion would be ways to unite our membership and sustain the connections that are established at AMEC or regional conferences. Increased utilization of webinars, Twitter, or Facebook are additional means that I will explore to create a solution that will be unify our membership and increase engagement.

As Vice President, it would be responsibility to support the implementation of the Presidents Executive Agenda. I believe that focusing on improving many of the elements that are key to the execution of any project such as documentation, transfer of information, and most importantly membership engagement, will successfully complement President-Elect Kulukulualani’s agenda “Rebranding through Reinforcement and Renovation”.

3. Describe any chapter, region, or national experience that you have had with the SNMA. Also include any non-SNMA experience related to your position.
   a. Co-President, Case Western Reserve University Chapter 2012-2013
      i. Co-Chair Regional Conference Planning Committee
         1. Planned and implemented a successful Regional Conference with participation of 80 medical and pre-medical students from 12 different schools within the region.
      ii. Regional Chapter of the Year
   b. Region V Political Action Liaison 2013-2014
      i. One of the PALs to recruit the most members to my regional committee
      ii. Held conference calls with Regional Committee members to keep them apprised of National Initiatives
      iii. Assisted with the Planning of the National Advocacy Forum
      iv. Developed the Recruitment and Retention Handbook
         1. Handbook designed to document successful programs initiated by chapters and schools in our region to help recruit minority students and support current minority medical student.
         2. This can be utilized by new chapters or schools that are struggling to recruit and/or retain students.
   c. Health Policy & Legislative Affairs Medical Education Subcommittee Chair
i. Developed and distributed Nutrition Packet
   1. Packet contained PowerPoint on Nutrition to educate medical students
      and the community
   2. Compiled handout and supplies that could be used at Health Fairs or in
      elementary school setting to teach the community about nutrition and
      obesity
ii. Investigated literature on teaching about nutrition in undergraduate medical
    education with the goal of investigated ways to increase time spent on
    nutrition education
d. Health Policy & Legislative Affairs Co-Chair
   i. Attended all three National Leadership Institutes and presented quarterly
      reports
   ii. Worked to revise current position statements for the approval of the HOD
   iii. Developed outline for the Advocacy Toolkit
      1. The toolkit with provide membership with basic information and
         fundamental skills to learn how to advocate
   iv. Planned and executed the National Advocacy Forum
   v. Worked with the Medical Education Subcommittee to develop a LGBT Health
      workshop for presentation at Regional Conferences
e. Physician Research Initiative (PRI) Fellow 2012
   i. Selected for PRI travel fellowship
   ii. Participated in PRI track during AMEC
   iii. Present research at Annual Dr. Wilbert C. Jordan Research Forum
f. Co-Leader, Minority Health Interest Group- Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of
   Medicine 2011-2013
   i. Participated in sessions with minority medical school applicants to answer
      questions about my school
   ii. Implemented a Health Disparities Lecture series
   iii. Hosted social gatherings for minority medical students to get to know each
       other and have the opportunity to celebrate their culture
   iv. Volunteered at the Charles Drew Academy to talk to high school students
       about medical school
   v. Coordinated volunteer activities with the Minority Men’s Health Fair

I have held various positions within SNMA which gives me the advantage of understanding how many of the aspects of the organization work and fit together. I think that this knowledge, my dedication, and my skills in project coordination, communication, and organization that I have developed in my various roles will allow me to successfully implement the changes that I have suggested for the betterment of this organization.

4. In your opinion, what are the national organization’s current needs, and how will you contribute to fulfilling each of those needs?
The Student National Medical Association is a great organization and has monumental accomplishments over its 50-year history. To take SNMA through the next 50 years and beyond, I feel that we need to focus on strengthening our infrastructure. Through improved and more centralized documentation we will be able to obtain and sustain records on the protocols we have completed, the service that has impacted communities, and the students that have successfully stayed in the pipeline and will be future physicians. Through improved transitions, we can unite our leaders and sustain the leadership capital and collective history of SNMA. Through innovation and increased use of technology and social media platforms we can unite our membership. I will use innovative tools and techniques to ensure that throughout this year I unite our membership, sustain our legacy, and innovate our future.
DEBRA DIXON
635 W. Grace St Apt 402 Chicago, IL 60613
Email: dxd252@case.edu

Education
Undergraduate
08/2006 - 05/2010
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina
BS, Biology and Spanish with a minor in Chemistry, BS in Biology with distinction

Medical School
07/2011 - present
Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio
MD Candidate 2016

Graduate
01/2013 - present
Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland, Ohio
MS, Clinical Research, Expected May 2016

Honors and Awards
Robertson Scholar, Robertson Foundation, 04/2006
1 of 36 Four-year Merit Scholarships awarded on academic merit, leadership, and community service granting full tuition, full access to academic resources at UNC and Duke, stipend and 3 fully-funded summer experiences.

Sigma Delta Pi, Zeta Psi Chapter at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 04/2009
National Collegiate Hispanic Honors Society

Public Service Scholar, Carolina Center for Public Service, 05/2010
Completed 350+ hours of service as an undergraduate.

KeyBank Scholar, KeyBank Foundation, 08/2011
Awarded based on leadership and community service to one minority medical student per class at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine.

Physician's Research Initiative AMEC Travel Fellowship, Student National Medical Association, 02/2012
Funded by the NIH, this award is in support of bringing premed and medical students to the Annual Medical Education Conference to present research and attend a seminar-series on academic medicine.

Honorable Mention for Poster entitled Multiple Cardioversions in Atrial Fibrillation, Case Western Reserve University, Lepow Day, 02/2013

Sarnoff Cardiovascular Research Fellowship, Sarnoff Cardiovascular Research Foundation, 03/2014
Provides support for medical students to conduct a year of cardiovascular research.
Professional Experience

Safety & Regulatory Affairs Summer Apprentice, 06/2006 - 08/2006
Safety & Regulatory Affairs, Procter & Gamble, Cincinnati, Ohio

- Organized and updated the raw material specifications for the beauty care products.
- Researched and collected data from Suppliers and the Internet.
- Created a procedure checklist to ease project on-boarding

Youth Coordinator Summer Program Intern, 06/2007 - 08/2007
Youth, Latin American Association, Atlanta, Georgia

- Developed and taught a current events class for middle school students
- Helped plan, implement, and coordinate activities for the summer program
- Provided technical support to ensure that all students used academic software
- Coordinated all volunteers providing daily schedules and placements

Extracurricular Activities and Interests

Student National Medical Association
2012-2013: Case Western Chapter Co-president
2013-2014: Regional Political Action Liaison
2014-2015: Board of Directors - National Health Policy & Legislative Affairs Committee Co-Chair

Leadership Development Center, 2004-2007
Counselor and College Counselor, American Red Cross, Cincinnati, OH
- A 4-day, 3 night leadership development conference for youth 13-18 years of age.
- As a counselor I participated in leadership training, prepared and taught classes on leadership skills, and led small groups sessions focused on leadership and group dynamics.
- Assisted the director with the planning and execution of the conference.
- As a college counselor, I served as a mentor to Counselors and led large group activities for participants.

Projects Abroad, 05/2008-08/2008
Intern, Córdoba, Argentina
- Participated in an International Medical Program that allowed participants to shadow doctors and volunteer in hospitals abroad.

Research Experience

Ongoing
07/2014 - present
Predoctoral Fellow
Dept. of Department of Medicine, Division of Cardiology, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
Mutability of Model-based Clustering Pheno-groups in Heart Failure with Preserved Ejection Fraction
Mentor: Sanjiv Shah, MD

Completed
06/2009 - 07/2009
Undergraduate Research Assistant, Dept. of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University Cardiovascular Research Institute
Inducible Knockout Mouse Model of Kruppel-Like Factor 2. Mentor: Brandon Atkins, MD PhD

- Used state of the art molecular biology techniques to study the role of the transcription factor Kruppel-Like Factor 2 in endothelial cell biology.
- Helped develop and assess a mouse model of KLF2 deficiency

09/2009 - 04/2010
Undergrad Research Assistant, Dept. of Medicine, Duke University
Role of Angiopoietin-3 in Ang/Tie Signaling. Mentor: Chris Kountos, MD

- Evaluated the role of Angiopoietin-3 in the activation of Receptor Tyrosine Kinase Tie-1.
- Investigated and analyzed issues with a current mouse model.

07/2011 - 09/2011
Research Rotation, Dept. of Neuroscience, Cleveland Clinic Lerner Research Institute
Role of Microglial-produced IL-6 and TGF-β in Th17 Stabilization. Mentor: Richard Ransohoff, MD

- Assessed the role of microglia in expressing cytokines that influence the stabilization of T cell phenotypic bias in Experimental Autoimmune Encephalomyelitis.

07/2012 - 09/2012
Research Rotation, Dept. of Cardiovascular Medicine, Heart and Vascular Institute
Multiple Cardioversions in Atrial Fibrillation. Mentor: Mina Chung, MD

- Retrospective chart review of prospectively collected data to assess the impact of multiple cardioversions on left ventricular ejection fraction in patients with Atrial Fibrillation or Atrial Flutter.

Research Support

Multiple Cardioversions in Atrial Fibrillation
Mina Chung, MD, Principal Investigator
Granting Agency: NIH Heart, Lung and Blood Institute
Award Amount: $3500
Term of Award: 07/2012 - 09/2012
Role: Co-Investigator

Publications

Articles

Scientific Presentations
Debra Dixon and Mina K. Chung, MD "Multiple Cardioversions in Atrial Fibrillation" CCLCM, Lepow Day, 02/2013 (Poster)

Debra Dixon and Debra Leizman, MD "Multi-vessel Heart Disease in Disguise" Case, Ohio American College of Physicians Chapter Meeting, 10/2014 (Poster)

Professional Membership

- American Medical Association, 07/2011 - present
- American College of Physicians, 08/2011 - present
- Student National Medical Association, 09/2011 - present
- American Heart Association, 12/2013 - present
- Association of Black Cardiologists, 07/2014 - present

Languages

- Spanish (proficient)
February 15, 2015

To the SNMA Elections Committee and the House of Delegates:

I am honored to recommend Debra Dixon as Vice President of the Student National Medical Association (SNMA) for the 2015-2016 Administration. Debra has exhibited excellent leadership in the SNMA on the local, regional, and national level. Throughout her time in the SNMA she has been fully engaged, which has given her a profound understanding of how the SNMA works. This puts her in a position to be an exceptional Vice President.

I had the pleasure of serving as Co-President of the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine SNMA Chapter with Debra, where I was immediately impressed by her professionalism, organization, problem solving skills, and commitment to the SNMA. Debra was able to corral other members into action, which is a great trait for the Vice President to have as they interact with the many Committee co-chairs. Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine was also named Region V Chapter of the Year under her tenure, supporting how well the organization could thrive under her leadership. Following her year as Chapter Co-President, Debra went on to serve as the Regional Political Action Liaison (PAL).

During her year as Regional PAL, Debra quickly formed and led the largest regional committee. She stood out as a vocal and active board member and could be counted on to volunteer for ad hoc projects. She set very realistic goals for her committee and kept the board informed of her progress. She also helped create a collaborative environment. During regional board calls she would often have suggestions and assistance to give to others. Her presence on the regional board was greatly missed when she joined the Board of Directors as the Health Policy and Legislative Affairs (HPLA) National Committee Co-Chair.

Since taking on her role as HPLA National Committee Co-Chair, Debra’s commitment to the SNMA has not waivered. She has attended every National Leadership Institute/Board of Directors Meeting this year, a practice she started before she joined the Board of Directors. Her willingness to help can be witnessed by her volunteering for the arduous task of taking minutes during a Board of Directors Meeting. As HPLA National Committee Co-Chair, Debra is primarily involved with updating position statements and membership educational materials and planning the National Advocacy Forum. This requires her to manage multiple projects simultaneously, which she does effortlessly.

Outside of the SNMA, Debra has gained experiences that complement her SNMA experiences and make her even more qualified for the position. She was awarded the title of Key Bank Scholar based on her leadership and community service involvement. She is currently enrolled in a 5 year MD/MS program at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine that puts an emphasis on research, making Debra a master at time management.

DaShawn A. Hickman
Region V Director, 2013-15
Regional Director to the Executive Committee, 2014-15

dregion5director@snma.org
Debra is an amazing leader and person. I am confident that she would make a phenomenal Vice
President. The SNMA would be lucky to have her in this position.

Yours in SNMA,

[Signature]

DaShawn A. Hickman
Student National Medical Association
Region V Director, 2013-15
Regional Director to the Executive Committee, 2014-15
National Chair-elect of the Board of Directors, 2015
MD/PhD Candidate
Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
Speaker of the House of Delegates

Candidate:

Ashley Matthew

MD/PhD Candidate
University of Massachusetts Medical School

Position is open for additional individuals to run from the floor of the House of Delegates Session
February 12th, 2015

Dear President-Elect Kulukulualani, Election Committee, and SNMA Electorate,

It is with great enthusiasm that I submit this letter of intent to run for the office of Speaker of the House for the 2015-2016 Student National Medical Association administrative year.

The Speaker of the House serves as the voice of the SNMA and its members. This person should advocate for the needs of the constituents and have an in depth understanding of the key legislation to be voted on by the members. Additionally, the Speaker presides over the House of Delegates and should therefore understand how to properly conduct a business meeting in accordance with parliamentary procedure and have an extensive working knowledge of Roberts Rules of Order.

I truly believe that my experience in SNMA on the local and regional level has prepared me to run for the Speaker of the House position. I became a member of the SNMA in my first year of Medical School. I sought more involvement in SNMA leadership, which led me to serve as Co-Chapter President of the University of Massachusetts Medical School. As chapter president, I helped plan events including a forum about the “Step 1 Method” geared toward providing valuable information about Step 1 preparation to 1st and 2nd year medical student. Also in this role, my Co-President, executive board and I, were able to obtain funding for UMMS to send ten students to the 2014 Annual Medical Education Conference. By advocating for our dedicated members of my local chapter, my executive board and I were able to provide the conference attendees with the valuable experience of attending AMEC.

Following my leadership experience at the local level, I sought leadership on a regional level. I am currently the Regional Parliamentarian of Region VII. As Regional Parliamentarian, I have given multiple workshops about parliamentary procedure and Robert’s Rules of Order. I have also made myself available to give workshops to individual schools in our region. This year, I undertook the job of revising the regional bylaws of Region VII. After hearing the needs of my regional members, my committee and I started the process of updating our bylaws. The changes that we have suggested will be presented at the 2015 AMEC.

Last year during the 2014 AMEC, I ran for the office of the Speaker of the House. To my dismay, I was not elected to serve our members in this role. However, today I feel more confident that I can truly serve the SNMA and our members as the Speaker. Having served as Co-President, Regional Parliamentarian, and a member of the Internal Affairs Committee, I believe that I do have the experience necessary to dedicate myself to this role. I see myself advocating for the dedicated members of the SNMA. Additionally, I see myself finding a solution regarding delegates and HOD meeting attendance, so that our members can enjoy their AMEC experience to the fullest.

If elected, it would be my honor to serve the SNMA as the next Speaker of the House. I thank you for taking your time to read my letter and for considering my candidacy.

Yours in SNMA,

Ashley Matthew
MD/PhD Candidate | University of Massachusetts Medical School
Region VII Parliamentarian | Student National Medical Association
Candidate Responses

1. What is your understanding of the responsibilities of the position(s) and/or committee(s) for which you are interested?

The Speaker of the House position is multifaceted. It requires someone who is empathetic, aware of member’s concerns, and committed to effecting change. The Speaker represents its members and ensures that their voice is heard. They advocate for their constituents and ensure that key legislation is voted upon. The Speaker is also responsible for conducting a proper business meeting and having a full understanding of Robert’s Rules of Order.

Another role of the Speaker of the House is to generate the agenda for the Annual Medical Education Conference. Having had prior experience with writing agendas, I know that agendas must be made early so that they contain the pertinent agenda items. It should be sent out in a timely fashion so that members can prepare for the meeting. These pertinent items must also address the concerns of the SNMA members. The agenda must also be appropriate in length so that the annual meeting can occur in a timely fashion.

Lastly, the Speaker is a member of both the Internal Affair Committee and the Elections Committee. While serving on these committees, the Speaker should try to play an integral role in each and should strive to help the committee chairs meet their goals for the committee. As a current member of the Internal Affairs Committee, I feel prepared to help the committee chairs have a successful 2015-2016 administrative year. If able to fulfill all these responsibilities, the Speaker of the House will help improve the success of AMEC and the goals of the SNMA.

2. If elected or appointed, what goals do you hope to accomplish?

My primary goal as Speaker of the House is to ensure that all AMEC conference attendees have equal opportunities to participate in workshops, gain networking experience, and enjoy AMEC to the fullest. Thus, I propose platform based on the three A’s: Advocate for Members, Advance Communication in SNMA and Ameliorate HOD Scheduling.

Advocate for Members – An important role of the Speaker of the House is to support the members of the SNMA. They need to listen to the members to determine the problems that members face and create solutions to fix these problems. The Speaker must also improve member satisfaction by addressing their issues during the HOD. The goal of the Speaker is to be the “voice of the people”. Thus listening and being able to recognize roadblocks for members are skills the Speaker should possess. I plan on advocating for my fellow SNMA members by sending out feedback forms regarding the HOD meetings at AMEC. I will send out pre-AMEC forms to determine the concerns of the SNMA members. I will distribute post-AMEC forms to see if the concerns of our members are resolved and to if any new issues arise. These feedback forms should improve the HOD meetings for the benefit of our members so that they can get the most of AMEC.

Advance Communication in SNMA – Communication in any organization is the key to success. While communication within the SNMA has improved, there are always ways to make communication more effective. The Speaker of the House should be able to distribute the proper documentation pertaining to HOD matters to the SNMA chapter and delegates. As Speaker, I will make sure the proper documents are given to the chapters and chapter delegates well in advance of AMEC so they are aware of the information that will be discussed in the HOD. I will also be persistent in collecting the HOD workbooks from BOD members and National Leadership.
Ameliorate HOD Scheduling – A major concern of many of the SNMA member is the scheduling of the HOD meetings during AMEC. Many of the prime events seem to coincide with the HOD. While some schools circumvent this by having multiple students attend AMEC, small chapters do not have the same opportunity to share delegate duties. I would like to work to rectify this concern of the members by working closely with the conference planning committee chair. First I would like to send out a survey to determine the events from the 2015 AMEC that were most important to the members. Using this information I would like to determine, in conjunction with the 2016 conference planning committee, a way to schedule those events which are most popular at times where the HOD is not in session. I would also like to ask members their opinion on how we should improve scheduling of the HOD sessions.

I believe by accomplishing this platform I will be able to improve the moral of our members and improve the AMEC experience.

3. Describe any chapter, regional, or national experience that you have had with the SNMA. Also include any non-SNMA experience related to your position.

It has been an honor to serve the Student National Medical Association on a chapter and regional level. As chapter Co-President for the 2013-2014 year, it was my goal to make UMMS an active chapter in our region. In prior years, UMMS was not able to participate in the HOD meetings at AMEC and we did not have a strong presence on our campus or in our region. My Co-President, executive board, and myself put in a lot of effort to see UMMS build a new foundation in SNMA built on participation and dedication to fulfilling the mission of the SMNA. We were able to obtain funding to send ten UMMS students to the 2014 Annual Medical Education Conference, a record high for UMMS. During my time as Co-President, we were a very active organization on campus and today our local chapter is the forerunner for event planning on at UMMS. They actually planned the first event of the 2014-2015 school year highlighting the need to increase the matriculation rate of African American men into the field of medicine.

In the 2014-2015 administrative year, I currently hold the Regional Parliamentarian position. This position has truly helped prepare me for the role of Speaker of the House. As Parliamentarian, I have held workshops on parliamentary procedure and Roberts Rules of Order. I have taught not only my own chapter, but also other chapters in Region VII how to incorporate Roberts Rules of Order into their business meetings. This year, I decided to undertake the task of revising our bylaws. My committee and I listened to the needs of our regions and have incorporated changes into the bylaws to help our region function more effectively.

This year I also served as a member of the Internal Affairs Committee. On this committee, I helped compile a list of Staff Quarterly Appreciation gifts to thank the staff of the SNMA for all of the work that they do to help our organization. I also helped analyze data regarding the June National Leadership Institute (NLI) to help improve future NLIs for our members.

These experiences in SNMA have helped me prepare to be your Speaker of the House. It would be an honor to serve in this capacity.

4. In your opinion, what are the national organization’s current needs and how will you contribute to fulfilling each of those needs?

The SNMA is committed to supporting current and future underrepresented minority students, addressing the needs of underserved communities, and increasing the number of clinically excellent, culturally competent and socially conscious physicians. We, as an organization, cannot accomplish this without our dedicated members of this illustrious organization. That is why I believe that membership involvement and dissemination of SNMA information are two of the needs of our organization. I believe effective
communication between National, Regional and Chapter level SNMA will help fulfill the needs of this organization.

One concern of the current Board of Directors is zoning. Some of our regions are too large to encourage member participation. Due to traveling difficulties, members are discouraged from attending regional meetings/events, an important opportunity that allows members to network with regional leadership and their peers. As Speaker of the House, it would be my job to make sure that this item makes it on the agenda at the HOD meeting to ensure that our members have equal opportunities to get involved in SNMA. One possibility to rectify this problem may be to create new regions consisting of schools that are closer to one another. The current regions could also hold two regional conferences in central locations that would allow more SNMA members to participate. I would work closely with the BOD and our members to come up with other solutions regarding zoning so that our members will be able to participate in events and network with their region and the National SNMA.

The SNMA is an organization that is committed to our members. The organization makes changes to the constitution and bylaws so that membership in our organization will be beneficial to all members. However, dissemination of information amongst SNMA members has been difficult. For example, some of my colleagues have said that they had difficulty figuring out what items were to be discussed during the HOD. I plan to make sure all HOD workbooks are received in a timely manner so that this information can be sent to all the regions. I plan to do this by setting deadlines early in advance and being persistent in my efforts. Members should know well in advance of AMEC what changes might be implemented in our organization, so that can make an informed decision.

As your Speaker of the House, I will do my utmost to make sure the needs of this organization and our members are met. I will do this through dedication, diligence, and determination. I want our members to be excited about being a part of this organization. More importantly, I want our members to know more about this organization through the dissemination of information. I want to encourage membership involvement. These goals can be accomplished through effective communication at all levels in the SNMA and will help meet the current needs of our members.
Ashley N. Matthew
Ashley.matthew2@umassmed.edu

EDUCATION
University of Massachusetts Medical School
Doctor of Medicine/Doctor of Philosophy Candidate, Expected Graduation Date: June 2020
Worcester, MA

Xavier University of Louisiana
Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, May 2012
New Orleans, LA
Minor: Biology and Mathematics

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE
Thesis Research
Sep 2014-Current
- University of Massachusetts Medical School, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Pharmacology, Celia Schiffer, PhD.
- I use computational and biophysical techniques to understand the mechanism of drug resistance in Hepatitis C Virus NS3/4A proteases. This insight is used to inform drug design strategies to create more efficacious protease inhibitors for the treatment of HCV.

Undergraduate Research Student
Jan 2011- May 2012
- Xavier University of Louisiana, Department of Biochemistry, Terry Watt PhD; “Molecular Interactions of Histone Deacetylases”
- Studied the molecular details of the enzyme-substrate protein interaction of HDACs, a family of enzymes that play a role in gene expression and protein regulation.

Research Fellow
May 2010- Aug 2010
- University of Massachusetts Medical School, Summer Undergraduate Research Program, Department of Microbiology, John Leong MD/PhD; “TLR signaling may protect against lethal lung infection by Streptococcus pneumoniae.”
- Studied the immune functions that play a role in protection against lethal lung infection with serotype 4 S. pneumoniae in the lungs of mice deficient in TLR responses (MyD88−/−/Trif−/−), mature B cells (Blk−/−), or T cells (TCR−/−).

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS
Excellence in the School of Medicine Preclinical Curriculum – Recipient
Dec 2014
- The recipient of this award is the MD/PhD student who, in their first two years of graduate study, has performed at the very highest level of the preclinical curriculum.

Chairman’s Award for Education – Recipient
June 2013
- The Chairman’s Award for Education is awarded to students who demonstrate a commitment to education and academic excellence. This award is given by the 100 Black Men of America, Inc at their national conference annually.

Rousseve Scholarship – Recipient
Jan 2009 – May 2012
- The Rousseve Scholarship is awarded to the top ten students from each class who hold the highest GPA. Each scholar receives full tuition and a book allowance. I received this scholarship each semester at Xavier University of Louisiana.

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE
Xavier University, Department of Chemistry– Research Student
May 2011 – May 2012
- Performed experiments to examine the role of histone deacetylases (HDACs) and determine their protein-substrate interactions
- Performed protein expression and purification

Xavier University, Department of Chemistry– Math Tutor
May 2009 – May 2012
- Tutored MATH 990, Pre-Calculus, Calculus I, Calculus II, Statistics and Differential Equations.
ORGANIZATIONS/LEADERSHIP
Student National Medical Association (SNMA) – Student Member
• Regional Parliamentarian, 2014-2015
• Internal Affairs Committee Member, 2014-2015
• Chapter President, 2013-2014
American Chemical Society National Conference – Conference Participant
• Poster presenter, 2012
Ronald E. McNair Scholar Summer Research Conference – Conference Participant
• Poster presenter, 2011
Ronald E. McNair Scholar – 2011-2012
• Participated in undergraduate research
• Attended seminars geared toward helping with the graduate application process
• Presented my research at various McNair Scholar conferences
American Chemical Society Chemistry Club – Leadership, 2009 - 2012
• Chapter President, 2011-2012
• Chapter Vice President 2010-2011
• Chapter Secretary 2009-2010

VOLUNTEERING
Cuddle Buddies: Nurturing of Withdrawing Infants Nov 2012 – present
Worcester Free Clinics Aug 2012 – present
Barbershop Health Network Community Outreach Oct 2012 – present
Recommendation for Ashley Matthew

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Ashley for a few years now and I have found her to be a woman of substance and character. Ashley takes initiative in a number of interest groups on our campus centered on diversity, student motivation and mentoring in both the medical school and graduate school. I worked closely with Ashley as the Co-President of our SNMA chapter; she was a firm believer in organization and structure to our meetings and educated our members about Robert’s Rules. Ashley progressed to share her knowledge of the system with the region as the Region Parliamentarian and has even established her own Ad-Hoc Committee to better address issues of the region associated with the Regional ByLaws. She currently sits on my committee, the Internal Affairs Committee, as an active member that provides insightful comments and is proactive with our action items. Ashley is dependable. Within all of her positions, she continues to motivate others along the way.

As you may have deduced, Ashley is a self-starter and dedicated to her goals. Last year, Ashley ran for Speaker of the House and the experience left her even more invested in SNMA. She took it upon herself to gain experience and try again. Ashley does not stand down from a challenge. I’ve been a delegate to many HODs, aside from SNMA, and I’ve seen the composite for a Speaker of the House—sharp, organized, punctual, and efficient. I would not flinch in recommending Ashley to this position. Ashley will get the job done. And she will do it with confidence and while representing what the student leadership of SNMA embodies—pride.

Sincerely,

Racquel J Wells
National Parliamentarian

Candidate:

Vacant

Position is open for additional individuals to run from the floor of the House of Delegates Session
National Pre-medical Board Member

Candidate:

Kevin Anderson

MD Candidate
Duke University School of Medicine

Position is open for additional individuals to run from the floor of the House of Delegates Session
Dear Mr. Anthony Kulukulualani and the SNMA National Elections Committee:

It is with great humility and enthusiasm that I submit this letter of intent to run for the position of Pre-Medical Board Member for the 2015-2016 Student National Medical Association administrative year.

Since my first experience as an associate member at my first AMEC in Atlanta, GA, I have been convinced that this organization is not a luxury, but rather a necessity in helping produce the next generation of physicians. Since that moment I have been enthralled by the passion, commitment and devotion members of this organization have shown is quite inspiring. Over the last four years, I have participated in this organization as a general member and a chapter, regional and national officer. The accumulation of these experiences has encouraged me, now more than ever, to continue to try and be an active leader in helping to address the needs of our underserved communities and those of our minority medical students.

Ever since my first year of medical school, I have found my passion in helping to develop the pipeline programs of this organization. On the chapter level, I served as MAPS liaison and was able to help establish a new HBCU MAPS chapter at North Carolina Central University that officially received its charter this past fall semester. I organized several events including a networking dinner that brought together all three MAPS chapters under the Duke SNMA umbrella to help facilitate mentorship with medical students and residents. During the same year I worked with our chapters HPREP, in which we brought high school students to our campus on a bi-monthly basis to discuss various topics in medicine. We concluded the year with each student presenting a topic of their choosing in clinical medicine. For those graduating seniors we had a scholarship interview, for two scholarships that we presented at our annual SNMA Martin Luther King, Jr. Banquet.

The following year, I hoped to expand my work for the organization by first learning more about SNMA as well as what it takes to be an effective leader by being a Future Leadership Project (FLP) fellow. At the conclusion of that fellowship, I was elected as National Parliamentarian and Region IV MAPS Liaison. As RML, I was able to continue my passion in assisting pre-medical students in their pursuit of acceptance into medical school as well as beginning the paperwork for new charter establishment at several colleges and universities. Being a BOD member provided me with new insight and understanding on how things operate and function. This invaluable experience has afforded me with the tools necessary to assume a demanding role such as this.

These aforementioned leadership roles and involvements, along with my energetic passion for serving our associate members, make me an ideal candidate for the office of Pre-Medical Board Member. At each level that I have served and represented this organization, I have done so with humility, professionalism and honor. If I am fortunate enough to be elected as the Pre-Medical Board Member for the next administrative year, I will give everything I have to help ensure the success of our students and uphold the vision and mission of this illustrious organization.

Yours in SNMA,

Kevin Anderson, Jr.
MD Candidate | Duke University School of Medicine
National Parliamentarian 2014-15 | Student National Medical Association (SNMA)
Candidate Responses

Please respond to the following questions. Responses should be limited to less than a page per question. Paragraphs should be appropriate to the position being considered.

1. What is your understanding of the responsibilities of the position(s) and/or committee(s) for which you are interested?

   The National Pre-Medical Board Member (PMBM) is a very demanding position that includes responsibilities on the Executive Committee, on the Board of Directors, and an expansive series of more general duties. In understanding the general duties of the office there are several and most important of these is being the chairperson of the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students (MAPS) Committee. As chairperson of this committee I will oversee the activities, documentation, and leadership of MAPS chapters, act as an advisor to the Regional MAPS Liaisons, including serving as a resource for pre-medical student conference planning, update the history of MAPS as it relates to current policy and operations and communicate with the MAPS membership via a regular MAPS newsletter submitted quarterly. The PMBM’s responsibility in organizing the Annual Medical Education Conference for MAPS members is coordinating the Pre-medical Forum with the assistance of the Convention Planning Committee. The duties of this office also require working with National Community Service Co-Chairs by serving as a resource for the Community Service Committee regarding pre-medical enrichment programming for MAPS chapters. I would be responsible for assisting the membership committee and headquarter staff in maintaining an up-to-date active MAPS chapter roster and promoting an associate membership drive. Other ancillary tasks under the aforementioned general obligations are submitting regular articles to the Journal of the SNMA (JSNMA) and ensuring that the "So You Want to Be a Doctor” document is updated with pertinent information.

   As a voting member of the National Board of Directors (BOD), the PMBM's two main jobs are presenting a quarterly report detailing their activities to the BOD as well as representing the interests of pre-medical members and communicating feedback on policies to the BOD. The PMBM is one of the few positions that have Executive Committee responsibilities as a voting member as well.

2. If elected or appointed, what goals do you hope to accomplish?

   The goals I hope to accomplish as Pre-Medical Board Member are centered on three main categories: programmatic, administrative and AMEC. Focusing on these classifications and building a committee that specifically targets each of these, will allow me organizationally and functionally to be a highly productive board member and give my best to SNMA’s associate members.

   Programmatically, I want to begin by establishing a pre-medical curriculum that specifically targets those MAPS chapters that have no ties or affiliations to an SNMA chapter. Because of the lack of affiliation with a nearby medical school SNMA chapter, for any number of reasons, these pre-medical students aren't privy to the mentorship, advice, resources and networking that nearby medical centers and schools would provide. To help to compensate for that I would like to expound on the “So You Want To Be A Doctor” webinars started this year. This curriculum would have five main focuses: (1) SNMA History and Infrastructure, (2) Leadership Training, (3) Fostering Mentorship, (4) Matriculating Through the Pre-Medical Track and (5) Considering Taking a Year Off. This webinar series would be accompanied with the newly edited “So You Want To Be A Doctor” publication. I want
to continue to grow the SNMA MAPS brand through social media outlets (ie. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram). By doing so, we can foster a forum of communication in regards to community service ideas, successful fundraisers and events. The second program will focus on increasing membership with a fall membership drive that is contiguous with the beginning of the new academic school year. To assist in this push for increased membership, I would like to produce new MAPS and Associate Membership info cards/flyers that can be easily dispersed amongst students and/or displayed at various points on their campus. Lastly, programmatically I want to continue to increase SNMA's next generation of leadership by increasing awareness and participation in the Future Leadership Project.

In terms of administrative duties, I want to begin to be put together the most updated list of MAPS chapters and what SNMA chapters they are connected with. I would then like to establish early communication with each region’s regional maps liaison (RML) and regional pre-medical representative (PMR) to not only discuss my vision of MAPS for the year, but also help in assessing each regions specific needs regarding our associate membership and how those needs can be met. For this year, I have a goal of 70% submission of the chapter report and update forms from all the MAPS chapters. I look to accomplish this feat simply by increasing awareness and emphasizing the requirement to maintain the chapter’s active status. Also as PMBM, my goal for this year would be to increase the number of HBCU MAPS chapters. I would specifically target Region IV in this endeavor because of its sheer volume of HBCUs, but would not limit my scope to this region completely. Lastly, I want to continue the publication of the MAPS Minutes with the help of the publications national committee and editor of JSNMA.

The final area of focus would be development of the pre-medical forum of AMEC. Like years past, I would continue having a medical school (s) tour, practice MCAT and medical school application workshops. I also would like to institute and build on workshops that are geared to students who are transitioning into medical school as well as those who are pursuing post-bac programs. I would also plan workshops that focus on applying to medical school as a non-traditional student as well as emphasizing applying to osteopathic programs and what those schools have to offer.

3. Describe any chapter, regional, or national experience that you have had with the SNMA. Also include any non-SNMA experience related to your position.

This year I have served as the National Parliamentarian on the Board of Directors and in that role I also served as Chair of the Constitution and Bylaws Subcommittee of the National Internal Affairs Committee. During this term, I also took on responsibilities on the Region IV executive board as Regional MAPS Liaison (RML) to the North, where I focused on the states of North Carolina, South Carolina and the Caribbean. On the chapter level, last year, I focused most of my time and energy in helping the MAPS chapters affiliated with Duke SNMA (Duke MAPS, North Carolina Central MAPS, Shaw MAPS) as the chapters MAPS Liaison. During that year, I also served as one of the Health Professions and Recruitment and Exposure Program (HPREP) coordinators for Duke SNMA. Outside of these duties, I served in ancillary roles of the organization this year as a coordinator of the Future Leadership Project (PLP) coordinator, where I served as Strategy Team and National Committee coordinator. On behalf of the Diversity Research Committee, I had the privilege of being a guest speaker and moderator of a national webinar co-sponsored with the AAMC entitled “Engaging Diverse Medical Students and Residents to Consider Academic Medicine Careers” with the Building the Next Generation of Academic Physicians (BNGAP) Initiative.

Other non-SNMA experience includes institutional appointments and position as Director of Operations for the Duke Graduate and Professional Student Council, seat on the facilities and
environment standing committee of the board of trustees, co-president of the general surgery interest group and volunteer at Duke's Freemont Community Health Clinic. I'm also a member of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), American College of Surgeons (ACS), American Medical Association (AMA) and the North Carolina Medical Society.

4. In your opinion, what are the national organization’s current needs and how will you contribute to fulfilling each of those needs?

This organization’s current needs are increasing financial stability through fundraising, enhancing communication from the national level to the chapter level, increased membership and retention of those members in the organization already, continuing to support and mentor our students academically and finally leadership development. Enhancing financial stability at the national level begins by continuing to introduce students, undergraduate colleges and universities and medical schools to SNMA and MAPS. Trickling down to the chapter level, it is important to continue to share ideas and programs that have been successful previously in raising money for those chapters who have implemented them. By increasing the social media footprint of MAPS, we should be able to better facilitate the communication of these ideas. The issues with disconnect between the chapters and the national BOD and headquarters is one that has continued for years. To better ameliorate this situation I will do all I can to make myself directly available to chapter members. I want our general membership to feel comfortable in contacting me regarding any issues or concerns that they are dealing with so I can best assist them. I will also do all I can to have continual contact with RMLs and PMRs at the regional level to make sure the needs of the regions are being met.

Academic support is a key focus of what I want to do as PMBM. With my goal of establishing a MAPS curriculum for independent chapters, I hope that the needs of numerous students will be met thereby enhancing their academic experience and assisting in their matriculation. It will also be my responsibility to search for and establish new associate membership benefits and make sure that our students are cognizant of them. Finally, I look to enhance leadership development by focusing on two main things: DiverseMedicine and the Future Leadership Project. I plan to continue to develop a stronger relationship with the DiverseMedicine mentorship program and make sure that our students are aware of this resource. As a previous FLP fellow and now an FLP coordinator, I know the impact that this program has had on the SNMA. As this program continues to expand on the national level and more recently the regional level, we are actively recruiting and developing the future leaders of our organization. It is paramount that we continue this pipeline so that we can ensure the health and stability of the SNMA for years to come.
Kevin L. Anderson, Jr.
E-Mail: kla24@dm.duke.edu

I. Education & Training

Duke University School of Medicine
M.D. Candidate; Expected Graduation: May 2016

Morehouse College
B.S., Major: Biology
Honors Program Graduate
Magna Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa

Louisville Male Traditional High School
High School Diploma (Commonwealth Diploma Recipient)
Salutatorian

II. Institutional Positions & Appointments

Director of Operations
Graduate and Professional Student Council (GPSC), Duke University Graduate System
04/ 2014 -- Present

Standing Committee: Facilities and Environment
Board of Trustees, Duke University
04/ 2014 -- Present

Admissions Committee Member
Department of Admissions, Duke University School of Medicine
07/ 2014 -- Present

Basketball Committee Member
Duke University Athletics Association (DUAA), Duke University
04/ 2014 -- Present

Curriculum Coordinator
Duke Med Elementary, Duke University School of Medicine
10/ 2012 – 05/2013

Student Minority Recruitment Chairperson
Duke University School of Medicine Multicultural Affairs, Duke University School of Medicine
09/ 2012 – 06/2013

Executive Board Member
Oncology Student Interest Group, Duke University School of Medicine
08/2012 – 05/2013

Co-President
General Surgery Interest Group, Duke University School of Medicine
08/2014 – Present

Student Volunteer
Freemont Community Health Clinic, Duke University School of Medicine
08/2012 – Present

Community Service Chair
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., (Alpha Rho Chapter – Morehouse College)
08/2010 – 05/2011
III. Membership in Professional & Scientific Societies

American Society of Clinical Oncology Member (ASCO) 04/ 2014 -- Present

American College of Surgeons Member (ACS) 08/ 2014 -- Present

Social and Health Policy Chair 08/ 2013 – Present

American Medical Association (AMA), Duke University School of Medicine

Campus Chairperson 09/2013 – 06/2014

Christian Medical/Dental Association (CMDA), Duke University School of Medicine

American Medical Student Association Member 09/ 2013 – Present

Duke University School of Medicine

Student National Medical Association (SNMA) 09/ 2012 -- Present

A. National Parliamentarian (04/ 2014 – Present)
   Student National Medical Association

B. Chair of the Constitution and Bylaws Subcommittee of the Internal Affairs Committee (04/ 2014 Present)
   Student National Medical Association

C. Regional MAPS Liaison to the North, Region IV (04/ 2014 – Present)
   Student National Medical Association (Region IV)

D. Future Leadership Project Coordinator (09/ 2014 – Present)
   Student National Medical Association

E. Future Leadership Project Fellow (09/ 2013 – 04/ 2014)
   Student National Medical Association

F. Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students (MAPS) Liaison (08/ 2013 – 04/ 2014)
   Student National Medical Association, Duke University School of Medicine

G. Health Professions and Recruitment and Exposure Program (HPREP) Coordinator (08/ 2013 – 04/ 2014)
   Student National Medical Association, Duke University School of Medicine

   Student National Medical Association, Diversity Research Committee

North Carolina Medical Society Member 08/ 2012 – Present

Durham – Orange County Medical Society Member 08/ 2012 – Present

IV. Research Activities/Publications

Morehouse School of Medicine Neuroscience Institute 01/ 2008 – 05/ 2011

Student Research Assistant (20-25hrs/wk)
Neuroscience Institute
Principal Investigator: Morris Benveniste, PhD
University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine 05/ 2008 – 08/ 2008
“Effect of Erythropoietin on Brain Cell Injury Using Hydrogen Peroxide As A Neurotoxin In Vitro”
Summer Research Intern
Department of Neurosurgery
Principal Investigator: Frank Welsh, PhD

Poster and Oral Presentations:
Leadership Alliance National Symposium (New Haven, CT in July 2008)
Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students. (Orlando, FL in November 2008)

Harvard Medical School and Children’s Hospital Boston 05/ 2009 – 08/ 2009
“The Effect of EWS/Fli-1 on Runx2 Expression”
Summer Research Intern
Department of Hematology/Oncology
Principal Investigator: Alan Cantor MD/PhD

Poster:
Leadership Alliance National Symposium (Chantilly, VA in July 2008)
New England Science Symposium (Boston, MA in April 2010)

Oral:
Annual Recruitment Fair and Research Training Symposium (Atlanta, GA in March 2010)

Stanford University School of Medicine 05/ 2010 – 08/ 2010
“Quantitative Measurement of Aβ40 Aggregation Using Luciferase As An In Vitro Reporter”
Amgen Research Summer Intern
Department of Pathology
Principal Investigator: Isabella Graef, MD/PhD

Poster:
Amgen Scholars U.S. Symposium (Los Angeles, CA in July 2010)

Johns Hopkins School of Medicine 09/ 2011 – 07/ 2012
Post-Baccalaureate Research Education Program (PREP) Fellow
Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics
Principal Investigator: Rachel Green, PhD

Duke University School of Medicine 10/ 2013 – Present
“Targeting 3-Desulfated (3DES) Heparin As An Agent in Neuronal Differentiation and Tumor Suppression of Neuroblastoma”
Department of Pharmacology and Cancer Biology
Principal Investigator: Gerard Blobe, MD/PhD

Impact of Patient Selection and Treatment Strategy on Outcomes After Lobectomy for Biopsy-proven Stage IIIA pN2 Non-small Cell Lung Cancer
Chi-Fu Jeffrey Yang1, Robert Ryan Meyerhoff1, Kevin Anderson1, Matthew G Hartwig1, David Harpole, Jr1, Thomas D’Amico1, Mark Berry2
1Duke University, Durham, NC
2Stanford University, Stanford, CA
**Submitted December 2014
Long-term outcomes of lobectomy for non-small cell lung cancer after definitive radiation treatment
Chi-Fu Jeffrey Yang, MD, Robert Ryan Meyerhoff, BA, Sarah Stephens, BA, Kevin Anderson, BA, Chris R. Kelsey, MD, Thomas A. D’Amico, MD, Mark F. Berry, MD

1Department of Surgery, Division of Thoracic Surgery, Duke University Medical Center, 3496 DUMC, Durham, North Carolina. 2Department of Radiation Oncology, Duke University Medical Center, DUMC Box 3085, Durham, NC 3Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Stanford University Medical Center, 300 Pasteur Drive, Falk Building 2nd Floor Stanford, CA 94305-5407

**Submitted February, 2015

V. Honors

**Eugene A. Stead Student Research Scholarship Recipient** 05/2014
($25,000) *Duke University School of Medicine*

**Region IV Member Of The Year, Region IV** 04/2014
*Student National Medical Association (SNMA)*

**USMLER Scholarship Recipient** 02/2014
*Student National Medical Association (SNMA)*

**Tropical Pathology and Infectious Disease Scholarship Recipient** 12/2010
($2,000) *Tropical Pathology and Infectious Disease Association (TPaIDA)*

**Dr. Warner E. Meadows, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Recipient** 09/ 2010
($5,000) *Dr. Cheryl G. Franklin Health Professions Scholarship Fund.*

**Pfizer Biomedical Research Internship Funding Recipient** 05/ 2008
*Pfizer Pharmaceuticals*

**National Merit Scholar** 04/ 2006
February 13, 2015

Dear President-Elect Kulukulkanli, Elections Committee and SNMA Electorate,

It is with the greatest honor and enthusiasm that I am writing to endorse Kevin Anderson Jr. candidacy for the Premedical Board Member (PMBM) position for the 2015-2016 SNMA administrative year, a position that I have previously served in. It is imperative that the PMBM position, a position that supports the pipeline of this organization, is assumed by someone who truly understands the mission and goals of this organization.

I have had the pleasure meeting Kevin prior to AMEC 2014 when he was a Future Leadership Project (FLP) Fellow and he set up a call with me to go over his FLP proposal that was geared towards incorporating MAPS Chapters better into the fold of SNMA. After reading and going over the proposal with Kevin, I was floored by his excellent programmatic sense and deep understanding of the organizational structures of both SNMA and MAPS Chapters. I have since had the pleasure of working with Kevin in FLP in his role as coordinator. In his time in FLP I have been impressed by his leadership and mentorship he has provided the fellows in FLP.

Kevin is a leader both in and outside of SNMA. He currently serves as SNMA’s National Parliamentarian and the National Internal Affairs Committee Vice-Chair. In that role he is working on streamlining the House of Delegates (HOD) to ensure that AMEC attendees are able to have a better balance between SNMA business and AMEC programmatic activities. Kevin also serves as SNMA Region IV’s MAPS Liaison-North where he oversees multiple MAPS Chapters in many states, assists in creating new MAPS chapters in his Region and ensuring stronger relationships between MAPS and SNMA chapters in his region. He also has served as the MAPS Liaison for his SNMA Chapter at Duke University School of Medicine, in addition to serving as high school pipeline coordinator for his SNMA Chapter.

Kevin is actively involved in experiences outside of SNMA. He currently serves on the Board of Trustees for Duke University on the Facilities and Environment Standing Committee. He is the Director of Operations for the Graduate and Professional Student Council at Duke University. He also was the Chairperson of Student Minority Recruitment at Duke University School of Medicine. Lastly he is an active member of the American Society of clinical Oncology Member (ASCO), American College of Surgeons (ACS) and the American Medical Association (AMA).

The position of PMBM requires someone who understands the needs of pre-health students in our pipeline, has experience of how MAPS Chapters run and who has a proven track record within SNMA to get the ball rolling as they Chair the MAPS Committee, assist the National President in their Executive Agenda, plan the premedical forum at AMEC and secure Associate Membership benefits. There are few people in this organization that I would more strongly recommend for the position of PMBM. Kevin is by all standards outstanding, responsible, mature and good-natured person. He has an excellent understanding of the needs of premedical students in this organization, has the programmatic capacity to ensure a successful programmatic year and AMEC for premedical
students, and the leadership experience to represent premedical students on the board of directors.

I have no shadow of doubt that Kevin will make a phenomenal PMBM for the 2015-2016 SNMA administrative year. I am honored to call Kevin and colleague and friend. Kevin has even supported me in my efforts in applying to medical school showing his commitment to the pipeline of SNMA. I enthusiastically encourage you to vote on his behalf.

Yours in SNMA,

[Signature]

Johnathan Smileye Jr.
Research Assistant
Abt Associates

Student National Medical Association
Future Leadership Project Coordinator, 2014-2015
Premedical Board Member, 2013-2014
Professional Board Member

Candidates:

Vacant

Vacant

Position is open for additional individuals to run from the floor of the House of Delegates Session
Strategic Planning Council Member

Candidates:

Vacant

Vacant

Position is open for additional individuals to run from the floor of the House of Delegates Session
Board of Directors Elections Overview

The Board of Directors (BOD) is the governing body of the Student National Medical Association when the House of Delegates is not in session. It consists of elected National Officers, Regional Directors, and appointed National Committee Chairpersons. The BOD will elect the following positions at the conclusion of the Annual Medical Education Conference. Each candidate will be formally nominated during the BOD meeting on Sunday, April 5, 2015. They will then present their platform to the BOD. Following candidate presentations, each voting BOD member will cast a vote for their preferred candidate.

Please carefully review the following candidate applications. You have the opportunity to share any comments or questions with your Regional Director. The 2015-2016 Regional Directors will cast a vote on behalf of the members of their respective Regions. Note that additional candidates may be nominated from the floor during the Sunday BOD meeting. Thank you in advance for your careful consideration and stewardship of our organization.
National Treasurer

Candidate:

Adeolu Aromolaran

MD Candidate
Yale University School of Medicine

Position is open for additional individuals to run from the floor at the Board of Directors Meeting
Dear Anthony Kulukuluanlani and the National Elections Committee,

It is with great enthusiasm that I submit this letter to signify my intent to run for the office of National Treasurer for the Student National Medical Association during the 2015-2016 administrative year.

I have had the pleasure of working closely with SNMA since my undergraduate career. During my time as the VP of Operations of my minority pre-medical society, I worked closely with a local SNMA chapter to help expose pre-health minority students at the University of Maryland to professional development opportunities. Given my longstanding commitment to minority student development, it was only natural that I gravitated towards SNMA as soon as I started medical school.

I served as the Regional Webmaster for Region VII, where I was in charge of disseminating information from the national and regional levels of SNMA to the members of Region VII. I believe this put me in a perfect position to witness how national programs affect individual members. I think this understanding is crucial to all members of SNMA, especially the leadership, and I am grateful that I was exposed to it early on.

This holistic approach to the operation of large organizations has been a perspective that I have had to develop many times in my professional endeavors. Working for the Oyo State Ministry of Health in Nigeria, meant implementing national outreach programs to my local community. It also entailed collecting information through surveys that would have national implications. The interconnectivity between large entities and their individual parts were evident even in my most recent research project. I studied the effect of prison protocol affected the risk of Tuberculosis transmission in inmates. We are making recommendations to national and state protocols that affect the everyday lives of prisoners. The ability to integrate and process information in a way that is meaningful to this organization as a whole and its members is a skill that I hope to use to benefit SNMA in a position as Treasurer.

I currently serve as the Associate Regional Director of the great Region VII. This position has been absolutely terrific and has given me exposure to every different part of the functioning of SNMA. I have worked closely with chapter presidents as well as other on the executive board to help maximize the efficiency of our region. It has given me great joy to stay within SNMA and to see the rising passion that students have to better one another.

In summary, I believe that my longstanding involvement with SNMA demonstrates my commitment to the goals of this organization. My hope is that I can use my previous experience in a variety of other leadership positions to help SNMA continue to improve for many years to come. Thank you for your consideration.

Yours in SNMA,

Adeolu Aromolaran
Associate Regional Director, Region VII
Yale School of Medicine
MD Candidate 2017
Candidate Responses

What is your understanding of the responsibilities of the position(s) and/or committee(s) for which you are interested?

I believe that finance is one of the most vital parts of an organization. It is important that special care is taken to ensure financial stability, because the finances of an organization interface with almost all its other regular functions. I believe the Treasurer has the responsibility of keeping the organization aware of its financial position while helping the Board of Directors make financially informed decisions. To achieve these goals, the Treasurer must be able to collect information efficiently as well as disseminate it accurately. The ability to do these two things should be well developed in anyone who steps into this position.

Given the structure of SNMA, it is important that the National Treasurer develop good working relationships with Regional Treasurers to compile financial reports. The beauty of having a large student-run organization such as SNMA is that it adds up to more than the sum of its parts. This is only true if the leaders who oversee a team make a conscious effort to maximize the potential of everyone on the team. Working with a team that is distributed across the country presents its own challenges. The Treasurer must overcome these in order to facilitate the flow of information. In order to enable all the Regional Treasurers to operate in a coordinated manner, open communication must be established early in the year. It is the National Treasurers job to make sure that this communication is properly utilized so that Regional Treasurers can lean on each other for help, promptly meet deadlines and function as a coordinated unit.

In addition to collection and distribution of information, the Treasurer also has a variety of other responsibilities such as serving as chairperson for the National Financial Committee (NFC) and serving on the Convention Planning Committee. Serving as chairperson for the NFC is particularly exciting because it provides an opportunity to help shape the future of the organization. The idea that financial decisions made in the present may have long lasting future fiscal implications is embodied in this committee. I believe it takes truly mindful and careful people to accomplish the goals of this committee.

In summary, I believe the job of the Treasurer is primarily one of data management. This job entails making sure financial information from the smallest divisions of SNMA reach the National Board of Directors and advising them on how to use this information. It involves being active in other parts of SNMA as well and keeping a watchful eye on the accounts. The finances of an organization are it’s lifeline and the Treasurer has a unique responsibility to help maintain it.

If elected or appointed, what goals do you hope to accomplish?

If elected, my primary goal will be to help ensure financial stability for SNMA. This will first entail me familiarizing myself to the current state of affairs. Armed with this knowledge I can assess the situation and help determine whether changes need to be made to the current mode of operation. Analysis and strategic planning are both areas that I have worked on for organizations in the past and I hope to lend my experience to make this an area of strength in this position.
the coming year. I plan on doing so by helping the Board of Directors make informed decisions. This requires not only the presentation of accurate information, but also the facilitation of meaningful interpretations of the information.

If elected, I will develop a budget that supports ongoing SNMA efforts while protecting its financial standing in the future. I have often found that the most difficult part of budgeting is adhering to an already created budget. This is facilitated by ambiguity in budgets, improper planning and uninformed decisions. I will be detail oriented in my approach to SNMA’s finances and aim to eliminate undue spending during this year.

As chairperson of the NFC, I will familiarize myself with SNMA’s 30-year business plan and use it help advise the BOD on its fiscal policy. My goal is to leave SNMA lead SNMA down a path of financial stability during this upcoming year and for several years to come.

**Describe any chapter, regional, or national experience that you have had with the SNMA. Also include any non-SNMA experience related to your position.**

I have been involved in SNMA for several years. During my undergraduate time at the University of Maryland, I was the VP of Operations for a minority pre-medical society called the Charles R. Drew Pre-medical Society. This society has many of the same goals as SNMA. During my time there, Howard University SNMA Chapter approached us with a proposition to join SNMA by converting to a MAPS Chapter. While we could not convert at the time due to previous agreements our society had entered, we fostered a working relationship with the Howard SNMA chapter. This was my first exposure to SNMA.

I felt connected with SNMA since undergrad and when I got to medical school I was eager to join the efforts this organization was embarking on. During my first year, I joined the Region 7 Executive Board as the Regional Webmaster. In this role, I helped foster communication between the Board and the other members of the Region. I did this by creating newsletters, opening new social media accounts, managing the website and making sure that everyone had access to regional information in some way.

I loved this role and this organization so much that I stayed on the regional team as the Associate Regional Director. I am currently serving in this role. In this role, I have had the responsibility of helping support chapter presidents and other members of the Executive Board in the fulfillment of their roles. This means that I am involved in almost every part of the operation of the Region and I have learned many useful skills from this position. I am also primarily responsible for fundraising for the Region, which necessitates that I work closely with the Regional Treasurer to develop the budget. This experience will be invaluable in executing the duties expected of me as National Treasurer.

Outside of SNMA, I have had many experiences that will help me to do my job. The most notable of these is the year I spent as a Program Coordinator at the Nigerian Ministry of Health in Oyo State, Nigeria. I worked on many projects, but was primarily in charge of the Prevention of Mother To Child Transmission Program (PMTCT) in the HIV/AIDS department. My duties
included creation and execution of the budget of this program and overseeing a statewide survey of households in support of a national census.

I also had the honor of serving on the Yale School of Medicine (YSM) Social Committee during my first year of medical school. Once again, I was on the team that created and executed the budget for all student social activities that involved the entire student body of YSM. This ranged from coffee study breaks to secret santas and just YSM funded parties for students to unwind.

My long time involvement with SNMA shows that I am dedicated to the vision of this organization. I have a lengthy background of managing money for organizations and I hope to use this to the benefit of my favorite organization, SNMA!

**In your opinion, what are the national organization’s current needs, and how will you contribute to fulfilling each of those needs?**

The fact that SNMA is a student-run organization on such a large scale is truly amazing. As great of a job as this organization does, it still faces problems of continuity due to the high rate of turnover of leadership. There has been a push in recent years to develop better analytical tools to help evaluate programs to aid the ever-changing leadership make informed decisions. I hope to help provide this same kind of informative analysis regarding the financial trends and decisions our organization makes. Although I will not be able to make an accurate assessment until I have seen the state of the SNMA accounts, I am aware that there is a need for SNMA to improve its financial position. This kind of turn around in position requires an accurate assessment of the trends that have put us in this position as well as a plan to get us out. I hope to advise the BOD on how to do both.
Adeolu Christopher Aromolaran
adeolu.aromolaran@yale.edu

**Education**

Yale University School of Medicine – New Haven, CT
**Doctorate in Medicine**, Expected May 2017

University of Maryland, College Park – College Park, MD
**Bachelors of Science in Physiology and Neurobiology**, May 2012
**Honors College**: Selective program requiring 16 credits of coursework highlighting writing, public speaking and analytical thinking
**Honors Citation**
**Dean’s List**: Spring 2009 – Spring 2012

**Leadership Experience**

**Region VII Associate Regional Director**
Student National Medical Association, May 2014- Present
- Coordinate and provide support for the activities of chapter officers in the northeast region of SNMA
- Organize the annual Regional Fundraiser
- Assist regional director in her absence at her request

**Social Committee Member**
Yale University School of Medicine, September 2013- May 2014
- Plan and coordinate events to facilitate development of the medical school
- Manage logistics for events that include the entire medical school
- Liaise with other graduate schools to facilitate a more inter-disciplinary social community

**Region VII Webmaster**
Student National Medical Association, December 2013- May 2014
- Manage all web related activities for the northeast region of SNMA
- Control flow of information on the Region VII Facebook page and website (snma.org)

**Ambassador for Distinguished Nigerian Physicians of Tomorrow**
July 2009-February 2009
- Active in a group of Nigerian medical and premedical students dedicated to improving healthcare in Nigeria
- Manage Maryland-Area public undergraduate relations for the group
- Assist in recruitment efforts and contribute ideas for the development of the program

**VP of Programming for Charles R. Drew Premedical Society**
University of Maryland, December 2008-May 2011
- Manage logistics for the group; recruit speakers and members; assist in publicizing events and programs
- Participated in numerous community service activities through the organization

**Resident Assistant**
Department of Resident Life, August 2010-May 2012
- Develops community; Helps students learn to interact in a way that optimizes their academic and social goals
• Serves as a peer counselor and helps students learn life skills. Refer students to appropriate campus resources

Research Experience

Wilbur Downs Fellowship
Yale University School of Public Health, June 1, 2014- Present
Federal University of Grande Dourados, Brazil
• Studied the effect of inmate movement on Tuberculosis transmission in prisons
• Used epidemiological methods to assess the dynamics of disease transmission among inmates
• Presented study at the annual Wilbur Downs Symposium

Summer to Advance Research Training (START) at Yale
Yale University Department of Pediatrics, June 2013- October 2013
• Studied the role of Hhex gene as a repressor element that prevents hepatic cysts
• Used molecular genetics to study Hhex interactions with other regulatory genes
• Critiqued and presented journal articles at weekly journal clubs

Percy Julian Fellowship
University of Maryland, January 2010-January 2011
• Conducted research to detect the role of cyclic di-GMP in biofilm formation in bacteria
• Worked on developing new techniques for the detection of the sequence and function of cyclic di-GMP
• Became proficient in techniques required to detect, purify and synthesize RNA and DNA

Professional Development

National Youth Service Program
Ministry of Health - Oyo State, Nigeria, June 2012-June 2013
• Worked as a project manager in the HIV/AIDS unit
• Conducted supervisory visits to hospitals to evaluate HIV/AIDS counseling and testing procedures
• Trained health workers on HIV/AIDS counseling and testing
• Helped organize and execute statewide HIV behavior surveys for NARHS project

Research Intern
Gryphon Scientific, September 2011-May 2012
• Found and analyzed data needed to model outbreaks of several chemical and biological disease agents
• Read, interpreted and summarized scientific papers for senior scientists in the company

Volunteer for Haiti Mission Trip
Touch of Love Bible Church, Summer 2010
• Helped set up a clinic in the town of Pignon, Haiti
• Collected patient medical histories and recorded patients’ initial complaint
• Dispensed drugs prescribed by the doctor on site in the proper dosages

National Drug and Law Enforcement Agency
Drug Free Club – Oyo State, Nigeria, August 2012- May 2013
• Sensitized youth and other high risk groups on the dangers of drug abuse
Honors and Awards

**Honors Citation,** Honors College Fall 2010
- Award given to students who have completed all required coursework in the Honors College

**Joseph Mitchell Scholarship,** Office of Multi- Ethnic Student Education Spring 2010
- Award given to students with excellent academic standing who demonstrate financial need

**Outstanding Academic Performance,** College of Chemical and Life Sciences Spring 2010
- Award given to students who show academic excellence

**Outstanding Dedication Award,** Charles R. Drew Pre-Medical Society Spring 2010
- Award given to executive board members who showed exceptional dedication to the society

**Achievement in Academic Excellence,** Office of Multi- Ethnic Student Education Spring 2009
- Award given to students who achieve a GPA of 4.0
March 1, 2015

Anthony Kulukulualani
President Elect, Student National Medical Association (SNMA)

Re: Adeolu Christopher Aromolaran application for SNMA National Treasurer

Dear Mr. President Elect Kulukulualani:

I am delighted to write this letter in strong support of Adeolu Aromolaran’s application for Treasurer of the Student National Medical Association (SNMA). I have had the good fortune of knowing and working with Adeolu for the past two years. I am also a big fan, and well acquainted with the wonderful work of SNMA, as I previously served in the roles of Associate Regional Director and Regional Director for Region VII.

Adeolu is terrific – he has the charisma, personality and sunny demeanor that make him stand out immediately. Under this welcoming, engaging, outgoing and social demeanor is a hard working, focused, deeply engaged student – and a human being with a deep commitment to underserved minorities, and to those in most distressing need. Deolu’s commitment to these populations is not new – indeed it has been a consistent arch throughout his career, whether through volunteer opportunities at Church, personal research, work in the Ministry of Health in Nigeria, or his commitment to SNMA.

I first met Adeolu while I was recruiting candidates to apply for the Regional Webmaster position in my first few months as Region VII Regional Director. One of Adeolu’s classmates, then current president of the Yale SMNA chapter, nominated him for that position. I was happy she did. By the end of my year working with him, I was thoroughly impressed by his work ethic and his accomplishments. He was innovative, using various social media platforms to foster further collaboration and communication within the region. He also increased our online presence, by helping to grow our Facebook page twofold, easily by 100 extra persons. He met all deadlines. Throughout the year I had various tasks for the webmaster, and he always finished them punctually. Furthermore because he was managing our Facebook page, he was responsible for responding to the various requests that were filtered through that page and members were always satisfied with his prompt responses to their requests or concerns. These qualities make him a reliable and consistent team player – qualities I believe are absolutely essential for the individual who will oversee the purse strings of the organization and who will have to collaborate closely with the Chairperson of the Board of Directors.

In addition to these personal qualities he holds a skillset essential to the Treasurer position; these are his budgeting and finance skills. He acquired these skills from his work experience and has utilized them well during his time as Associate Regional Director. I’ve always felt that the Treasurer is one of the most important roles in the SNMA for a few reasons. Not only is the financial health of the organization key to allowing SNMA to fulfill its purpose, but also the Treasurer has the opportunity to help mentor and educate us, young minorities on an area which we as individuals and a community consistently struggle to be successful. He has stated much more eloquently than I can the importance of creating and adhering to a detailed budget, and I agree with him wholeheartedly and believe he can do so and much more for the SNMA. Deolu’s easygoing nature, his work ethic, and his skillset make him well suited for the Treasurer position.
In sum, I recommend Adeolu in the highest of terms and without any reservations. I hope you will view his application favorably. He would be a true asset to your leadership team. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any additional information.

Respectfully submitted,

Flavia De Souza
Former Region VII Director
SNMA Region VII
Flavia.desouza@yale.edu
National Secretary

Candidate:

Dantwan Smith

MD Candidate
Ross University School of Medicine

Position is open for additional individuals to run from the floor at the Board of Directors Meeting
January 18, 2015

Student National Medical Association
Elections Committee
5113 Georgia Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20011

To the Elections Committee of the Student National Medical Association:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of my intent on running for the position of National Secretary for the Student National Medical Association for the course of the 2015-2016 year. If elected National Secretary, I plan to enhance the mission of Student National Medical Association which is to diversify the medical field.

It is my wish that I will be elected National Secretary for the Student National Medical Association. Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to speaking with you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Dantwan Smith
Ross University School of Medicine
MD Candidate 2017
1. **What is your understanding of the responsibilities of the position(s) and/or committee(s) for which you are interested?**

   As National Secretary, I understand that I am responsible for recording all meetings minutes verbatim for the Board of Directors. In addition, I am responsible for summarizing the House of Delegates meetings with the exception of motions. I would be responsible for attending all NLI meetings and assisting the chairperson and president with Board of Directors national correspondences. I would assist in the collection of chapter reports, maintain a roll of all Board of Director members in attendance at each meeting, and submit meeting minutes no later than 30 days to the National Headquarters.

2. **If elected or appointed, what goals do you hope to accomplish?**

   If elected National Secretary, I would set a goal for myself to have all meeting minutes submitted to the National Headquarters within 20 days. In addition, it would be critical to record all meeting minutes to where they are 100% correct and interject only if needed to make sure that someone has stated their name for the record. Lastly, as National Secretary I would make sure that documents and/or files would be accessible for the next National Secretary to make the transition as easy as possible. Overall, as National Secretary I plan to enhance the mission of the Student National Medical Association.

3. **Describe any chapter, regional, or national experience that you have had with the SNMA. Also include any non-SNMA experience related to your position.**

   In my chapter at Ross University School of Medicine, I am the Assistant Treasurer and Fundraising Chair. As the Assistant Treasurer, I assist the Senior Treasurer with budgeting, creating and implementing plans that would increase the treasury, sign payment checks, and accept donations/chapter dues. As Fundraising Chair, I create and plan fundraising events that will increase our treasury. In addition, to increasing the treasury I plan to give a donation at the end of the semester to a high school Dominican student who has aspirations of becoming a doctor. Nationally, I am a current fellow in the Future Leader’s Project. In the FLP Program, I have strengthened my weaknesses and enhanced my strengths, especially as recorder. Outside of SNMA, I have held the secretary position for eight years with my local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. I have held the secretary position for a year for the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and Tri Beta Biological Sciences Honor Society. As secretary in each of these organizations, I have been required to record meeting minutes verbatim, reference to old meeting minutes for clarification, distribute meeting minutes within a certain time frame, construct meeting minutes in an orderly fashion, and contribute to the meetings by deliberation and voting.
4. **In your opinion, what are the national organization’s current needs, and how will you contribute to fulfilling each of those needs?**

I believe that the Student National Medical Association should improve on the Pipeline Mentoring Program. There is a grave shortage of African American males in medical school and as physicians. I believe if SNMA would improve on the pipeline mentoring program, there would be more African American males that are in medical school thus more African American males as physicians. In addition, SNMA should improve on recording information such as statistics. SNMA would be able to attract more members and nonprofit organizations if there were statistics to show how many minorities the organization has helped since it has been established. Lastly, SNMA should have better communication on the regional level with chapters that are not on the United States mainland. Many chapters are incapable of attending national conferences or regional conferences due to class schedules and the distance. It would be nice if there were more utilization of technology to provide a better SNMA experience for all members at the national, regional, and chapter level.
Education
M.D., Ross University School of Medicine, Iselin, NJ 2014-present
M.S., University of West Alabama, Livingston, AL 2012-2013
B.S., Mississippi University for Women, Columbus, MS 2010-2011
A.A., East Mississippi Community College, Mayhew, MS 2009-2010

Current Position
Student, Doctor of Medicine Candidate 2017 2014-present
Ross University School of Medicine
Picard, DOM

Professional Experience
Student Researcher, Colon Cancer 2015-present
Ross University School of Medicine
Picard, DOM

Internist, Internal Medicine Physicians of Columbus
Dr. Gregory R. Nunez, M.D.
Columbus, MS

Other Positions and Employment
Call Agent, Sitel, Memphis, TN 2014-2014
Cashier, Exxon, Macon, MS 2012-2014
Sandwich Artist, Macon, MS 2011-2012
Kmart, Columbus, MS 2007-2008

Professional Memberships and Activities
Student Government Association, Ross University 2014-present
Student National Medical Association 2014-present
American Medical Student Association 2014-present
Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Meridian, MS 2014-present
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Macon, MS 2006-present
National Society for Leadership and Success, Miss. U. for Women 2011-2012
Tri Beta Biological Sciences Honor Society, Miss. U. for Women 2010-2011
Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, Exxon, Macon, MS 2009-2011

Other Positions and Employment
Call Agent, Sitel, Memphis, TN 2014-2014
Cashier, Exxon, Macon, MS 2012-2014
Sandwich Artist, Macon, MS 2011-2012
Kmart, Columbus, MS 2007-2008

Honors and Awards
President’s List, University of West Alabama 2012
Dean’s List, University of West Alabama 2012
Dean’s List, Mississippi University for Women 2011
President’s List, Mississippi University for Women 2010
Silver Level, Mississippi Work Readiness Certificate 2010
President’s List, East Mississippi Community College 2009

Committee Assignments and Administrative Services
SGA Historian and Constitution Chair, Ross University 2014-present
Assistant Treasurer, Student National Medical Association, Ross University 2014-present
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising Chair, Student National Medical Association, Ross University</td>
<td>2014-present</td>
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<tr>
<td>Future Leader's Project, Student National Medical Association</td>
<td>2014-present</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Equity Scholar, American Medical Student Association</td>
<td>2014-present</td>
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<tr>
<td>Life Member, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Meridian, MS</td>
<td>2014-present</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People,</td>
<td>2006-2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Macon, MS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary, Tri Beta Biological Sciences Honor Society, Miss. U. for Women</td>
<td>2010-2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, Exxon, Macon, MS</td>
<td>2009-2011</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RE: SNMA National Secretary Candidate Dantwan Smith Recommendation

To Whom it May Concern:

This letter is to serve as a recommendation for Dantwan Smith for the Student National Medical Association National Secretary position. I have had the pleasure to get to know Mr. Smith over this past year and as the former president of the Ross Public Health Student Association and Pediatric Student Association as well as the Ross SNMA treasurer and SNMA pediatric clinic coordinator, I am confident Mr. Smith would be ideal for the position.

Since Mr. Smith arrived at Ross University he has made a conscious effort to bring awareness to minority issues, as well as provide support to minorities. At a time when Ross University student government association (SGA) has decided to cut funding to student organizations, Mr. Smith was able to single handily convince SGA to offer financial support to members of SNMA to attend AMEC. In addition, Mr. Smith is dedicated to excellence within the classroom and within the community. Mr. Smith refuses to settle for mediocre grades; thus, he dedicates much of his time not just trying to memorize material, but to fully understand it. He also, volunteers within the local community offering free health services and he took the initiative to become one of the first, if not the only, SNMA Future Leadership Project Fellow from Ross University.

Mr. Smith is conscientious, reliable, and eager to succeed. Furthermore, he is personable, friendly, and well-liked by his peers. Given his motivation to excel, his organizational skills, and his sterling character, I am certain that he would make a fine addition to the SNMA Board of Directors as National Secretary.

If you would like any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone (310-714-5818) or by email (fhenryala@gmail.com).

Sincerely,

Frank Henry-Ala, MPH
Ross University
Regional Director to the Executive Committee

Candidate:

Camilla Mills

MD Candidate
Morehouse University School of Medicine

Position is open for additional individuals to run from the floor at the Board of Directors Meeting
Camilla Mills  
cmills@msm.edu  

February 12, 2015  

Student National Medical Association  
5113 Georgia Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20011  

Dear Student National Medical Association:  

I, Camilla L. Mills, am writing to express my interest in serving as the 2015-2016 Student National Medical Association Regional Director to the Executive Committee. Since I began medical school three years ago, I have been actively involved with the SNMA. I have served as the MAPS Co-Chair and Chapter President of the Morehouse School of Medicine Chapter of the SNMA and I currently hold the position of SNMA Region IV Director.  

During this time, I have come to learn a great deal about the inner workings of this organization and I have developed the skills necessary to lead and serve within the SNMA at the chapter, regional, and national level. With each passing year, my interest and passion for the SNMA grows stronger and I am ready to take my level of commitment and service to the next level. Please consider my application as I would be honored to serve as the 2015-2016 Student National Medical Association Regional Director to the Executive Committee. Thank you.  

Sincerely,  

Camilla L. Mills  
Doctor of Medicine Candidate 2016  
Morehouse School of Medicine  
Region IV Regional Director, 2014-2016  
Student National Medical Association
Candidate Responses

1. What is your understanding of the responsibilities of the position(s) and/or committee(s) for which you are interested?

Regional Director to the Executive Committee is responsible for properly transitioning incoming Regional Directors (RDs) into their new position as well as being readily accessible and available to address all RDs’ questions and/or concerns. The person in this position must also hold monthly conference calls with all Regional Directors and ensure timely dissemination of all pertinent information between the Executive Committee and the Regional Directors.

They will serve as a voting member of the Executive Committee and attend all meetings. Additionally, they shall confirm regional mandates and requests made during Executive Committee and BOD meetings and distribute them to the RDs.

The Regional Director to the Executive Committee will represent the interests and raise the concerns of the RDs to the Executive Committee as well as facilitate communications of the Executive Committee members with the RDs.

Lastly, they will serve as the Chairperson of the Internal Affairs Committee, coordinate the BOD meetings with the Chairperson of the BOD, as well as provide assistance to the Chairperson of the BOD and SNMA National President in any way needed.

2. If elected or appointed, what goals do you hope to accomplish?

If elected to this position, one of my first and most important goals will be to provide ample time, support and useful resources to the incoming Regional Directors, in an effort to ensure that they receive a comprehensive and successful transition into their new position. I also intend to ensure that all RDs (returning and new) are fully equipped to successfully transition their new regional executive boards.

In addition to regular updates and distribution of important information between the RDs and the Executive Committee, I plan to send out tips for success and solutions to commonly encountered obstacles to all Regional Directors on a monthly basis.

I would like to work with the other Regional Directors to develop collaborative projects/programming to ensure that all regions are thriving and have the tools necessary to carry out the mission of the SNMA as well as region-specific goals. I will also work closely with the Chairperson of the BOD to create innovative and useful ways to communicate with and distribute information to SNMA members within all regions.

In an effort to establish an emergency/rescue fund that can be used by any region that may experience a sudden or unexpected financial hardship, I would also like to create a regional director fundraiser that can be held on an annual basis.

I firmly believe in acknowledging those that work hard, therefore, I will implement creative ways to reward Regional Directors for outstanding leadership and consistent participation in scheduled activities.
(i.e. monthly calls, RD projects). Furthermore, I will continue current projects that will ultimately benefit the SNMA as a whole such as updating of RD Handbook and the Regional Rezoning project.

Lastly as Regional Director to the Executive Committee I will work diligently to serve as a constant source of support to all RDS as well as an efficient communicator of information between the RDs and the Executive Committee.

3. Describe any chapter, regional, or national experience that you have had with the SNMA. Also include any non-SNMA experience related to your position.

Since my first year of medical school, I have been actively involved in the SNMA. As a first year medical student, I served as the 2012-2013 MAPS co-chair for my chapter, Morehouse School of Medicine SNMA. During that time, I aided in the creation of a new MAPS curriculum to be utilized by all MAPS chapters affiliated with MSM-SNMA.

During the 2013-2014 school year, I served as the Morehouse School of Medicine SNMA chapter president and as a member of the National MAPS Committee. During my time as chapter president, I established several new initiatives for my chapter including: Member of the Month (to boost morale and reward members for their dedication and service), Senior Citizen Visitation Day (to provide an opportunity for members to give back to the local community), a chapter newsletter as well as a chapter website (to keep the MSM community and other medical schools abreast of MSM-SNMA activities). Furthermore, under my leadership last school year, I have overseen the successful establishment of several new MAPS chapter.

Currently, during the 20114-2015 school year, I serve as the SNMA Region IV Director. In this role I am responsible for conducting the day-to-day activities of the SNMA Region IV as well as being a voting member of the SNMA Board of Directors. Thus far, I have overseen a successful regional conference, aided in the establishment of several new MAPS chapters within Region IV, as well as developed a Regional Future Leader Project.

4. In your opinion, what are the national organization’s current needs and how will you contribute to fulfilling each of those needs?

I believe that our organization has many great pipelines in place however several of them are not being utilized as well as they could be. I believe that by focusing our attention on the programs that target youth in elementary as well as middle school, we will have an increased opportunity to spark interest in and increase awareness of opportunities for minorities in medicine into these young minds. I intend to contribute to this effort by encouraging all Regional Directors to implement SNMA programming on a regional and chapter level focusing on these younger age groups.

Furthermore, I think that our organization needs to continue its efforts towards successful mentorship and sustainable relationships on all levels starting from young children/pre-medical student to physicians and previous SNMA members currently practicing in their various professions. I would like to assist in these efforts by collaborating with other RDs to pool together our professional contacts and by
reaching out to previous members of our regions to encourage them to be a part of a mentorship program with current SNMA members. I would also encourage our current SNMA members to reach and provide mentorship to pre-medical students and others potentially interested in careers in medicine through our SNMA programs such as BASE, YSEP, MAPS, and HPREP.
Camilla L. Mills
cmills@msm.edu

Education

Morehouse School of Medicine
**Doctorate of Medicine**, expected May 2016

North Carolina Central University
**Master of Science in Biology** (summa cum laude), December 2007
Thesis: The effects of aging on the in vitro metabolism of prototype substrates for xenobiotic metabolizing enzymes in rat liver microsomes.
Advisors: Amal Abu-Shakra, Ph.D.; Michael DeVito, Ph.D.

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro
**Bachelor of Science in Biology**, December 2004

Awards/Honors

William R. Hearst Endowed Scholarship, 2012
Ethelene Jones Crockett Scholarship, 2012
M. Delmar Edwards, M.D. Endowed Scholarship, 2012
FASEB MARC Program Poster/Oral Presentation Travel Award, 2007
NCCU College of Science and Technology Outstanding Graduate Student Award, 2007

Research Experience

Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA
**Summer Research Intern** (June 2013 – July 2013)
- Performed cell isolation and culture of mouse bone marrow dendritic cells
- Performed Western blot analysis
- Utilized immunofluorescence microscopy

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, RTP, NC
**Biologist / NCCU Co-op Student** (May 2006 – Sept. 2007)
- Prepared hepatic microsomes
- Performed various biochemical/enzymatic assays using hepatic microsomes
- Handled laboratory rodents
- Utilized HPLC, mass spectrometry, UV/Vis spectroscopy, and gas chromatography

Work Experience

Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA
**Tutor** (Aug. 2013 – Present)
- Provide tutoring service for current first and second year medical students

Bank of America, East Point, GA
**Teller** (May 2009 – May 2011)
- Processed various monetary transactions for customers
- Provided account maintenance and customer service
- Responsible for greeting customers and providing lobby management when needed
- Referred appropriate financial products and services to customers in relation to their banking needs
North Carolina Central University, Durham, NC

**Adjunct Instructor** (Jan. 2008 – Dec. 2008)

Courses: General Biology for Non-Majors; Molecules and Cell Function
- Presented weekly lectures in accordance with the course text and syllabus
- Set up and conducted weekly laboratory activities
- Administered examinations
- Responsible for creating and grading all lecture and laboratory assignments/examinations
- Held office hours
- Advised and counseled students in various academic affairs

North Carolina Central University, Durham, NC

**Teaching Assistant** (Sept. 2007 – Dec. 2007)

Courses: General Biology I; Molecular Biology of Cells
- Presented pre-laboratory lectures
- Assisted students with weekly laboratory activities
- Administered examinations
- Responsible for grading all laboratory assignments

Maxim Healthcare Services, Greensboro, NC

- Obtained patient vital signs
- Aided patients with bathing, toileting, range of motion exercises, and feeding in hospital and home settings
- Assisted in admissions, transfers, and discharges of patients in physical rehabilitation facility
- Provided basic daily care and companionship to hospice patients
- Worked alongside and assisted physicians and nurses in geriatric, pediatric, and rehabilitation departments, hospice units and nursing home facilities

CDC Team Care Services, Greensboro, NC

- Provided speech and vision therapy for a child with autism
- Assisted client with appropriate community interactions
- Assisted client with oral hygiene, personal care, and other daily living activities

**Extracurricular Activities/Volunteer Experience**

- Pediatrics Interest Group, Morehouse School of Medicine, Community Service Co-chair (June 2013 – May 2014)
- Ob-Gyn Interest Group, Morehouse School of Medicine, Treasurer (2013 – 2014)
- James Densler Surgical Society, Morehouse School of Medicine (2012 – Present)
- American Medical Student Association, Morehouse School of Medicine Chapter (2012 – Present)

The Good Samaritan Health Clinic, Atlanta, GA

**Volunteer** (2012 – Present)
- Triage patients and assist attending physicians in the examination and treatment of patients in low-income clinic

UNC Children’s Hospital, Chapel Hill, NC

**Volunteer**-Pediatric Playroom (May, 2007- Dec. 2007)
- Safely escorted pediatric patients to and from the designated play areas
- Provided pediatric patients with entertainment in the form of games, arts and crafts, conversation, and books
• Directly interacted with children suffering from a variety of illnesses
• Created an enjoyable atmosphere to help patients temporarily escape from their ailments through recreation and companionship

Rex Healthcare, Raleigh, NC

Volunteer - Emergency Department (Feb. 2007-May 2007)
• Assisted staff by restocking supplies in triage rooms
• Provided patients with blankets and fresh water when permitted
• Changed bed linens
• Provided assistance to patients’ families
• Observed and shadowed physicians and nurses in trauma center environment

Professional Organizations
Student National Medical Association - Region IV Director (May 2014 – Present)
Student National Medical Association - Chapter President, Morehouse School of Medicine (June 2013 – May 2014)
Student National Medical Association - Minority Association of Pre-medical Students (MAPS) co – chair, Morehouse School of Medicine (August 2012 – May 2013)
Georgia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (2014-Present)
American Medical Student Association (2012 – Present)

Professional Activities
Student Fiscal Affairs Committee, Morehouse School of Medicine, student representative (2012 – Present)
First Look Committee, Morehouse School of Medicine, Chair (2012 –2014)
Good Samaritan Health Center, MSM Student Clinic Co-director-Physician Coordinator (2013 – 2014)
Academic Committee, Morehouse School of Medicine, student representative (July 2012 – May 2013)

Presentations
Mills, C.L., Ryans, K., Omosun, Y., He, Q. ENO1 and EFABP expression might be an essential component of the immune response to Chlamydia infection. Presented at Morehouse School of Medicine – Summer Research Experience for Medical Students. (2013).

February 12, 2015

RE: Letter of Recommendation for Camilla Mills for the position of RD to the EC

Dear National Elections Committee:

With the greatest enthusiasm I support the candidacy of Ms. Camilla Mills for the position of 2015-2016 Regional Director to the Executive Committee. I have had the pleasure of knowing and working with Ms. Mills for the past administrative year in her role as Region 4 Director (RD4).

In her role as RD4, Ms. Mills has demonstrated her ability to manage a large team and execute her duties as the leader of her region, which spans five states, and the islands of the Caribbean. In speaking to the current RD to the EC, Mr. DaShawn Hickman, I am reassured Ms. Mills is a model RD. She is punctual on all RD calls and submits reports on time. Not only does Ms. Mills satisfy her primary responsibilities but she also volunteers to help the team. She exemplifies this trait by volunteering to assist with the revision of the RD Handbook and even started a regional Future Leadership Project for the members of Region 4. I also had the esteemed pleasure of being invited to participate at this year's Region 4 Conference. While there, I was very impressed at the wide variety of workshops presented and the efficiency of the Region 4 team. I was most impressed by the strong attendance, which boasted more than 260 participants—one of the most successful conferences of this year!

In reviewing the roles and responsibilities of the RD to the EC, I am confident Ms. Mills, if given the opportunity, will serve as an attentive, actively engaged, and outstanding example for the Regional Directors to follow. Her passion and love for the SNMA is unwavering, therefore, I am certain she will bring this same drive and attention to this new role.

Please feel free to contact me for any additional support for Ms. Camilla Mills.

Sincerely,

Topaz Sampson

Topaz Sampson
MD Candidate 2015
Wright State University | Boonshoft School of Medicine

2014-2015 National President
Student National Medical Association
Professional Board Member to the Executive Committee

Candidate:

Vacant

Position is open for additional individuals to run from the floor at the Board of Directors Meeting
Announcing the 2015-2016 Chairperson of the Board of Directors

DaShawn Hickman

MD/PhD Candidate
Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine

Mr. Hickman was elected at the 2015 January Board of Directors Meeting in Tampa, FL. He will be officially sworn in as the Chairperson of the Board of Directors at the Sunday Board of Directors Meeting at the Annual Medical Education Conference. The following pages include Mr. Hickman’s Letter of Intent and CV as a reference for you. This position will be available for interested members at the 2016 January Board of Directors Meeting for the 2016-2017 administrative year. Please join the Elections Committee in congratulating Mr. Hickman on his accomplishments!
December 12, 2014

Student National Medical Association
5113 Georgia Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20011

Re: 2015-2016 Student National Medical Association National Chairperson of the Board of Directors

Dear Student National Medical Association,

I, DaShawn Hickman, am writing to express my intention to serve as the 2015-2016 Student National Medical Association National Chairperson of the Board of Directors. I have spent the last 3 years serving and learning the intricacies of the organization. I am excited and ready to uphold the mission to support current and future underrepresented minority medical students, address the needs of underserved communities, and increase the number of clinically excellent, culturally competent and socially conscious physicians. Please allow me to continue to serve the SNMA as the 2015-2016 National Chairperson of the Board of Directors.

Respectfully,

DaShawn A. Hickman
Student National Medical Association
Region V Director, 2013-15
Regional Director to the Executive Committee, 2014-15
MD/PhD Candidate
Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
region5director@snma.org
Candidate Responses

1. What is your understanding of the responsibilities of the position(s) and/or committee(s) for which you are interested?

The chair of the board of directors (BOD) of the SNMA is in charge of the day-to-day corporate operations of the SNMA. The chair oversees finances, negotiations and contractual agreements. They convene, preside, and design the agenda and logistics for Board of Directors and Executive Committee meetings. They communicate and are the liaison for the Executive Director, Headquarters Staff, and Professional Board Members. They are responsible for coming up with a corporate agenda, assisting with the development of the annual report and a plan for representation at the NMA convention. They work closely with the convention planning committee to plan the Annual Medical Education Conference (AMEC), give a speech during the BOD banquet at AMEC, and verify and announce election results, constitutional amendments and resolutions and sign the house minutes so that the House of Delegates (HOD) can adjourn during AMEC. The chair of the BOD is also required to perform other duties deemed necessary by the BOD and HOD required to implement the constitution and its bylaws.

2. If elected or appointed, what goals do you hope to accomplish?

If elected as Chair I will spend the time before I take office speaking to past chairs and officers forming a comprehensive corporate agenda that details the goals I hope to accomplish during my term. Some of those goals currently include:

- Development of a Chapter President Transition Checklist
  - Chapters are at the forefront of the SNMA carrying out the programs and protocols that are established by the National Organization. It’s important that they are efficient, organized and are given the tools that they need to be successful. Many of our chapters have the potential to be great but aren’t because their Presidents weren’t transitioned properly into their roles. I would like for there to be a document that list the essential information that should be passed down from one Chapter President to the next.

- Plan for the refunding of Endowments
  - Some members before us have such a passion for the SNMA and the availability of funds to gift the SNMA with endowments. In the past SNMA has depleted these funds that were meant to be a permanent addition to the SNMA’s financial portfolio. I would like to implement a plan to redevelop these endowment funds.

- Increase organization and accountability to increase efficiency
  - I think as an organization there are systematic things that slow us all down. Such as searching for information, reports, etc. I would like to increase our organization to help with our efficiency. For example, standardizing Board of Director Report names would save time in BOD meetings (and when reviewing reports before and/or after BOD meetings) when searching for reports.
Having a system to ensure accountability so that reports are turned in on time would help ensure that the BOD have the opportunity to view reports before the BOD meeting, will be more familiar with the reports and will spend less time asking unnecessary questions. An example of a system of accountability could be the loss of the free upgrade to a suite during AMEC (for officers this applies to) if all reports are not submitted on time.

- Enhancing communication between levels of the SNMA (Members, Chapters, Regions, BOD, HQ, etc.)
  - The SNMA needs to be able to communicate on all levels and in all directions. Currently, Regional Directors can only communicate to their members by asking Chapter Presidents to disseminate information to their members, which is not timely, efficient, nor reliable. The National Office does have the ability to email all of its members. I plan to make sure there is a system in place for Regional Directors to email of their members.

- Track Active Chapters
  - The SNMA is currently not 100% sure who our active chapters are. We have lists that include some chapters that should be removed. I plan to ensure we have a system to capture all of our active chapters and to track them so that our list stays up-to-date. The lists should also be accessible to the general public. Often Regional Directors encounter schools that are under the impression that they have an active SNMA chapter, but we have no record of them ever being active. If there was a list of active chapters available schools would be able to notice they weren’t on it and apply to be chapters, or at the very least, inquire why they aren’t on the list.

3. Describe any chapter, regional, or national experience that you have had with the SNMA. Also include any non-SNMA experience related to your position.

I have served as a general member of the SNMA as part of the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine Chapter. Here I served as a Checkout Session Committee Chair where my responsibilities included coordinating 30 minutes session between every interviewing self-identified underrepresented minority student and the SNMA and Latino Medial Student Association members. I also served as a co-founder and coordinator for the Minority Mentor Match Program, a program that is designed to assist underrepresented minority medical students in identifying and maintaining minority mentors. Minority mentors serve as role models and a resource for support with whom students feel comfortable developing individualized, long term relationships. The formation of these relationships help establish a culture of unity among our minority medical community.

I served as Chapter Co-President for the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. During this year our chapter won Regional Chapter of the year and I was awarded Chapter President of the year. The same year I served as Regional Conference Planning Committee Co-Chair. Through this position I gained experience putting on a SNMA conference. I was also selected as a Region V Future Leadership Project Fellow. Through this position I served as an associate member of the Region V Board and as the Vice Chair of
the Regional Finance Committee. Through this position I gained experience being a part of the regional board and learned more about how the SNMA operates.

I went on to be elected as Region V Director. Through this position I have had the opportunity to interact with and serve on the Board of Directors. I am currently serving in the second year of my term and was elected as the Regional Director to the Executive Committee. Here I have the opportunity to become familiar with the executive committee.

Outside of the SNMA, I have served on the Board of Directors for Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. as the Eastern Region Assistant Vice President. This gave me experience serving on the board of a non-profit organization.

4. In your opinion, what are the national organization’s current needs, and how will you contribute to fulfilling each of those needs?

In my opinion the national organization’s greatest needs are better officer transitions, better communication, and a strong alumni network.

I would like to help with officer transitions by coming up with a list of items that need to be transitioned from one person holding an office to the next. There are mandated transition meetings that happen for National Chairs at the moment, but I think this could be improved upon, and should be more formal for Regional Directors and Chapter Presidents (as mentioned in question 2). Much of an officer’s time is spent learning their new role and discovering information that their predecessors know when that time could be better spent progressing the SNMA.

For the National Officers to do their jobs adequately they need to understand the needs of the members and for the members to most effectively carry out the mission and protocols of the SNMA they need the information distributed to them. Currently the SNMA has a piece meal communication system. We essentially rely on a “telephone tree” with unreliable branches. I plan to ensure that YourMembership is utilized so that Regional Directors can communicate directly with their regional members.

The SNMA members go on to become successful doctors with institutional SNMA memory, mentoring potential and the ability to donate to the SNMA. We have already begun to do this, but I plan to help come up with a system to keep track of our alumni and create a network of alumni that we can communicate with for structural, mentoring, and financial support.
DaShawn Antwane Hickman  
Email: dashawn.hickman@case.edu

### Education

**Case Western Reserve University**, Cleveland, OH  
Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) expected May 2017  
Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) expected May 2019

**Yale University**, New Haven, CT  
**Bachelor of Science**, Biomedical Engineering Awarded May 2009

**A.C. Flora High School**, Columbia, SC  
High School Diploma Awarded May 2005  
International Baccalaureate Diploma Awarded May 2005

### Research Experience

**Department of Internal Medicine/Gastroenterology and Hepatology, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Research Technician**  
Little Rock, AR, Feb 2011–May 2011  
- Principle Investigator: Jonathan Dranoff, MD  
- Perform functional and molecular studies on bile duct epithelia and portal fibroblast  
- Develop models examining the interaction of bile duct epithelia and portal fibroblast  
- Independent Literature Review  
- Present research in formal lab meetings

**Department of Internal Medicine/Digestive Diseases, Yale University, Postgraduate Associate**  
New Haven, CT, July 2009– Jan 2011  
- Principle Investigator: Jonathan Dranoff, MD  
- Perform functional and molecular studies on bile duct epithelia and portal fibroblast  
- Develop models examining the interaction of bile duct epithelia and portal fibroblast  
- Independent Literature Review  
- Present research in formal lab meetings

**Department of Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry, Yale University, Student Researcher**  
New Haven, CT, Jan 2008–May 2009  
Principle Investigator: Scott Strobel, PhD  
Traveled to Ecuadorian Rainforest to collect plants from which endophytes were isolated.  
Independently designed project based on research in current natural product drug discovery.  
Isolate microorganisms and characterize using DNA sequencing and phylogenetic analysis.  
Perform solvent extractions and fractionations to isolate compounds.  
Present progress in formal lab meetings.  
Developing new media for easy isolation of fungi and bacteria

**Department of Molecular Cellular and Developmental Biology, Yale University, Student Researcher**  
New Haven, CT, May 2006– Aug 2006  
Principle Investigator: Martin Garcia-Castro PhD  
Characterized protein Pax7 in comparison to Sox2  
Performed microsurgery on chicken and quail embryos, node grafting, probe synthesis, immunohistochemistry, polymerase chain reactions, and fluorescent imaging
Papers Published

- **Hickman DA**, Gaurav S, Fausther M, Lavoie EG, Goree J, Storrie B, Dranoff JA. 2014. MCP-1 downregulates mmp-9 export via vesicular redistribution to lysosomes in rat portal fibroblast, *Physiol Rep*. Accepted

Poster Presentations


Extracurricular

Student National Medical Association – Regional Director, Regional Director to the Executive Committee, CWRU Chapter Co-President
Latino Medical Student Association – CWRU Chapter Co-President
CWRU Committee of Student Representatives – Treasurer
Peer Handoff – Coordinator
CWRU SOM Admissions – Student Interviewer, Tour Guide
Horizons – Mentor
MSTP Council – MSTP entering c/o 2015 Rep
Doc Opera – Director, Choreographer, Dancer

Skills

To the SNMA Elections Committee and Board of Directors:

It is with the highest honor and with great pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation for DaShawn Antwane Hickman for his candidacy for the Student National Medical Association Chairperson of the Board of Directors for the 2015-2016 administration. DaShawn has demonstrated excellent leadership within the Student National Medical Association (SNMA) on the local, regional and national levels. As both an active member and leader in the organization, DaShawn has engaged directly with SNMA membership and gained a comprehensive and in-depth understanding of the SNMA infrastructure. Given his extensive experience coupled with his organizational knowledge, I am confident that DaShawn will certainly excel in his leadership of the Board of Directors (BOD) and the national organization.

In my first interaction with DaShawn almost three years ago at a National Leadership Institute. I recall being struck by his level of his commitment and his astute perspective of the organization. As the then SNMA chapter co-president for Case Western Reserve University, he recognized early on the importance of membership development at the chapter level, participation at the regional level and integration at the national level. While overseeing one of the most active chapters in Region V, he increased chapter membership and initiated business-level discussions among the regional board. Following his year as chapter co-president he was elected to a two-year term as Region V Director.

During his first year as Region V Director he quickly learned the responsibilities of being a national officer and became a standard figure among BOD members for his dedication and steadfastness. It is his second year, while concurrently serving as the Regional Director to the Executive Committee that DaShawn evolved as a national officer and emerged as a leader well prepared to direct the corporate entity of SNMA. In working alongside DaShawn on the BOD in my previous capacity as National Vice-President and collaborating with him in my current role as Future Leadership Project Co-Director, what I recognize most is his preparedness and thoroughness. From fully reading all national officer reports, to speaking with current and alumni BOD members. DaShawn often pursues multiple perspectives and outside resources to make informed decisions. He diligently listens to positive aspects and possible obstacles in every discussion to ensure the best outcome for the organization. Always the team player, he advocates for his Region V members, while also acting as a willing facilitator between general members, regional officers and national leadership. Furthermore, he strives to strengthen his regional chapters and fortify all the regions by his assessment of their programmatic activity and financial productivity. It is evident of his clear understanding that the continual evolution of the national organization is contingent on chapter growth and regional progression.

DaShawn also holds additional organization experience from his academic pursuits, campus participation and community involvement. As an M.D./Ph.D candidate he excels in the classroom and research projects via his organizational and time management skills. Outside of SNMA, he was also the Latino Medical Student Association chapter co-president, treasurer for the Committee of Student Representatives and served as the School of Medicine Admissions Committee student interviewer and tour guide. Students, faculty and administration alike recognize his leadership abilities and even more appreciate his passion for academic excellence, community service and professional diversity, all fundamental tenets of the SNMA mission.

His many years of SNMA leadership and organization experience will serve him well in the position of Chairperson of the BOD. The Chairperson oversees the fiduciary arm of the national organization and the efforts of the board members. The high level of fiscal responsibility and frequent interaction with national officers and corporate entities will come naturally to DaShawn, with his business acumen and ability to work well with multiple people within various scenarios. He demonstrates the necessary balance of financial intelligence and programmatic familiarity that is essential in the appropriate development of a corporate agenda in consideration on an Executive Agenda. As he will be charged with business decisions for the organization, DaShawn will certainly continue to properly synthesize all information, contemplate multiple perspectives and consider the impact of those decisions on the members, regions, employees and the entire national organization. Above all, DaShawn will direct the organization with a skill set that only a few possess- the ability to lead not with just a current agenda but a visionary template in order to ensure the long term growth and permanence of the organization. His leadership skills, personal characteristics and dedication to SNMA will inspire the membership and national leadership to actively promote the mission of SNMA.
I am honored to call DaShawn a colleague and even more honored to call him a friend. He is a truly wonderful person and it has been a pleasure to work alongside him and watch him develop into a phenomenal leader. I greatly anticipate his leadership of the Student National Medication Association as the next Chairperson of the Board of Directors.

Yours in SNMA,

Priscilla Mpasi

Priscilla M. Mpasi, M.D.
University of Maryland Children’s Hospital
Pediatric Resident, PGY-1

Student National Medical Association
Future Leadership Project Director, 2014-2015
National Vice-President, 2013-2014