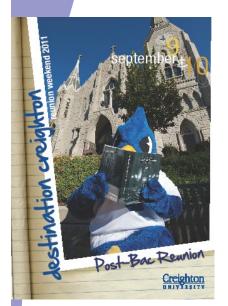
Edited/ Design by: Sade Kosoko-Lasaki Channing Bunch





In Collaboration with: School of Dentistry School of Medicine School of Pharmacy and Health Professions

HS-MACA Linkage

Fall 2011

Post-Baccalaureate/Pre-Matriculation Alumni "The Past to the Present"

This semester we celebrated the fifth Post Baccalaureate/Pre-Matriculation reunion in our department of Health Sciences Multicultural and Community Affairs (HS-MACA). It was a great joy to see the alumni and to spend some quality time with each other. The family and friends that came to the reunion also added to our joy.

As every good thing must come to an end, we bade farewell and happy retirement to Mrs. Sheryl MacBean, the Post-baccalaureate/Pre-Matriculation English professor of over 10 years. We wish Mrs. MacBean the very best in her future endeavors.

We conclude this year by reflecting on the words of Margaret Thatcher (the iron Lady of British Politics), "We want a society where people are free to make choices, to make mistakes, to be generous and compassionate. This is what we mean by a moral society....." This is what we consider when we think about the wonderful students that have been blessed to be a part of HS-MACA. We are grateful to you for allowing us to be part of your education and wish you a happy holidays.

Sade Kosoko-Lasaki, MD, MSPH, MBA, FAASS

Associate Vice President



Post—Baccalaureate Programs

PRE-MEDICAL

Seven Pre-Medical Post-Baccalaureate Program students, out of a pool of eighty-three applicants, were admitted to the fee-driven Pre-Medical program. As a part of the Post-Baccalaureate Program, students were engaged in a 13-month review of science, biology, chemistry and physics as well as Pre-Medical College Admission Test Verbal Reasoning preparations. Students also were exposed to health professions in a primary care setting and participated in a summer Pre-Matriculation program. The areas of study in the Pre-Matriculation program are anatomy, microbiology, neurology, micro cell biology, host defense, pharmacology and academic excellence. Students are given a \$40,000 scholarship over a four year period based on their successful completion of the Post-Baccalaureate program. This year, five of these students will matriculate into Creighton University School of Medicine, one student has deferred admission for medical reasons and one student has matriculated in graduate school for a PhD in Medical Microbiology.

PRE-DENTAL

Seven Pre-Dental Post-Baccalaureate students were admitted into this fee-driven Pre-Dental Program, out of an applicant pool of 55 students. Students were engaged in a 13 month review of science, biology, chemistry, and perpetual ability review as well as Pre-Dental Admission Test (DAT) Preparations. Students also were exposed to health professions in dental care settings and a Pre-Matriculation program of study. The Pre-Matriculation summer subjects are Gross—anatomy, academic excellence, histology, biochemistry, dental anatomy and dental materials. Students are awarded scholarships based on their successful completion of the program. Six of these students will matriculate into Creighton University School of Dentistry. One student withdrew from the program.

PRE-MATRICULATION

In the summer of 2011, a total of 21 students participated in the Pre-Matriculation program: five Pre-Pharmacy, one Pre-Physical Therapy, one Pre-Occupational Therapy, seven Pre-Medical and seven Pre-Dental students. The 2010–2011 program year was another successful one: six students matriculated into dental school, and five matriculated into medical school. We are proud to announce that 100% of the SPAHP Pre-Matriculation program participants received scholarships and have matriculated to their schools of choice.

The year 2011 was a great year for the Post-Baccalaureate program. The second Post-Baccalaureate Pre-Dental class (class of 2006) graduated from Creighton University's School of Dentistry. All the students have secured positions as general dentists in private practice. The second SPAHP Pre-Matriculation students (class of 2006) also graduated with degrees in Pharmacy and have secured employment at various pharmacies across the nation. Three students from the Pre-Medical Post-Baccalaureate class of 2006 also graduated from Creighton University's School of Medicine. The students have been matched in residency in Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, and Orthopedic Surgery.

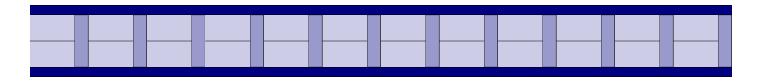
Tracking Pre-medicial Post-Baccalaureate Program HS-MACA July 2000 – June 2011

Total of	Total	Total	Total	Total	*Primary Care	Other	+Unknown
Number	number in	number in	number in	number	Specialties	Post	where-
Post-	Clinical	Residency	Medical	of		Graduate	abouts
baccalaure-	Practice		School	Current		Programs	
ate Stu-				Students			
dents							
84	24	11	26	7	27	6	10

States where students are practicing medicine: Alaska, California, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, South Dakota, Texas, South Carolina, North Carolina, Wisconsin and Vermont
*Primary Care is defined as family practice, internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, and pediatrics

This number includes some students who did not complete the Post began layrests and for medical

+ This number includes some students who did not complete the Post baccalaureate and/or medical school curriculum whose whereabouts cannot be determined

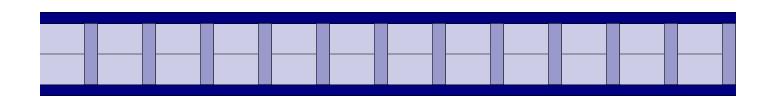


<u>Tracking Pre-dental Post-Baccalaureate Program</u> HS-MACA July 2005 – June 2011

Total Number	Total	Total	Total Number of	Other Post	+Unknown
of Post-	Number in	Number in	Current Students	Graduate	whereabouts
baccalaureate	Clinical	Dental		Programs	
Students	Practice	School			
42	8	26	5	0	3

States where students are practicing dentistry: California, Kansas, Texas, Hawaii, Iowa

+ This number includes some students who did not complete the post baccalaureate and/or dental school curriculum and whose whereabouts cannot be determined



Summary of Post Baccalaureate and Pre-matriculation Reunion 2011

The Department of Health Sciences Multicultural and Community Affairs (HS-MACA) hosted the 5th Annual Post-Baccalaureate/Pre-matriculation reunion on Friday, September 9, 2011, and the individuals who attended had a wonderful time. The reunion, which is held every other year, was at Creighton University's Harper Center. There were 75 alumni in attendance. Most of these attendees were notified through e-mail, mail, Facebook and phone call invitations. Dr. Sade Kosoko-Lasaki, Associate Vice President for the Health Sciences and the Director of the program since the year 2000, acted as the Mistress of Ceremonies. Other dignitaries from Creighton University who attended the function included Dr. Chris Bradberry, Dean School of Pharmacy and Health Professions, and Dr. Jeffrey Sugimoto, Professor and Chairman of the Department of Surgery who provided words of wisdom in welcoming the alumni. In addition, former Associate Dean for Admission in the medical school Dr. Henry Nipper reminded the attendees' about the rich history of Late Dr. John T. Elder and his vision for the Post baccalaureate since forty years ago.

The alumni were also graced by the presence of Creighton faculty and staff, parents, spouses and significant others. The keynote speaker for the occasion was Dr. Victoria Roche, Senior Associate Dean for the School of Pharmacy and Health Professions, who brought an uplifting talk on "Taking PRIDE in You". Her speech is detailed in this newsletter. The evening ended with the recognition and honor of Mrs. Sheryl MacBean who was retiring from the program. Mrs. MacBean taught Analytic Reading for over 10 years.

The evening concluded with socials, food and entertainment.



Reunion 2011 Agenda

Friday—September 9, 2011

Reception—5:00pm—6:00pm Harper Center 3rd floor, Room 3023 Dinner—6:30pm—8:30pm

Program:

Welcome Dr. Sade Kosoko-Lasaki, MD, MSPH, MBA, FAASS

Dean(s) and Vice President(s)

Post Baccalaureate/Pre-matriculation Update Dr. Sade Kosoko-Lasaki

"Self' Introductions Attendees

Dr. John T. Elder Endowed Scholarship Fund Dr. Sade Kosoko-Lasaki

Guest Speaker Dr. Victoria Roche, PhD

Senior Associate Dean

School of Pharmacy and Health Professions

Introduction of Current Class

Andrea Armstrong—Predental Matthew Sugimoto—Pre-medical

Words of Advice Captain Margaret Calloway, MD (Class of 1985)

Associate Dean for Recruitment and Admissions Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences

Recognition of Retiring Faculty Mrs. Sheryl MacBean

Closing Remarks Dr. Sade Kosoko-Lasaki

Saturday—September 10, 2011

Healthy Living Walk 10:30am—12:00pm

Hixson—Lied Science building

Lunch—12:00 (noon) - 1:00pm

Honoring Sheryl MacBean for Many Years of Service





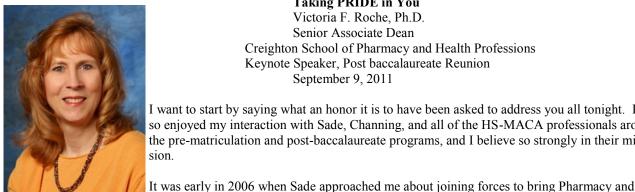
Dr. Chris BradberryDean
School of Pharmacy and Health Professions



Dr. Jeffrey SugimotoChairman
Department of Surgery Professor of Surgery



Dr. Henry NipperDirector of Clinical Chemistry and Toxicology



Taking PRIDE in You Victoria F. Roche, Ph.D. Senior Associate Dean Creighton School of Pharmacy and Health Professions Keynote Speaker, Post baccalaureate Reunion September 9, 2011

I want to start by saying what an honor it is to have been asked to address you all tonight. I have so enjoyed my interaction with Sade, Channing, and all of the HS-MACA professionals around the pre-matriculation and post-baccalaureate programs, and I believe so strongly in their mis-

Health Professions into the pre-matriculation fold. Now, you may or may not know us both well but, let me assure you, we are not women to sit around and let grass grow under our feet! By June of that year we had identified the first two of what would become 27 students who have matriculated into our Pharmacy, OT or PT programs after having been academically and culturally enriched by their 8-week campus-based summer intensive. As you know, the summer intensive experiences are designed to reinforce foundational skills in basic mathematics, a variety of sciences, reading and writing, academic success and cultural competence, as appropriate to the various disciplines. The faculty members mentoring these students in their summer coursework have been totally awesome, and all of us are so indebted to them for their dedication to your success. If any of these faculty members are in the audience tonight, I would ask them to stand so that we can appropriately acknowledge them with our applause.

Students admitted to the SPAHP Pre-Matriculation program also shadow several innovative practitioners in the Metro area in order to become exposed to high level practice opportunities, clinical mentors, and potential career tracks. Our students have told us that this has been a real highlight of the summer program. I believe spending even a brief amount of time with these clinical mentors has inspired them to dream big when it comes to career goals. As of September of this year, 21 pharmacy students, 3 Occupational Therapy students and 3 Physical Therapy students have matriculated into our School. Of these 27 pre-matriculation students, 7 have graduated, 10 have been on the Dean's list at least once (and most of them multiple times), and 2 have been elected to membership in academic honor societies. I know all of our health sciences programs can boast similar successes.

What I love best about this program, in addition to the opportunity it's given me to meet and teach such inspiring students, is how it nurtures the concept of the interprofessional health care team right from the get-go. We're all aware of how essential it is to optimum care outcomes that providers work collaboratively, and put the patient at the epicenter of everything they do. Patient centered collaboration demands that practitioners respect one another's talents and the unique knowledge and skills they bring to the health care table. They need to put aside the notion of having all the needed answers or learned opinions, and proactively look to engage every provider (and the patient himself or herself) in that patient's well-being. And what better place to begin to inculcate those values, to promulgate interdisciplinary respect and understanding, to build those allimportant professional relationships, than at the very beginning. From what I've seen, the friendships being forged between students of varying disciplines through the pre-matriculation and post-baccalaureate programs are the springboard to professional associations that will meet the IOM's goal of true patient centered team based care. You are ahead of the curve. For everyone's benefit, stay there...and bring others along with you.

Talent and potential know no boundaries. They are gifts not restricted to people from any one walk of life, any one ethnic or socioeconomic background, or any one lifestyle or family circumstance. One thing I've learned in my 30 years teaching at Creighton is that students who know how to face obstacles head on without getting themselves worked up into a foam, and then overcome them, are our greatest success stories.

So...how many in the audience have overcome at least one major life obstacle to be sitting here in this ballroom right now? Quite a few?? I thought so. And, while some of those obstacles may have had their traumatic moments, I'm convinced that they built the strength, perseverance, and character that you are all bringing to your respective professions. I don't care how naturally smart or well resourced you are...everyone (and I mean everyone) will eventually come across a brain buster problem or a challenging professional situation that has the potential to throw them for a loop. And if they haven't learned how to stay calm in the face of uncertainty, how to identify and utilize the resources around them when those resources may be less than optimal, and how to logically reason their way to a viable solution to the problem at hand, then where the heck are we?

So my message tonight is that, no matter what your program of study, everyone involved with the Creighton pre-matriculation and post-baccalaureate programs takes tremendous PRIDE in you. As I thought about that in preparation for this talk, five qualities observed so regularly in all of you that justify our PRIDE literally jumped right out at me.

PRIDE: P-R-I-D-E

P stands for Persistence:

Calvin Coolidge, the 30th U.S. President said of this quality:

"Nothing in this world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not... Genius will not... Education will not... Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent. The slogan "press on" has solved and always will solve the problems of the human race."

There is nothing more inspiring to me personally than someone who just refuses to give up when the going gets tough. I teach a subject that's viewed as 'challenging' in the pharmacy curriculum...medicinal chemistry...and some students claim they work harder than they ever had before to get scores they feel good (or at least relieved) about.

I remember one student who, several years ago, struggled and, quite frankly, didn't earn a passing score in the class. This failing grade caused her to be dismissed from our program but she was reinstated upon appeal to our faculty. When she enrolled in this class as a repeating student, she reached out on day 1 for the extra assistance she needed. She would not be denied that degree and that profession she cared so much about! As a result of our regular meetings, I could watch her intellectual and professional growth, and was able to share in the elation she felt as she began to understand things had been pure jibberish to her a year before. She earned a B in that class, and I have never been prouder of anyone in my entire life. I was an author on the course textbook, and I lent her a desk copy to use that year. At the end of it all, I gave it to her as a reminder that her persistence, coupled with her inner strength, was going to allow her to do absolutely anything she set her mind to in the future. That pride only intensified as I watched her being hooded at our School's graduate recognition ceremony, and receive her diploma the following day at the University Commencement Exercises. No one deserved that diploma more, and I would feel 110% confident to have her attending to my healthcare needs and those of my family.

R stands for Resilience:

I like optimistic people, and I always equate the quality of resilience with a spirit of optimism and hope. Resilient people are never defeated when things don't go their way. Rather, they analyze cause and effect and gain valuable life lessons that assure success the next time around. My resilient students are those who bring in a disappointing exam paper to just talk through the concepts behind any errors they made so they can learn and do better the next time. If anyone brings up points, it's me.

They're also the ones who can face some pretty unspeakable personal tragedies...losing a child or spouse, caring for a dying parent, dealing with the dissolution of a once-solid marriage, facing a devastating diagnosis ...and somehow find the strength to make progress in their studies. I have known students who have bravely faced all of these heart-wrenching life events and soldiered on, taking advantage of the resources available to assist them but always looking to the future as they dealt with their own present.

Resilient people make lemonade out of life's lemons, find balance and peace in a chaotic and often unjust world, and they are an inspiration to those of us who have walked through life pretty much blessed the whole way.

Let's take to heart the wisdom of that great philosopher "Anonymous" who is quoted as saying said: "The bend in the road isn't the end of the road unless you refuse to take the turn."

I stands for Ingenuity

Ingenuity, along with its close companion, creativity, is the cherry on the sundae of intelligence. It's one thing to know your facts and figures. To quote signs & symptoms, drug facts, modalities and interventions, or the steps required to complete a complicated surgical or dental procedure. Those things are all important...no doubt about it. But ingenuity is what saves the day when you're faced with a patient care problem that's outside the norm or which isn't "textbook". Ingenious people know their stuff so well that they're able to adapt their knowledge competently to almost any situation. They've internalized the take home messages from the classroom and clinic, and have developed a tacit understanding of their professional expertise that allows them to approach each patient with confidence that they'll be able to do something to help. Ingenious people are usually good listeners too, because they don't starting worrying if they know enough to professionally address a care problem the moment the patient starts talking.

People who are ingenious have sometimes developed that quality because they've had to do without. But, because they are also persistent, resilient and resourceful (another 'R' word), they've figured out how to sort out the 'need to know' from the 'nice to know', home in on what matters, and nail it.

As the Reverend Bob Richards, a two-time Olympic gold medalist known as the "Vaulting Vicar" once said: "Ingenuity plus courage plus work equals miracles."

D stands for Dedication:

The well known objectivist author Ayn Rand gave us a memorable example of determination when she said "The question is not who is going to <u>let</u> me, it's who is going to <u>stop</u> me."

From their first days on the Creighton campus through the completion of their academic programs, I have seen so much dedication from the pre-matriculation & post-baccaluareate students. Everyone shows it in their own way. Some demonstrate dedication to their studies by putting in the long hours it takes to be prepared for class, succeed on an exam, or shine in the clinic. Some demonstrate dedication to fellow students by tutoring and mentoring those who have come after them. Some demonstrate dedication to their School and profession through elected leadership positions, and some demonstrate it by finding time to give back to others in need in their community. All of these ways are important and valued.

It may seem easy to be dedicated when you feel energized, when your patients are compliant and appreciative, when things are going well in your life. However, as a health care professional, you'll be called upon to be dedicated to your patients at times when it is inconvenient or even downright difficult. Dedication is not something you clock in and out of depending upon your mood or what else is going on that day. Inherent in the quality is a mindful and voluntary immersion in your chosen profession and a full-time commitment to excellence, with no excuses, no exceptions.

Siddhatha Gautama (Buddha) instructed us all as follows: "Your work is to discover your world, and then with all your heart, give yourself to it."

E stands for Enthusiasm:

There isn't anything we do in life that can't be improved by approaching it enthusiastically. Investment guru Charles Schwab said it this way: "A man (or woman) can succeed at almost anything for which he (or she) has unlimited enthusiasm".

I started this talk by noting how important it is for health care professionals to work collaboratively and honor the quality outcomes mandate for team-based care. Enthusiasm for one's work can be a rallying point around which we can build these teams. While I don't necessarily like the entire quote, Mary Kay Ash (the founder of Mary Kay cosmetics) was trying to get at this point when she said that "A mediocre idea that generates enthusiasm will go further than a great idea that inspires no one." Perhaps a more quality-focused way to consider this trait was voiced by world historian Arnold Toynbee, who said "enthusiasm can only be aroused by two things: first, an ideal, with takes the imagination by storm, and second, a definite intelligible plan for carrying that ideal into practice."

In other words...think big, think quality, and then act on those thoughts and ideas as though everything important depended on them. Please note that, in Toynbee's definition, there's work involved. You can't just be a cheerleader for your good ideas. You've got to roll up your sleeves, figure out the way to make them happen, and then lead the charge.

But since, in addition to enthusiastic, you're all persistent, resilient, ingenious and dedicated, that should present no problem whatsoever!

I'll close simply by thanking you for being the outstanding and inspiring students you are. Please be assured of the tremendous PRIDE we all take in you, and promise yourselves that you will always strive to exhibit the qualities that the word PRIDE embodies.

My Experience as a Post baccalaureate Student By Valerie A. Pierre, Pre-medical 2011-2012

Prior to attending Creighton University's Post baccalaureate Premedical Program, I knew that I had a strong desire to pursue a career in medicine, but I wasn't exactly sure how I was going to bring my goal into fruition. Some poor undergraduate grades coupled with not very stellar MCAT scores threatened my dream of becoming a physician, making me an atrisk medical school candidate and hindering my chances of being accepted anywhere.

I went to a very well-known undergraduate university and graduated with a Bachelors of Science degree in Biology. I took a few years off after graduating from college to explore my passions of traveling and working abroad as well as working at home in the Washington D.C. metropolitan area in various medical jobs. I knew that I was dedicated to pursuing a career in medicine but realistically also recognized that I needed additional preparation to gain an acceptance and ensure my success in medical school. Through much prayer and time, I came upon Creighton University's HS-MACA program while surfing the internet. I was inspired by the office's mission and goals and impressed by their level of success in matriculating and graduating underrepresented and disadvantaged students in the health sciences professional schools at Creighton. After getting the opportunity to meet and speak to some of the program's staff at an AAMC Fair in Washington, D.C., I knew that Creighton was an excellent place for me to be.

So far, I can truly say that the program has exceeded all of my expectations! My classmates and I are constantly being challenged by the program director, Dr. Sade Kosoko-Lasaki, the program staff, Mr. Channing Bunch and Mr. Jeffrey Lang, and our professors, to aim high and exceed our own expectations for achieving our goals. I truly feel that the preparation I am receiving in this program will prove invaluable to me not only as a future medical student, but also as a conscious, well-rounded physician. We are taking review classes in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Writing in addition to Cultural Competency/Cultural Awareness, Academic Excellence and Analytical Reading. It's definitely a lot of work but doable and excellent preparation not only for the MCAT exam that we will be taking during the Spring semester, but also for our professional schools that we will be matriculating into. I know that I speak not only for myself, but my classmates as well, when I say that I feel privileged and grateful to be in this program and am thankful to receive all of the outstanding support from HS-MACA and former post baccalaureate alumni.

Aside from studying, my classmates and I have been fortunate to bond with one another and enjoy Omaha. We're a pretty diverse group, and we represent all of the continental regions of the United States and Hawai'i. We've become pretty close since the summer when we first had a potluck dinner and Fourth of July celebration complete with our own private fireworks! We often watch our Kaplan MCAT class together and go out to eat for lunch and/or dinner. A classmate's mom always bakes us homemade treats too! We're supportive of one another, and I have to say that my transition moving from the D.C. area to Omaha has been relatively smooth. I am excited to be a student in the post baccalaureate program at Creighton, and I know that Creighton is the best place for me to be at this time in my life both personally and professionally. I am confident that through hard work, dedication, and perseverance, my classmates and I will be successful in obtaining all of our goals.

My Path to Success By Andrea Armstrong, Pre-dental 2011-2012

The Post-Baccalaureate program has guided me toward a path of success. Prior to my arrival at Creighton, I was under the false impression that this program would focus primarily on the sciences. While we have definitely strengthened the level of knowledge in our science courses, I have been pleased to find out that the faculty, mentors, and other participants in this program seek to develop well-rounded individuals.

There are five pre-dental and seven pre-medical students in the program this year. I did not expect to build the friendships I have built in this program. My fellow classmates

have been a strong support system, and our relationships continue to strengthen as the year goes on. I am surrounded by people who want to see me succeed. We all work really well as a team, and each of us have different strengths that we bring to the table. Within the pre-dental group, we were all initially fearful of the standardized test we have to pass in order to get into dental school. Throughout the year we have learned the study strategies and techniques that work best for each individual, as well as the group. I am truly blessed to be surrounded by people who genuinely care about each other's well-being.

Much of my success so far can be attributed to the encouragement of the faculty and mentors. Their constant encouragement and guidance has significantly increased my confidence in my ability to succeed in dental school. Before this program, I had constant doubt. I feared that my dream of becoming a dentist was out of reach. I now have a completely different attitude toward what I am capable of. I have recognized that my past study habits and strategies were not nearly as effective as the new techniques I have learned. In one of my courses, Academic Success, we focus on learning helpful study strategies. I quickly learned that so much of what I did in the past was ineffective. I am now confident in my ability to not just get by in dental school but to thrive.

Professionalism, leadership, dedication, and discipline are necessary criteria in order to maintain well-roundedness and success in the dental profession. Before this program, the inconsistencies in my life were a direct reflection of my lack of dedication. In the courses, as well as mentoring sessions, I have learned just how successful I can be when I put my mind to it. Professionalism has a great deal to do with maturity. I can honestly say that my maturity level coming into this program was not near what it needed to be. Leadership, dedication, and discipline are all related to professionalism. Ultimately, it all goes back to the saying that actions speak louder than words. My patients and colleagues in the dental profession will judge my character and my commitment based on what I do, not what I say.

I appreciate education more than ever. I look forward to the new challenges I will face in the program, as well as the exciting challenges of dental school. I am now not only confident in my ability to succeed in dental school, I am also confident in my ability to translate the same level of respect and commitment in all aspects of my life.

Pictures from Post-bac/Prematric Reunion







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HS-MACA Mission Statement

To promote Creighton University Health Sciences as a recognized leader in the training and development of a multicultural healthcare workforce that serves to reduce health disparities in underserved and diverse communities through research, culturally proficient education, community interaction and engagements.

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