

## Message from Associate Vice President – HS-MACA



January 2007 is a good time to welcome our students back to campus after a well deserved holiday. The rapidly melting snow on the ground reminds us of winter in Omaha. I wish all our friends both locally and nationally a Happy New Year. Health Sciences Multicultural and Community

Affairs, (HS-MACA) is committed to the education of future leaders in the health sciences for an increasingly multicultural society through its Cultural Proficiency seminars and workshops. In addition, we will continue to recruit and retain under-represented minority students at Creighton University Health Science Schools; promote diversity awareness to the entire Creighton campus community; coordinate multicultural activities with other areas of the University; work to enhance cultural awareness of Health Sciences faculty, students, and staff; and promote local involvement in multicultural communities, civic functions, and community service organizations. HS-MACA will also continue to provide academic, financial, and personal support services to all “disadvantaged” students at Creighton University. Our commitment is guaranteed because of the support of Creighton’s administrative leadership.

Sade Kosoko-Lasaki, MD, MSPH, MBA  
Associate Vice President

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## THE HEALTH SCIENCES’ DEANS



**Cam E. Enarson, MD, MBA**

Dean, School of Medicine  
Vice President for Health Science



**Eleanor Howell, PhD, RN**

Dean, School of Nursing



**Steven W. Friedrichsen, DDS**

Dean, School of Dentistry



**J Chris Bradberry, PharmD**

Dean, School of Pharmacy and  
Health Professions

## Health Sciences Health Professions Advisor Day

by Joyce Bunger, Assistant Dean, SON

On October 6, 2006, Creighton University Health Sciences Schools invited health profession advisors to learn more about Creighton's health profession schools—Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy. In addition, the nursing school promotes its accelerated nursing program.

Undergraduate health profession and/or science advisors from as far as Brigham Young University in Idaho and Kansas State come for the occasion. Over twenty different schools visited in October—the majority of them in Nebraska and Iowa. Creighton has been conducting this very successful program Health Professions Advisor Days for many years. The University of Nebraska Medical Center conducts a similar program the day before Creighton's, enabling advisors to make one trip to Omaha and learn about both universities.

Representatives from each of the schools provide information about their particular program. Topics shared include an overview of the health profession schools' curriculum, pre-requisite classes, tuition, financial aid and the unique community outreach experiences offered at Creighton. Current Creighton students participated at lunch re-connecting with their college advisors at lunch were much appreciated by the attendees.

In addition, attendees toured the Health Science Schools. The Medical School showcased their small discussion rooms and the anatomy lab. The pre-health advisors visited the Nursing Health Assessment Lab and were introduced to "Criss," the patient simulation mannequin used by the nursing students. The tour also included visits to the various clinics that provided opportunities for the attendees to converse with students and faculty.

Channing Bunch, Recruitment and Retention Coordinator in Creighton's Health Sciences Multi-cultural and Community Affairs, HS-MACA department, provided extensive information about the diversity programs and events that are in place to attract minority students and faculty to the University. He pointed out the importance of diversity at Creighton and Creighton's commitment of providing a welcoming environment to all students. Terri Lynch RN, former director of the Institute for Latin American Concern (ILAC), presented a short program highlighting the opportunities for health profession students to study abroad.

The evaluations by the participants were favorable. Advisors appreciate the opportunity to "see and feel" the Creighton culture. Visitors to Creighton especially appreciate the opportunity to talk with current students and learn from them the factors that "set Creighton apart" from other health science schools.

## Pipeline Programs Shepherd Young People into Health Careers

by Barb Slattery, MA

Admissions to a professional program is only a problem if the applicant is unprepared or underprepared. The key to success in admissions is for a student to attain a background in junior high and high school that accepts nothing below excellence. Unfortunately, unless parents recognize this and encourage their children at an early age to surpass the expectation from their teachers, they will not be competitive in college nor will they gain admission to health professions graduate studies. This is where the "Pipeline programs" at Creighton University can help. The definition of a "pipeline program" is one that supports the student from kindergarten all the way through high school and college with the ultimate goal of attaining their dreams of becoming a health professional.

The pipeline programs that have helped many successful Creighton professional students, as well as those attending other institutions, are the Focus on Health Professions Program, Center of Excellence Program, and Health Careers Opportunity Program. These three are essentially the core of the programs that have been in existence in the Department of Health Science—Multicultural and Community Affairs (HS-MACA). An additional program, the Summer Research Institute is one that prepares students for research in biomedical sciences, but starts in high school and continues into college. Pipeline programs essentially hold the hands of students to help them, encourage them, and ensure that they do their best to make their application to Medical, Dental, Nursing, and the Allied Health Professions much more competitive.

The Post Baccalaureate Program is an extension of the HCOP program, which provides a one-year intensive course of study to increase the MCAT scores of students who have been denied admission into Medical or Dental School on their first try. Seven premedical students per year and five pre-dental students are recruited in this year-long program.

In addition 5 educationally disadvantaged students who have been accepted into the School of Pharmacy programs participate in an 8 week pre-matriculation program the summer before school starts.



## Community Oriented Primary Care (COPC) Common Ground

by  
Coletta Erwin-Hollingsworth

We have successfully completed another semester of Common. Common Ground is a part of Community Oriented Primary Care (COPC) research endowment which is funded through the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NCMHD). Last semester we concentrated on learning more about research. We had the following speakers present:

September 8, 2006	Kick-Off/ Introduction	
September 22, 2006	Danielle Potter	AAMC/ Mini Medical
September 29, 2006	Violet Illuebbey	The Somalian People
October 6, 2006	Dr. Kosoko-Lasaki	Case Studies
October 27, 2006	Janet Bonet	Medical Interpretation
November 10, 2006	Andrew Stevens	Corneal Foreign Bodies, COPC, Common Grounds, CV's, and You
November 17, 2006	Dr. Devendra Agrawal	Think Globally: Integration of Knowledge from One Area to Another
December 1, 2006	Dr. Jack Krogstad	Business and Medicine
December 8, 2006	Courtney Dobleman	COPC Summer Research Acceptance of Illness & Pain & functional Outcomes in Patients with HIV/AIDS

## Creighton Glaucoma Screening Initiative

by Becky Messenger, BSW

The Glaucoma Screening team has spent the past couple of months providing free screenings both locally and in rural Nebraska. The screening van donated by the Friends of Glaucoma Caucus Foundation has made trips to a church in Fullerton, Nebraska, a community event in Tilden, Nebraska, a senior center in Sterling, Nebraska and the Santee Indian Reservation. Locally screenings have been held at Mutual of Omaha, Union Pacific, and the Omaha Police Department. The team was also present at the Metro North Community Health Fair, the Heartland Latino Leadership Conference and the Dreamland Legacy Fair at the Washington Branch of the Omaha Public Library. In the year 2006, seventy-five (75) screenings took place and 1628 individuals have been screened.



Plans and preparations are now being made for Glaucoma Awareness month which is January 2007. The annual kickoff is January 13, 2007. Two events will be held this year – one from 8:00 AM to Noon at Love's Jazz Arts Center located at 2510 North 24th Street in Omaha and then another from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM at Catholic Charities Juan Diego Center located at 5211 South 31st Street.

## HS-MACA Diversity Dialogue

by Becky Messenger, BSW

HS-MACA is introducing a new program called HS-MACA Diversity Dialogue (MACA D2). The purpose of this group is to create a common ground for diversity in communication, knowledge and relationship building amongst faculty and staff. MACA D2 will provide a monthly forum for Health Sciences faculty and staff members to discuss various cultures and diversity issues, drawing upon each others' backgrounds and experiences. For more information contact Becky Messenger at 280-2910.



## HS-MACA's Recruitment Efforts

by Channing Bunch, BS

During the fall semester 2006, the Office of Health Sciences - Multicultural and Community Affairs interacted with over 201 students who were interested in health science professions. The Recruitment and Retention Officer visited five states and eight schools in the fall of 2006. Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado where we visited with 19 students and Regis University located in Denver, Colorado and spoke to 10 students. In October the office visited the Chicago area and participated in the University of Illinois at Chicago Graduate and Professional Fair where 19 students showed interest in our programs, concluded the visit at the University of Illinois at Urbana- Champaign where HS-MACA visited with 37 students. In the middle of October the office traveled to Greensboro, North Carolina to visit with Bennett College for Women where he met with 14 young ladies and participated in North Carolina A&T Graduate and Professional Fair which had limited student traffic. We visited with Johnson C. Smith College in Charlotte to with a former Summer Research student and converse with Biology professor regarding the programs at Creighton. We ended the North Carolina trip with a visit to Winston-Salem State University where we provided information to 24 students. HS-MACA participated in the University of Florida Premedical Minority Forum and the officer spoke in a panel setting to 297 premedical students about the admission process to Creighton University medical school. Later in the day he visited with 25 students. The officer ended the fall recruiting with the Association of American for Medical Colleges (AAMC) Conference in Seattle, Washington and met with 26 students.

On September 14, 2006, HS-MACA started a pilot program and partnered with the School of Medicine (CUSOM) to host five Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Pre-health advisors in an effort to increase the awareness and diversity of Creighton University and also to detect if this opportunity would be beneficial for all health science schools in the future. Representatives from Chicago State University - Chicago, Illinois, Dillard University - New Orleans, Louisiana, Florida A&M University Tallahassee, Florida, Howard University -Washington, DC and Morehouse College from Atlanta, Georgia visited Creighton University for an one-day visit to learn more about Creighton University School of Medicine and the support afforded to URM students. The visit was an opportunity for the CUSOM to show their commitment to educational excellence and give the HBCU schools a chance to see of the academic and retention support CUSOM offers to their students.

The HBCU advisors were impressed with the commitment the medical school has in place to promote to make diversity in its student body.

### \*HEALTH SCIENCES DIVERSITY ENROLLMENT 2006-2007

Ethnicity	African American	Hispanic	Native American	Pacific Islander	Total
<b>Schools</b>					
<b>School of Dentistry</b>	3	3			6
<b>School of Medicine</b>	4	9	2		15
<b>School of Nursing</b>					
Accelerated	1			3	4
Freshmen	3	1			4
LEAP					
<b>School of Pharmacy</b>					
Pharmacy Campus	2	3			5
Pharmacy Web	2	2			4
PT	1				1
OT		1			1
<b>Total</b>	16	19	2	3	40

*\*Adapted from Vice President Health Science School report  
(December 4, 2006)*

Please visit HS-MACA website at  
<http://www2.creighton.edu/health/hsmaca/>  
For updates and list of staff and contact information

### **Now Accepting Applications**

#### **High School Summer Research Institute**

**Deadline: March 31, 2007**

For more information contact:  
Hanneka Brown  
e-mail: [hbrown@creighton.edu](mailto:hbrown@creighton.edu)  
Office: 402.280.2936

### **Save The Date**

#### **Post-baccalaureate Alumni Reunion**

**Saturday, April 21, 2007**  
Health Disparities Symposium:  
Focus on Cancer (CME credits)

For more information contact:  
402.280.3925

Health Sciences  
Multicultural and Community Affairs



### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**COMMON GROUND**  
EVERY FRIDAY 11:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M.  
L58

#### **GLAUCOMA AWARENESS MONTH**

Free Glaucoma Screenings  
**Saturday, January 13, 2007**  
9am – 12 noon

**Loves Jazz & Art Center**  
2510 North 24<sup>th</sup> Street

3 p.m. – 6 p.m.

**Catholic Charities Juan Diego Center**  
5211 South 31<sup>st</sup> Street

#### **MENTORING MEETING**

**February 5, 2007**

Location: Skutt Student Center

Time: 5:00pm – 6:30pm

**April 9, 2007**

Location: Skutt Student Center

Time: 5:00pm – 6:30pm

#### **POSTBACCALAUREATE REUNION**

**April 20 – 21, 2007**

Location TBA

#### **HS-MACA GRADUATION**

**BANQUET**

**April 20, 2007**

Skutt Student Center

