

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Creighton University Medical student becomes a new member of the Student National Medical Association's (SNMA) Board of Directors

The 2018 SNMA Annual Medical Education Conference (AMEC) was held in San Francisco, CA from March 28th – April1st. It was at this convention that **Ms. Autefeh Sajjadi** was **elected** to the position of **Region II Director**. At the 2018 AMEC, medical students and professionals gathered to attend a wide range of educational and networking events. It is consistently the largest gathering of underrepresented minority medical students at any time of the year in any place in the nation.

Autefeh Sajjadi grew up in Santa Cruz, California and received her Bachelor of Arts in Integrative Biology and Global Poverty from the University of California, Berkeley with a focus on comparing healthcare disparities between Latin America and the Middle East. Inspired to combine her trilingual background and love of global health, she further pursued graduate education in underserved medicine with a Master of Science in Medical Sciences from the Ponce Health Sciences University in Puerto Rico. Currently, she is a 3rd year medical student at **Creighton University School of Medicine** and is hoping to pursue Otolaryngology. At Creighton, she has been honored to be the Health Education Director for the Mayan Community Health Collaborative, a joint effort between medical students and local Mayan Refugees to help bridge gaps in health education and prevention. She has also served as the Acute Care Manager for the local student-run free clinic based out of Siena Francis Homeless Shelter. Lastly, she has been passionate about working with the Douglas County Department of Corrections to provide health education to the local prison population. Besides studying, she grew up an avid snowboarder and mountain biker and loves doing anything outdoors!

More than 2,000 medical and pre-medical students, physicians, exhibitors, administrators, government officials, and observers attended the 2018 AMEC. It is truly a distinct honor for Ms. Sajjadi to be elected to her position.

The theme of the 2018 AMEC was **Embracing Our Diversity: Filling the Gaps and Building the Future.** The SNMA follows its mission by creating programming initiatives to support current and future underrepresented minority medical students. Members simultaneously address the needs of underserved communities. The SNMA also works to increase the number of clinically excellent, culturally competent, and socially conscious physicians. For more information, please visit www.snma.org.

About SNMA

Founded in 1964 by medical students from Howard University College of Medicine and Meharry Medical College, the Student National Medical Association (SNMA) is the nation's oldest and largest, independent, student-run organization focused on the needs and concerns of medical students of color. Organized with chapters across the nation, the SNMA membership includes over 7,000 medical students, pre-medical students and physicians. SNMA is dedicated to increasing the number of African-American, Latino, and other students of color entering and completing medical school and to assisting in the eradication of racial and ethnic health disparities. SNMA community service and mentoring programs provide science appreciation, health care education, mentoring, and academic enrichment to elementary, junior high school, high school and college students interested in pursuing health-related careers.