

## October 2014 updates

To view SCOMSA minutes from October's meeting, [click here](#)

### Also See

Clinical Redbook  
Office of Student Affairs  
Rotating Room: Sublet Website

### **Student Group Events**

#### **Radiology Interest Group**

10/30/14

For our first Radiology Interest Group event of the year, we hosted a lunch talk involving an in-depth exploration of anatomy & its use in the field of diagnostic radiology. We had three residents, Drs. Trevor Morrison, Ramy Khalil, & David Bates present a series of patient cases that illustrated how an overall understanding of gross anatomy contributed to generating a diagnosis. The case presentation was followed by a Q&A panel led by our speakers, as well as Dr. Kitt Shaffer, as they answered questions about their reasons for pursuing radiology as a career, what they have learned from it, & what their academic & career paths have been thus far. -Richa Patel

#### **Women's Health Initiative (AMWA)**

10/16/14

The Women's Health Initiative discussed issues concerning breast cancer in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. We shared our opinions on the implications of genetic breast cancer screening and the effectiveness of mammograms. We had a great discussion as we talked about how we thought the future of genetic testing will affect our clinical practices and the best ways to interpret this sensitive information to provide the best care for our patients. -Rishitha Bollam

#### **PEDS Interest Group**

10/10/14

On October 10, the PEDS Interest Group hosted a lunch panel about Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics with Dr. Jayna Schumacker. Dr. Schumacker introduced students to the field of developmental and behavioral pediatrics, and took them through a couple patient cases in order to understand the types of issues that pediatricians practicing in this field deal with. It was a great way to gain exposure to a new area of pediatrics that many students don't know about while in medical school! -Divya Shankar

#### **Integrative Medicine Interest Group and SNAAC**

10/10/14

On Friday, October 10th, the Integrative Medicine Interest Group and SNAAC held an interactive communication and community workshop targeting toward first and second year students aimed at self-care and well-being of students. Three current second year students lead three interactive activities which promoted meditation, relaxation, mindfulness, communication, and generous listening. Twenty-five students from two classes attended this event and experienced first-hand about the aspects of integrative medicine and our topic for this year: self-care. Several second year students from SNAAC led a healthy cooking demonstration in which they taught students how to make simple, nutritious, yet delicious meals from a few cheap and easily-accessible ingredients. The goal of this event is to teach students how to take care of themselves (psychologically and physically! ) so they can better take care of their patients in the future. -Wenqi Feng



### **BUSM Historical Society**

10/9/14

In this lunch talk hosted by the BUSM Historical Society, Dr. Annas spoke about an article he wrote for the New England Journal of Medicine. The topic of the talk was about the historical relationship between doctors, patients, and lawyers; the laws that were passed, the different healthcare movements, and many events that shaped today's health care system. Dr. Annas also wrapped up by talking about the Ebola crisis and how health policy is being changed and how historical events are happening at this very moment. This event also served as a reminder of much BUSM has contributed to the field of health law. -Teng Peng



### **Family Medicine Interest Group**

10/9/14

On Thursday, October 9, in celebration of Primary Care Week, the Family Medicine Interest Group hosted a lunch talk with Dr. Erica Mintzer, a graduate of the BU Family Medicine Residency program and a faculty member at both BMC and the Codman Square Community Health Center. Dr. Mintzer spoke about her journey to becoming a family physician and her experiences as a primary care practitioner at a community health center. Dr. Mintzer also discussed her involvement in community health endeavors and answered questions from current students regarding the scope of Family Medicine as well as changes currently happening in primary care. Twenty students from the first and second year classes attended this event and learned more about practicing in a primary care setting. -Tara Shenoy

### **Cardiology Interest Group**

10/7/14

The Cardiology Interest Group hosted a lunch panel featuring cardiologists from different sub-specialties. This was a great introduction for medical students to learn more about Cardiology and get an idea of a typical day in each of these sub-specialties. We also presented shadowing opportunities for students interested in getting more first-hand experience in Cardiology. -Rishitha Bollam

### **PEDS Interest Group, Internal Medicine Interest Group, Geriatrics Interest Group, DIIG**

10/7/14

The Pediatrics Interest Group, the Internal Medicine Interest Group, and the Geriatrics Interest Group co-sponsored a dinner panel and heard from physicians about their experiences working in primary care. The panel included a pediatrician, internist, and geriatrician and students were able to learn about multiple paths to and different ways to practice primary care. Panelists: Dr. Arvin Garg, Department of General Academic Pediatrics, Boston Medical Center; Dr. Geoff Modest, Medical Director, Upham's Corner Health Center; Dr. Heidi Auerbach, Medical Director, Geriatrics Ambulatory Practice, Boston Medical Center

-Divya Shankar

### **Student Interest Group in Neurology (SIGN)**

10/6/14

The Student Interest Group in Neurology (SIGN) hosted a Neurology Panel on Monday Oct 6th in L203 from 12 to 1 PM. The panel featured: Dr. Hohler, Dr. Montouris, Dr. Kase, Dr. Perloff, and Dr. Holsapple. The panel discussed what life is like in neurology & neurosurgery and addressed audience questions regarding the respective fields. This event served to increase awareness of the fields of neurology and neurosurgery, and sparked the interest of medical students in those fields. -Connie Wu

### **BU Advocacy Training Program (BUATP), Physicians for a National Health Program (PNHP), Physicians for Human Rights (PHR)**

10/4/14

On Oct. 4, 2014 the Boston Student Health Activist Community (BSHAC) Summit took place for the second time at BUSM. The day-long conference was co-sponsored by BU Advocacy Training Program (BUATP), Physicians for a National Health Program (PNHP), and Physicians for Human Rights (PHR). This event brought together students from multiple schools including BU, Harvard, Tufts, and Brown University. Although the event was primarily geared towards medical students, students from other disciplines (e.g. public health and dentistry) participated as well. The purpose of the summit was to connect the local community of students interested in public health, human rights, and social justice—and teach them skills for turning their altruistic ideas into effective actions for addressing the social determinants of health. The schedule included 4 keynote speakers selected for their experience in physician advocacy and health activism. Dr. Megan Sandel, a BUSM Associate Professor of Pediatrics and nationally recognized expert on housing and child health, spoke about the importance of social services and medical-legal partnerships in promoting the health of low-income and homeless populations. Dr. Daniel Dworkis, an Emergency Medicine Resident at MGH and one of the founders of BUATP, presented a framework for approaching advocacy projects and engaged the group in applying the framework to cases involving social problems. The day also included 2 breakout sessions, in which students had the opportunity to learn more and get involved with community organizations that advocate for issues such as the public health effects of climate change (Physicians for Social Responsibility), reproductive rights (NARAL), and single-payer health care (PNHP). The attendees of the BSHAC Summit left feeling empowered by the community of student health activists that exists in Boston, and excited to work together to promote positive social change in health care throughout their careers. -Jawad Husain



### **American Women's Health Association (AMWA)**

10/02/2014

The AMWA Welcome Dinner was our first event of the year, to welcome first-years to the AMWA organization and what it can offer. This event featured a panel of six successful women working in every sector of medicine, from research to private practice and surgery to geriatrics. The event focused on the concept of "work-life balance:" what that meant for each woman and how they found balance in their lives. The event had high attendance from all class years. -Molly Siegel

### **Student Attendance at National Conferences**

#### **American Society of Anesthesiologists**

10/11/14

For this year's American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) Annual Meeting, I traveled to New Orleans, LA from October 10-October 14, 2014 to represent Boston University School of Medicine as a Medical Student Component Delegate in the ASA Medical Student House of Delegates. I also came to this year's conference as a Foundation for Anesthesia Education and Research (FAER) Medical Student Year-Long Research Fellow. At the conference, I attended the Ochsner Health Systems Medical Student Workshop where I practiced pediatric and adult intubation, bronchoscopy, and emergency airway techniques in 8 different work stations. I also attended the Resident and Medical Student Welcome Reception, Residency Program Meet and Greet, and the Medical Student Component Governing Council meeting, where I voted on proposed resolutions/bylaw changes and council elections for 2014-2015 council positions. As a FAER research fellow, I also attended the medical student poster session and research symposium in addition to FAER-sponsored meetings and presentations.

I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to interact with medical students, residents, faculty, and researchers from across the nation who all share a common interest in anesthesiology and optimizing patient safety in the operating room. Moving forward, I hope to contribute to the specialty and continue to push the limits of discovery in anesthesiology. Thank you to SCOMSA for providing the funding that allowed me to attend! - Claudia Lucia Sotillo



#### **AAP National Conference and Exhibition**

10/11/14

The AAP National Conference and Exhibition in San Diego, Ca took place October 11-14. Each day had a number of programs and plenary sessions with respect to different topics in Pediatrics along with an open Exhibit hall. Of particular interest to me, on Sat Oct 11th, there was an all day program called Section on Medical Students, Residents and Fellowship Trainees (SOMSRFT), which included an award ceremony recognizing residents/fellows who have done exceptional work within the Pediatric community through innovative initiatives, a panel discussion with physicians from 3 Pediatric residency programs, an amazing address about food insecurity, a speciality speed-date session that allowed for brief Q&As with practicing physicians within numerous Pediatric specialties and lastly, a reception and poster display aboard the USS Midway. Another big attention grabber ! was the session on Oct 12th featuring Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, who spoke about the importance of early learning in young children and unveiled an early literacy toolkit for Pediatricians to aid in guiding parents and caregivers to initiate early vocabulary building and communication in efforts to boost brain development. -Malori Monet Callender

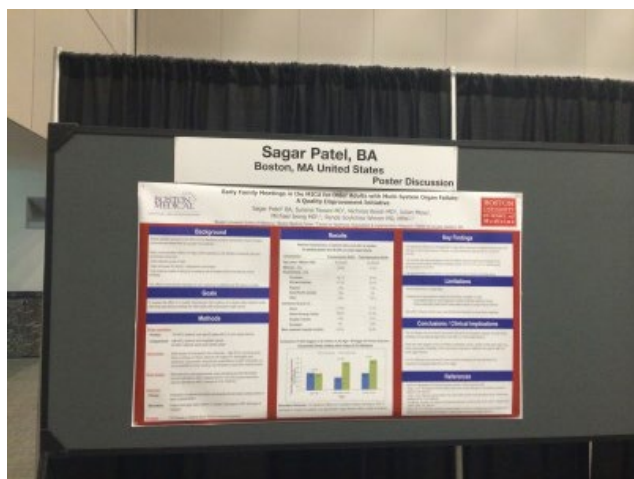


### **Student Presentations at National Conferences**

#### **CHEST**

10/29/14

I attended and presented at a poster discussion on quality improvement at CHEST 2014 in Austin, TX on Oct 29, 2014. CHEST is the annual conference for the American College of Chest Physicians, a medical association in the United States consisting of physicians and non-physician specialists in the fields of pulmonology, critical care medicine and sleep medicine. I was part of a poster discussion in which the poster was formally presented and then discussed between myself, moderators, and the attendees highlighting and cross referencing key points of the research conducted at BMC. The presentation was on Early Family Meetings in the MICU for Older Adults with Multi-System Organ Failure. This clinical research was done in the Summer of 2013 and finished throughout the 2013-2014 academic year. It was a pleasure meeting many people in the field and learning a great deal about various advanced therapies used in MICUs. I was fortunate to also attend talks on pediatric pulmonology and occupational asthma triggers and understand how other institutions approach pulmonary disease in contrast to how we approach it. -Sagar Patel



#### **American College of Surgeons**

10/27/14

Nichole attended the annual American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress in San Francisco, where she participated in the medical student program, a 3 day event with opportunities for networking, workshops and speakers on work/life balance and applying for residency, among others. She was one of 8 students to present on a panel titled "Out of the Box", on novel ideas for Surgery Interest Groups. She also presented a poster of her research on the effect of platelet transfusion on outcomes in trauma patients. -Nichole Starr

#### **International Society of Pediatric Oncology**

10/26/14



I traveled to Toronto to present at the International Society of Pediatric Oncology (SIOP) on the topic of Embryonal Sarcoma of the Liver (ESL). ESL is a rare and aggressive malignancy that is not well studied using population based analyses. My analyses was used to define ESL in terms of incidence and overall survival that had not previously been done using any other means than case reports. I used the SEER database, a national database covering a small but representative sample of the United States population. I was awarded a 15 minute slot in the rare tumors presentation session, and I must admit, SIOP was an overwhelming setting to give my first presentation. I was in a board room packed with 80-100 professors and physicians from around the world who had come to listen to presentations about recent developments in Renal Cell Carcinoma, Wilm's tumor, and other rare pediatric malignancies. My presentation was last, and I was the only medical student to present at the conference, which meant I was quite nervous in front of my audience. It was a tremendous experience, and one I was certainly pleased I saw through. There were many moments in third year where I found it difficult to stay up with abstract and presentation deadlines, but the final product made it all worth it! -Nick Smith



### **American College of Surgeons**

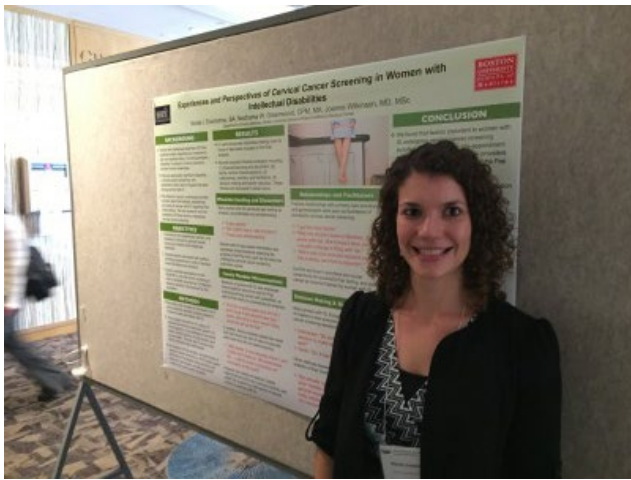
10/26/14

Attending the American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress in San Francisco with the help of SCOMSA funding was wonderful. The conference had programs designated for 4th year general surgery applicants, which were extremely informative. We were able to hear about the application process from residents, faculty, and staff at various programs across the country. The programs also included mock interviews, and interest tables for surgical subspecialties. Medical Students were welcome to attend the other lectures and panels, which were very educational. Attending this conference was an excellent opportunity to learn more about surgical research and meet residents and attendings at different programs across the country. - Amanda Fobare

### **Family Medicine Education Consortium**

10/25/14

My research was accepted for presentation at the Family Medicine Education Consortium Northeast Regional Meeting on October 24-26, 2014 in Arlington, VA. Under the mentorship of Dr. Joanne Wilkinson, my research project focuses on analyzing qualitative data regarding cervical cancer screening in women with intellectual disabilities. I designed this project in order to better understand the barriers that this population faces in regard to completing cervical cancer screening with the aim to develop meaningful interventions that can increase screening rates. During the poster session, I presented my research to physicians, residents, and medical students. It was a great opportunity to concisely and clearly explain my research and the findings, while also discussing implications and future directions for the project. -Nicole Economou



## American College of Surgeons

10/24/14

During the 2014 Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons, more than 320 medical students across the country attended the Medical Student Program. This three-day event featured presentations about "out of the box" ideas for surgical interest groups, lifestyle issues associated with a surgical career, and decision-making on the path to residency. Also included were a poster session, a surgical skills workshop, and an interactive mock interview session. There were many free lecture sessions to attend in addition to the special Medical Student Program, such as presentations on cutting-edge microbiome research and the state of the Ebola epidemic, and the Exhibit Hall displayed new innovations in surgical technology. -Betty Yang



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Primary teaching affiliate  
of BU School of Medicine