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President's Message

We at CDU are situated in the midst of a “transforming community,” South Los Angeles, while we ourselves transform and grow along with it.

The several blocks around us have changed dramatically over the last decade. Joining the King/Drew Magnet High School have been the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Hospital (MLKCH), a new senior living apartment complex with a library annex and now under construction just across from CDU and next to MLKCH is a multi-building county health complex.

We have big plans, too, both for CDU and the community around us, as we stand at the threshold of what our new five-year strategic plan called a period of “transformational growth.” Consider:

- | Our student enrollment will soon surpass 1,000, both graduates and undergraduates. This puts us halfway to our goal of 2,000+ students.
- | Our joint venture with AIDS Project LA, a new building housing the APLA clinic and the CDU Wellness Center, will open this year.
- | We are taking possession of the former Lincoln Elementary School site, just north of campus. When completed, it will nearly double our physical footprint and include family housing, student housing, a gym/athletic field, office space, research space, small retail and restaurants and other student/community-serving services.
- | We are actively planning for a long-held dream of CDU: an independent medical education program, a “CDU medical degree,” that would be offered alongside the dual CDU/UCLA medical degree currently offered. We are also planning and raising funds for a new building to house that program and others.



“The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members.”

– Coretta Scott King

But all this growth would be for naught if it didn't have a higher purpose, a mission, the "compassionate action" referenced by Coretta Scott King in the quote leading this piece.

During the last 12 months, our community has been shaken by pandemic, police shootings and political uncertainty. CDU, long a medical and educational community anchor, took on a leadership role during this difficult year.

CDU hosted and operated, along with County of Los Angeles partners, one of the highest-volume COVID-19 testing sites in Los Angeles County. We achieved that record volume by listening to and knowing our community. We "threw out the testing site playbook," and offered same-day and walk-up appointments, and conducted direct community outreach, walking the proximate communities with culturally appropriate flyers. These were critical adjustments for a community in which many do not have reliable transportation or internet access.

We published a much-cited report on our testing site experience, which was a blueprint for how to run an effective testing site in an under-resourced community like ours.

As the pandemic restricted public gatherings, we hosted numerous educational online town halls on a variety of COVID-19-related topics, including its disproportionate effect on communities of color and vaccine hesitancy among both African Americans and Latinx community members.

Our faculty continue to be in demand as health professionals of color speaking authoritatively on the pandemic and related health equity topics in various media outlets.

I'm very proud of our efforts this year—short-term, in supporting the community during this time of pandemic and focus on social justice; and long-term, as we build additional capacity to create a dynamic CDU in the future that will be able to provide a greater level of support to the under-resourced communities we serve. You'll read about many of those highlights in this expanded edition of our annual report.

I'm also proud that the CDU Community has lived up to the ideals expressed by Ms. King—as well as her late husband—with our "compassionate actions" for a community that has embraced us for 54 years, and one that we embrace in return.

Thank you for your continued interest in the mission of Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, at a time when our commitment to that mission has never been more solid.



David M. Carlisle, MD, PhD
President and CEO



2020 Commencement

As part of the University's public health measures to combat the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, in early 2020, CDU joined many other higher education institutions in cancelling its 2020 public commencement ceremony slated to take place on June 3.

CDU's Commencement Committee, led by Director of Events and Alumni Relations Jackie Brown, immediately began devising ways to honor our graduates and their hard work. The official CDU 2020 Commencement website launched on June 10, 2020, and users were encouraged to use the hashtag #CDUGrad2020 across all social platforms to wish graduates well and commend them on a job well done.



CDU Student Government President 2019/2020 Lewis Williams addressed his classmates virtually, acknowledging that although the situations were unusual, their accomplishments were still great. "[R]emember that the success is still yours, the triumph is still as sweet, and that chapter is still complete," he said.

In his remarks, CDU President and CEO Dr. Carlisle reminded graduates that the workforce they were entering would be very different, as "COVID-19 has changed medicine and our lives forever." However, their years of unique training at CDU provided them with "a tremendous opportunity to change the face of health care while advocating for health equity in underserved communities."



Academic Affairs

Accreditation

The Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing's baccalaureate degree program in nursing received accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) for five years, extending to June 30, 2025.

CDU's Continuing Medical Education (CME) program, housed within the College of Medicine (COM), has been awarded Accreditation with Commendation by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME®) for demonstrating excellence across each of the ACCME's Accreditation Criteria. This distinction extends CDU a six-year accreditation term instead of the typical four-year term, from December 9, 2019, through November 30, 2025.

Pivotal Partnerships

Representatives from Danubius University, a top-ranked private university based in Galati, Romania, visited the CDU campus on Tuesday, December 3, 2019, to explore the potential for academic exchange. Andy Pusca, the senior official of Danubius, gave an overview of the institution and the country of Romania.

CDU Provost Dr. Steve Michael has worked alongside Danubius University for most of the previous decade, having served on its board of trustees since 2012. “International partnerships enrich CDU’s global agenda toward our vision of excellent health and wellness for all in a world without health disparities,” said Dr. Michael. “Additionally, [t]he [Danubius] team left with a better understanding of the American higher education system and appreciation for the rapid progress that CDU is making.”

CDU also signed an MOU with the National College Resources Foundation (NCRF) on December 5, 2019, that will create more scholarship opportunities for students at Black College Expo events, as well as offer “priority admission” to NCRF students into undergraduate programs at CDU. Additionally, the University will offer one \$18,000 scholarship to a student who is instantly admitted to CDU during each 2019-2020 NCRF Expo event, and NCRF hosted an expo event at CDU on January 28, 2020.

“CDU is an institution that has always sought to open new pathways to college for students from under-resourced communities,” said CDU President and CEO Dr. David Carlisle. “The National College Resources Foundation has worked for over 20 years to address the excessive high school dropout and below- average college attendance rate among underserved and underrepresented students. So, this is a wonderful partnership for us both.”



Faculty & Staff



Rahn Kennedy Bailey, MD, was named Assistant Dean of Clinical Education in the College of Medicine in July 2019. Dr. Bailey holds a post as Chief Medical Officer of Kedren Health, a major CDU clinical partner for psychiatric training programs.



Lucy Kibe, DrPH, MS, MHS, PA-C, was named director of the Physician Assistant Program and associate professor in the College of Science and Health in December 2019. She is responsible for program and curriculum development, expanding and maintaining clinical rotation sites for students, and maintaining accreditation materials for the Master's Level PA Program.



Thomas Magee, PhD, COSH associate professor, was elected President of the Academic Senate for the 2020-2022 term. He succeeds Omolola Ogunyemi, PhD, who served from 2018 to 2020.



David Martins, MD, was awarded the Outstanding Professor award for the 2020 Outstanding Faculty Awards. Drs. Sheila Young and Mariles Rosario were also honored for their service with the “Outstanding Service” and “Outstanding Teaching” awards, respectively.



Omolola (Lola) Ogunyemi, PhD, CDU Associate Professor, was elected a Fellow of the American College of Medical Informatics (ACMI). An ACMI Fellowship is considered one of the highest honors in biomedical informatics. Dr. Ogunyemi was inducted into ACMI during the Annual Symposium of the American Medical Informatics

Association (AMIA), the largest scientific meeting for Biomedical Informatics, on November 16, 2019, in Washington, DC.



Eun Mi Park, EdD,

new Executive Director for Faculty Professional Development and Assessment (FPDA), joined the CDU family on January 6, 2020. Dr. Park joined CDU after serving as Assistant Dean for Assessment and Evaluation at the University of South Florida Morsani College of Medicine.



LaShonda Spencer, MD,

joined CDU in September 2020 as the Director of the Drew Center for AIDS Research Education and Services (Drew C.A.R.E.S.) and Professor of Pediatrics, with an appointment in Internal Medicine.



Sheila Young, MD,

and



Mariles Rosario, MD,

were also honored for their service with the “Outstanding Service” and “Outstanding Teaching” awards, respectively.

Additionally, the Academic Senate has commissioned two memorial plaques in loving memory of recently departed colleagues, **Dr. Erik Fleming** and **Dr. Seyung (Steven) Chung**. The plaques will be presented to [Dr. Fleming’s and Dr. Chung’s] families in honor of each of their many contributions to Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science,” said Dr. Omolola Ogunyemi, president of the Academic Senate. “[They were both] respected and valued faculty members of CDU.”

In Memoriam



Dr. Seyung (Steve) Chung

Assistant Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, College of Medicine



Dr. Eric K. Fleming

Assistant Professor, Department of Preventative and Social Medicine, College of Medicine



Robert Garcia, Esq.

Asst. Professor, Department of Preventative Medicine, College of Medicine



Veronica Mayes-Jackson

CDU Community Faculty Member



Derrick Wilson

CDU Campus Safety Officer

Administration

CDU and APLA Health to Open New 10,000 sq. ft. Health Facility

CDU and APLA Health (APLA) officially announced plans to move forward on a new building located on campus that would house a new CDU Wellness Center and an APLA clinic during a symbolic “indoor groundbreaking” ceremony on Wednesday, December 4, 2019.

Plans for the upcoming 10,000 square-foot facility were formalized with a signed agreement between the two organizations in February 2019. Upon its completion in 2020, the University’s Wellness Center will provide urgent care, mental health counseling and wellness programs to CDU students, faculty and staff, while the APLA clinic will provide primary medical care, dental care and behavioral health services to Service Planning Area (SPA) 6 residents through a Federally Qualified Health Center (“FQHC”) model.

“Our goal with this new health center is to reduce the number of new HIV infections in the Willowbrook, Watts and Compton communities by providing culturally competent, convenient and assessable sexual health services, along with general medical, dental and behavioral health services,” said Craig E. Thompson, CEO of APLA Health. “We know that the fight to end the epidemic is about tailored local approaches to reducing the number of new infections and particularly addressing the continuing disparities and the issues that create those disparities.”

Throughout the last decade, CDU and APLA Health have developed a longstanding partnership through the Drew Center for AIDS Research, Education, and Services (Drew C.A.R.E.S.) and the CDU/OASIS Clinic, collaborating to ensure that HIV patients in SPA 6 and throughout South Los Angeles have access to quality dental care and food assistance. APLA Health’s enhanced capacity within the upcoming clinic will create a more robust HIV prevention continuum for at-risk individuals in SPA 6, which still maintains the second highest percentage of HIV/AIDS cases in L.A. County.

“Drew C.A.R.E.S. is very excited at the prospect of sharing this building with APLA, and we look forward to working together with them to continue to provide much-needed HIV/AIDS care, education and research to this under-resourced community,” said former Drew C.A.R.E.S. Director Nina Harawa, PhD, MPH.

“The partnership between APLA and CDU will bring another building to our campus, and add much-needed healthcare capacity to our community,” said CDU President/CEO Dr. David M. Carlisle. “We are proud to stand with APLA Health in work that so clearly fits in with the mission of CDU, and that is so vital to the LA County HIV Strategic Plan, the statewide ‘End the Epidemics’ effort, and the National HIV/AIDS Strategy.”



California State Legislature Allocates \$7.5 Million to CDU

Following a road trip to Sacramento and testimony before the Senate Budget Committee by CDU leadership and students in May 2019, the California State Legislature included a one-time \$7.5 million allocation in the 2019 state budget for Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science. Of the allocation, \$5 million was earmarked for enrollment growth and student support services and \$2.5 million was earmarked for academic facilities upgrades. The appropriation was technically part of Assembly Bill 74, The Budget Act of 2019, which is a revised—but final—version of California's fiscal year 2019 budget.



CDU Opens New Student Center

The brand new Student Center at CDU opened at 1656 E. 118th Street in January 2020. Located just west of the W.M. Cobb Building, the 10,000 sq. ft. facility cost \$2.8 million to complete and is the continuation of a series of construction projects that began in October 2018, starting with the grand entrance facing 120th Street.

All student-oriented functions, such as Enrollment Management Services, Office of the Registrar, Financial Aid and the Division of Student Services, have been relocated to this building, as well as a dedicated student lounge for CDU students. CDU's Student Government offices and the student pantry are also located in this building.

"The strategic plan outlined by CDU leadership in 2016 focuses on growing CDU's vision, mission, impact and student enrollment," said Carl McLaney, Vice President of Administration and Infrastructure. "In order to do this, the University must build the requisite infrastructure to sustain the CDU strategic vision. This includes investment in administrative processes and systems, in addition to the CDU [campus]."

LA Times' Steve Lopez Headlines 2020 President's Breakfast

Steve Lopez, award-winning Los Angeles Times columnist and author of *The Soloist*, provided the keynote address at a panel discussion titled "Homelessness and the Public's Health: A National Crisis and a Local Emergency," during CDU's fifth annual President's Breakfast on Thursday, February 13, 2020, at the Marina Del Rey Marriott. The panel was moderated by CDU President/CEO Dr. David M. Carlisle and featured leaders in politics and public health who are noted champions of health equity and solving the chronic problem of homelessness.

Other speakers and panelists included Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, PhD, L.A. County Supervisor, 2nd district; Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, director of the L.A. County Department of Public Health; Coley King, DO, Director of Homeless Services for Venice Family Clinic and leader of the Clinic's acclaimed Street Medicine Team; Susan Partovi, MD, Medical Director of Homeless HealthCare LA and an assistant clinical professor in CDU's College of Medicine; and Dhakshike Wickrema, Assistant Senior Deputy for Homelessness and Mental Health for the Office of Sup. Ridley-Thomas.

Mr. Lopez recounted the inspiring story of Nathaniel Anthony Ayers, a musical prodigy who had been afflicted with mental illness early in his life and subsequently ended up homeless on Los Angeles' Skid Row. Lopez chronicled his time spent with Mr. Ayers through a series of articles for the Los Angeles Times, as well as the New York Times bestselling title, *The Soloist*. He also advocated for a culture of accountability across society, emphasizing that the current condition of homelessness in the United States was not self-created. "This didn't happen by accident. We created this situation when [we] shut down mental hospitals and never followed through on promises of community clinics; [we sent] people off to war and [weren't] here to help them when they returned," he said. "This cannot be."

CDU President/CEO Dr. David M. Carlisle, ended the discussion with another call for compassion for those affected by homelessness. He cited his own experiences working as a physician in a county hospital as the source of his empathy, because he regularly encountered homeless patients. "These are all people," he emphasized. "People with challenges. They're just like us, except that their dreams have been deferred."



CDU Receives Macy Foundation Award

Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science is a recipient of a 2021 Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation Award in the category of “Institutional Excellence.” The awards, which recognize outstanding leadership in promoting social mission in health professions education, are given jointly by the Milken Institute School of Public Health at the George Washington University and the Beyond Flexner Alliance.

The award’s citation reads: “Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science (CDU) is a beacon of hope for students who wish to pursue a career in health professions and advocate for those whose voices are silenced. Formed from the ashes of the Watts Riots of 1966, CDU has graduated more than 575 physicians, 1,200 physician assistants, and over 1,000 nursing professionals. With a mission of academic excellence coupled with community responsibility, CDU develops students into change agents who are poised to be champions of health equity.”

“We are deeply honored to receive a 2021 Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation award,” said CDU President/CEO Dr. David M. Carlisle. “This award recognizes 53 years of valiant effort by our faculty, students, researchers and graduates as they work for health equity, particularly in under-resourced communities. Both the Milken Institute School of Public Health and the Beyond Flexner Alliance share our vision of a world without health disparities and are actively working to achieve that goal.”

The awards will be presented at the Beyond Flexner 2021 Conference in Phoenix, Ariz., at a special recognition event the evening of April 26, 2021.



Dr. Carlisle Details University's "Outstanding" Progress During Eighth Annual State of the University Address

CDU President and CEO Dr. David Carlisle issued the eighth annual State of the University Address on Wednesday, August 26, 2020, via Microsoft Teams.

"Last year, I stood before you--in person-- in front of a brand new Grand Entrance to CDU that was both a literal and symbolic gateway to an expanding campus and a bright future," Dr. Carlisle said, speaking of the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the University's grand entrance on 120th Street in 2019. "[However], my message was one of caution... we had to 'stay the course.'"

Dr. Carlisle noted that the University was able to "stay the course" and overcame its financial challenges to finish the fiscal year over \$1-million in the positive. [D]espite the tumult in the world around us, [I can] declare that in so many ways "Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science is In light of the heightened media attention that CDU has received during the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Carlisle observed that this is a role that CDU has fulfilled since its inception. "It took a global health catastrophe and statistics that we had long cited coming to mainstream awareness to bring reporters' microphones and cameras to our campus, asking us questions about things we'd been talking about and fighting for since our founding 54 years ago," he said. "In short, it has been a year that has demonstrated that the need for CDU, our voice and work in this world—not just in Los Angeles or California, but the world—is greater than ever. Yes, the world has recognized CDU, and it is now our time to be recognized as "outstanding."

Dr. Carlisle closed with a quote from the late Congressman and civil rights pioneer John Lewis and said that CDU will continue to "recruit, educate and train the diverse health workforce of the future, that our population demands," and "continue to raise our voice and take a leadership role in the drive for health equity and social justice."



2020
STATE of the
UNIVERSITY
ADDRESS



CDU Selected to Develop Lincoln-Drew Elementary Site

The Board of Trustees of the Compton School District selected the proposal submitted by CDU and our partners in the CDU/MLK Wellness Collaborative, LLC, Thomas Safran & Associates and Century Housing Corporation, as the one that “best fits the needs of the District” to develop the vacant 11-acre Lincoln Elementary School property, located just north of campus, at 1667 E. 118th Street. As a result, the University entered into an “Exclusive Negotiating Agreement” with the District, which is the first phase of many subsequent steps toward our long-held plans to expand the campus. When fully built out according to the CDU Master Plan, the former Lincoln Elementary School site will double the footprint of the CDU campus.

Development of the site, which envisions family housing, student housing, a gym/athletic field, office space, research space, small retail and restaurants, and several student/community services, will be a long-term project. The timing of any construction project is fluid, but the University hopes to develop the site in approximately five phases over seven years.

“CDU is community-founded, so of course we will seek robust community input during the initial stages of the development process,” said CDU President and CEO Dr. David Carlisle. “While this will expand our capacity and campus space, this project will also greatly benefit the neighborhoods around us - Compton, Watts, Willowbrook, and South Los Angeles—as we will have not only University programming but also affordable/workforce-family housing and buildings that will accommodate programs and services for the entire community.”

CDU Introduces Community Forum Series

In June 2020, CDU launched its monthly virtual Community Forum Series, in which CDU President and CEO Dr. David Carlisle is joined by a panel of medical experts—many of them CDU faculty members—to discuss various aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic, including its disproportionate impact upon communities of color, rumors and misinformation about COVID-19 and the different vaccines. The series is hosted by special assistant to the President Sylvia Drew Ivie, JD.



Community Engagement

CDU Hosts 28th Annual Empowerment Congress Summit for Second Consecutive Year

The 28th Annual Empowerment Congress Summit found its way back to the campus of Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science for a second consecutive year on Saturday, January 18, 2020. Hosted and organized by L.A. County 2nd District Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, the civic event has a three-fold purpose: to “educate, engage and empower” community members. This theme was “Communities in Peril: A Call to Action for 2020 and Beyond,” with a heavy focus on homelessness.

CDU President and CEO Dr. David M. Carlisle offered welcome remarks, stating, “We have deep roots in the South Los Angeles communities that are the focus of this event. Over five decades ago, this institution was founded to address health disparities in under-resourced areas such as South Los Angeles. Our vision is similar to that of this conference, as we seek to ‘educate, engage and empower’ individuals in our communities.”

Dr. Carlisle also mentioned the many ways CDU is attacking the homeless problem: making it the topic of this year’s President’s Breakfast, noting that CDU students participated in the annual L.A. County homeless count and developing a mobile medicine program to bring our services out into the areas of homelessness where they are needed.

In addition to Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, elected officials who spoke included Assemblymen Mike Gipson (D-64) and Miguel Santiago (D-53), and Assemblywoman Autumn Burke (D-62); Orange County Board of Supervisors 5th District and President of the California State Association of Counties Lisa Bartlett; and L.A. City Council President, 6th District Nury Martinez. The Summit was established in 1992 to enable individuals and communities to work together to take control over their futures.

CDU Participates in 2020 Annual Homeless Count

CDU’s Urban Health Institute (UHI) collaborated with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) to participate in the annual Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count, which took place from January 21-23, 2020. Forty-six faculty, staff and students from the CDU community participated in the count on January 23, at the nearby Watts Labor Community Action Center (WLCAC), as well as Bateman Hall in Lynwood. LAHSA supports and creates solutions to homelessness in Los Angeles County by providing leadership, advocacy, planning and management of program funding.

The WLCAC and Lynwood Bateman Hall hosted the orientations for all volunteers for their respective areas and served as bases of operation for that evening. Shanelle Bailey, MPH student and president of UHI’s Leaders Engaging Against Health Disparities in Los Angeles (LEAD LA) program, was responsible for coordinating efforts at Bateman Hall. CDU students were paired with local residents and city officials, including Lynwood mayor Aide Castro.

“The collective efforts of the CDU students and faculty represent the CDU Unique Advantage promise of partnering with the community and serving as agents, activists, and advocates for policy reform,” Ms. Bailey said. “In this case, the hope is to shine a public light on the health issue of homelessness and influence local, county, state, and federal policy to reduce unsheltered homelessness.”



CDU Honored by Elected Officials during 2020 Black History Month

Sylvia Drew Ivie, JD, Sr. Special Assistant to the President for Community Relations at CDU, was honored by Representative Nanette Diaz-Barragan during the Congresswoman's third annual Black History Month Celebration on Saturday, February 22, 2020, in the King-Drew High School Gymnasium. The theme of this year's event was "Honoring Women Building Our Communities."

"[Mrs. Drew-Ivie] was selected due to [her] outstanding dedication and unwavering support of the Compton community and all of South Los Angeles," said Rep. Barragan. "[Her] journey, grace and strength remind us all to persist through any challenge life throws our way. [The 44th district] continues to thrive because of community members [like Sylvia]."

On Wednesday, February 26, 2020, Councilman Marqueece Harris-Dawson acknowledged the significant contributions of CDU on the West Coast and beyond during his annual celebration of Historical Black Colleges and Universities at City Hall in Downtown Los Angeles. He lauded the University for its accomplishments, noting that the return of residency training to the University is already producing positive results for the community it serves. "When we're looking for providers of color, we look to [CDU] to make sure those people are trained and ready to serve our community," he stated.

Mrs. Drew Ivie accepted the honor on the University's behalf and gave an overview of the history of her father's life, his contributions to science and why the University was named after him. "[Dr. Drew] was not only a scientist, but very strong organizer of mobilization in a time of crisis. That's why the University is named for him, his leadership and his dedication to equality."



Los Angeles Rams Host Black History Month Panel at CDU

CDU hosted the Los Angeles Rams organization for a Black History Month panel discussion on Tuesday, February 18, 2020, in the LSRNE lobby. The discussion, moderated by TV personality Rodney Rikai, featured Reggie Scott, Senior Director of Sports Medicine and Performance; Byron Cunningham, Director of Rehabilitation and Assistant Athletic Trainer; and additional members of the Rams front office, who discussed their respective journeys to working in the NFL and discussed the importance of representation and diversity in sports.

Dr. Carlisle gave an overview of the Rams' significance to Los Angeles. "The Rams are not only a symbol of Los Angeles, but also a symbol of progress for the entire country because of their accomplishments in diversifying athletes in professional sports," he said, going on to explain that the organization has historically been one of the most diverse in the league.

In 1946, the Rams signed Kenny Washington and Woody Strode, ending a 12-year ban on African Americans being able to participate in the NFL. In 1973, the organization hired Dr. Clarence Shields, who now serves on CDU's Board of Trustees, as the first African American team physician in the NFL. Today, the Rams have one of the most ethnically diverse front offices and ranks second in gender diversity in the NFL.

The panel was part of the team's "The Game Unlocked" campaign, which seeks to provide fans an inside look at the African American staff who are part of the NFL's most diverse front office and how the organization continues to change the game of football on-and-off the field. At the end of the discussion, the Rams organization announced two shadowing opportunities for audience members to spend a day with the team at their current training facility in Thousand Oaks.



COVID-19 Community Engagement and Support, Analyses and Research Group Strengthens CDU's Ties to the Community

Emerging in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, CDU's COVID-19 Community Engagement and Support, Analyses and Research Group has proved to be a vital link between the University and the surrounding community. Initially meeting weekly and then bi-weekly, the group of faculty, staff and students serves as a forum to share and disseminate current COVID-19 outreach, testing and vaccination information, as well as incubate research ideas, collaborative projects, and proposals.

"The overarching goal was to create a forum that would keep everyone connected and informed on COVID-19 community action and research," says group leader Dr. Roberto Vargas, Assistant Dean for Health Policy and Inter-Professional Education, College of Medicine, Health Policy in the College of Medicine and director of the Urban Health Institute's Health Policy Pillar that hosted these forums and supported the work. "We keep the community updated with services related to COVID-19 testing, vaccination events, outreach, health messaging and education."

Among the group's significant accomplishments has been producing a community resource guide promoting connections to medical care, housing and mental health for individuals lacking access to those critical services and publishing a much-lauded CDU testing site report, which chronicled how CDU amended testing site protocols to reach community members who had been unable to be tested. Additionally, individuals and collaboratives within the group have been awarded several NIH and foundation COVID-19-specific research grants totaling over \$2.5 million.

Dr. Vargas sees a vital role for the group, post-pandemic. "The lack of key social and medical resources in the communities we serve will still be there," he says. "Access to healthcare and mental health services, and quality housing and education will still be important issues. In keeping with our mission, the group will pivot to ensure that we work on solving these chronic health and community needs with the same commitment we've applied to our pandemic efforts."

CDU COVID-19 Testing Site and Testing Site Report

Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science was selected by L.A. County as a South Los Angeles COVID-19 testing site and began operations on Wednesday, April 8, 2020, utilizing the new grand entrance facing 120th Street. CDU joined a partnership that included L.A. County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas (2nd District), L.A. County Department of Health Services, L.A. County Fire Department and the Martin Luther King Jr., Outpatient Center.

“This is an extremely important development for local public health and the general welfare of our communities,” CDU President and CEO Dr. David Carlisle said in March 2020. “As data have shown, under-resourced communities of color are being disproportionately affected by the novel coronavirus and yet, there have been no accessible testing sites in many of these communities, despite knowing how critical testing is in helping to ‘flatten the curve’ of this disease.”

Further, while there had been geographic and zip code data available, no testing data had been systematically collected and shared regarding race or ethnicity. The CDU Health Policy Team, led by Roberto Vargas, MD, MPH, took the charge on collecting this data from the 120th Street testing site, and there are now official testing and data collection protocols to refine future testing, treatment and public health measures.

The CDU Health Policy Team’s data collection ultimately resulted in the CDU COVID-19 Testing Site Report, published in July 2020. The report showed that individuals from high-risk groups in under-resourced settings will engage in testing for COVID-19 when systemic barriers, outreach is more targeted and testing access is made easier for them.

“Our site demonstrates the impact that locally tailored approaches to engage high-risk populations, often from racial and ethnic minority groups and under-resourced communities, can have on access and use of testing and health education to combat the COVID-19 pandemic,” Dr. Vargas said. “This includes allowing on-site registration and walk-through testing, marketing at local venues, and the use of culturally and linguistically familiar media outlets. These approaches are essential, as we have identified high rates of infection within the Latinx community and have successfully engaged African Americans who are among those at highest risk for poor outcomes associated with the disease. Moreover, our findings of over 30% of those positive for infection not having a medical home highlights the need for additional social needs assessments and support.”

Due to the construction of the new MLK Child and Family Well-Being Center, the CDU testing site was relocated across the street to the MLK Medical Campus on August 4, 2020. CDU remains a partner in the MLK Site, and our faculty continue as part of the leadership team providing advice and assistance to LA County and MLK-OPC. CDU also continues to lead on data management and reporting findings back to the local community.

Prior to its relocation, the CDU site had tested over 75,000 people since opening on April 8 and had been testing upward of 1,000 people daily since June.



Pipeline Goes Virtual: 2020 Project STRIDE Research Symposium

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, CDU's long-standing Project STRIDE pipeline program was conducted virtually this year. The eight-week summer health science immersion program exposes local area 11th grade students to clinical research and additional personal growth opportunities. During the program, students work full-time with a mentor on an assigned research project that exposes them to critical methodologies and principals of biomedical and clinical research. Students also participated in workshops focused on writing personal statements, college/program application assistance, SAT preparation and leadership.

This year, ten on-the-rise seniors from King/Drew Medical Magnet High School, the California Academy of Math and Science, Notre Dame High School and Alliance Academy participated in the program under the mentorship of program director Dolores "Dee" Caffey-Fleming, MS, MPH. Two undergraduate students from UCLA and UC San Diego also participated in the program by way of the Project STRIDE-II program, which extends additional research and development opportunities to undergraduate students who previously participated in the program in high school.

The program culminated with a Virtual Research Symposium on July 31, 2020, supported by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. Students showcased their research via PowerPoint Presentation with various members of the community logging in to show their support. Students presented on topics such as misinformation in the media during the COVID-19 pandemic, demographic changes in Watts and the effects of racism on the mental health of African Americans.

"This Virtual Research Symposium highlights the need to train and to adapt to the technologically dependent world we are present in," said Mrs. Fleming. "It also demonstrates that though it may be difficult, with the support of our CDU community, anything is possible. I'd like to thank the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation for supporting our program, and our CDU research mentors who dedicated their time to our pipeline students under these circumstances."

Saturday Science Academy-II Graduates Largest Class in History at 20th Annual White Coat Ceremony

The Saturday Science Academy-II at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science (SSA-II) "graduated" the most students in its history on Saturday, January 11, 2020, when 124 K-12 students received their white coats at the 20th annual "Junior White Coat Ceremony" at King-Drew Medical Magnet High School. Guests of note at the event included state senator Steven Bradford (D-Gardena) and Yolanda Vera, Chief Executive Officer of the neighboring Martin Luther King, Jr., Outpatient Center. CDU's longest running pipeline program is held year-round, with three eight-week sessions during the school year and a four-week summer course.

In 2019, 93% of students demonstrated measurable improvement of their understanding of STEMM-related curriculum, based on pre-session and post-session assessment tests.

The program is open to all students, but ultimately seeks to inspire students of color toward degrees and careers in science, technology, engineering, math or medicine - STEMM fields in which those populations have been traditionally underrepresented.



Jazz at Drew

Nearly 2,000 people from all backgrounds and different walks of life came to the CDU campus on October 5, 2019 to enjoy a day of great music and celebrate an even greater cause of advancing medical and STEM education during Jazz at Drew.

Attendees were treated to performances by Grammy-nominated artist Will Downing, Next, Louie Cruz Beltran and the Lao Tizer Band featuring Eric Marienthal and Karen Briggs, as well as highly-acclaimed local artist Toni Scruggs. Funk legends The Ohio Players closed the show with an ultimate mix of their most popular hits, such as "Fire," "Love Rollercoaster" and "Sweet Sticky Thing." 94.7 The Wave's Pat Prescott, a Los Angeles institution in her own right, lent her talents for the day as emcee.

Proceeds from Jazz at Drew went to enriching the CDU experience for students by funding University scholarships and pipeline programs, including the renowned Saturday Academy-II.



International Affairs

Mandela Day of Service

On July 18, 2019, Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science (CDU) partnered with the South African Consulate General-Los Angeles to honor the legacy of global humanitarian Nelson Mandela on his world day of service. The two groups collaborated to make a difference by distributing clothing, hygiene products and community health information to the under-resourced Watts-Willowbrook community at the nearby Macedonia House of Hope.

The “67 Minutes of Service” theme comes from the 67 years of his life that the former South African leader devoted to service to humanity.

Exploring Domestic Violence Through An International Lens

The Office of International Affairs partnered with the Urban Health Institute to present the July 2020 edition of the Haynes Lecture Series, which featured a panel discussion on the harmful effects of gender-based violence, and how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted domestic violence rates around the world. The panel discussion, moderated by Office of International Affairs director Dr. Lejeune Lockett, was preceded by a screening of *The Long Road Home*, a short film by Zambian filmmaker Kasuba Mukuka that follows the journey of a young woman trying to escape from her abusive husband without help from her community.

Dr. Lockett explained the connection between the film, which is based in Zambia, and the University: CDU has a project based in the country that provides HIV care and support services for girls aged 15-24, most of whom have experienced some form of domestic violence. Zambia has one of the highest domestic violence rates in the world, and cites domestic violence as one of the key factors for HIV infection.

Ms. Mukuka explained while the movie was fictional, it was inspired by real events that took place in Zambia. When she learned that a close family member had been hiding their abuse for years, she felt compelled to speak to more women around Zambia about their experiences. “I couldn’t believe that this was happening to people and people did not talk about it,” she said. “I wanted to do something that would give voices to these survivors of domestic violence, and to get people talking.”



OIA and CDU Students Launch New Travel Information Group

National Hispanic Heritage Month

The Office of International Affairs hosted the Afro-Latino Heritage Celebration on Thursday, September 26, 2019, featuring a spirited discussion with members of the International Society of Black Latinos (ISBL), who discussed the influence that the African diaspora has had and continues to have on Latin cultures around the world.



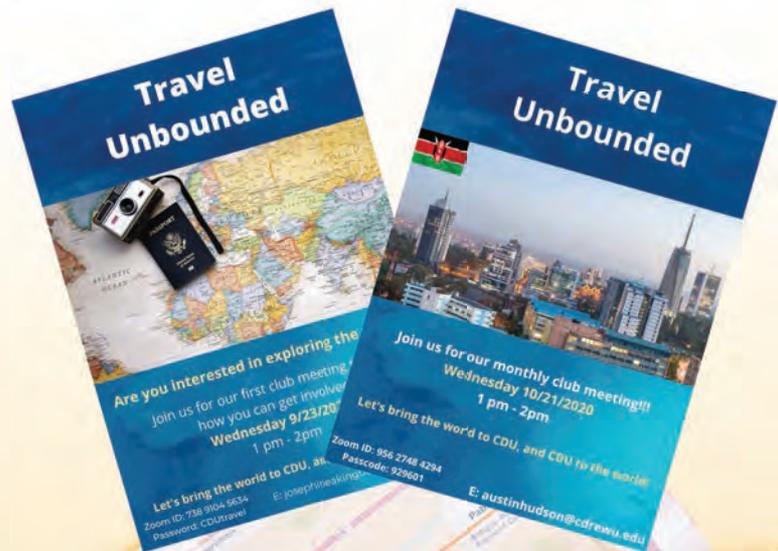
Juanita Palacios- Sims, ISBL president, discussed colorism within the community, pulling from her personal experience as a dark-skinned Cuban woman: “Because of the color of my skin, I don’t ‘look’ Latina [...] what is a Latina supposed to look

like, and why is there only one image of such a diverse culture?” Further, she implored the audience to understand that ethnicity is more tied to “your ancestors and where they come from, than it is [to] language and where you live.”

Dr. Lejeune Lockett, director of the Office of International Affairs, spoke of her expectations for CDU’s NHHM activities and celebrations: “We hope that this [cultural programming] helps to shape our learning and social environment at this University, as well as make the campus more inclusive and intellectually stimulating.”

Travel Unbounded is a new student organization at CDU, launched in September 2020 to expose the University community to global diversity, increase interest in international travel, and create a community of globetrotters. The club meets monthly and is open to all CDU students, faculty and staff. The club’s goal is to share travel information, experiences and knowledge that will ultimately help develop individuals’ capacity and confidence to travel abroad in a knowledgeable, efficient, healthy and safe manner.

Travel Unbounded is funded by a Mission Makers mini grant awarded to Josephine Akingbulu, MPH ‘20, current Program Manager for the Office of International Affairs at CDU. Dr. Lejeune Lockett, Director of the Office of International Affairs, serves as the Faculty Advisor. The club is led by CDU students President Austin Hudson, Secretary Dyala Alameddine, and Treasurer Kassandra De Matta.



College of Medicine

CDU Receives \$800K Grant from California Endowment to Plan New Four-Year Medical Degree and Medical Education Building

CDU received an \$800,000 grant from the California Endowment in December 2019, that will help the University continue to plan for a new medical degree program and a new medical education building. Entitled “Diversifying Health Professions Through Medical School Expansion,” the funding from Cal Endowment bolsters a \$1.2-million grant received from Cedars-Sinai earlier this year that is also earmarked for improving health workforce diversity in South Los Angeles through supporting a four-year medical school at CDU. The University will seek to raise funds for the new program and structure, the costs of which are expected to exceed \$100 million.

“We are exceptionally grateful to the California Endowment for their support of our planned medical school and new degree program,” said CDU President and CEO Dr. David M. Carlisle. “Like CDU, the California Endowment is committed to increasing access to high-quality healthcare, and especially in under-resourced communities. We know that one of the best ways to do that is to train new physicians in those communities. This new four-year degree will greatly aid us in doing that.”

“California’s healthcare system providers are not reflective of the state’s diversity and that needs to change in order to help achieve health equity for all Californians,” said Robert K. Ross, MD, President and CEO, The California Endowment. “CDU’s new medical education program holds much promise in expanding the number of diverse health care professionals and access to culturally sensitive care for California’s diverse and underserved communities.”



A new four-year medical degree program at CDU was specifically cited by the California Future Healthcare Workforce Commission in its February 2019 report as one key solution to the statewide physician shortage. The University has already been working diligently to train more physicians. With two new residency programs (Family Medicine and Psychiatry), in place over the last two years, CDU has put 43 new physicians into the chronically underserved South Los Angeles area.

CDU’s newly planned four-year independent medical education program will not replace the existing Charles R. Drew/UCLA Medical Education Program, which has been the result of a five-decade partnership with the University of California and UCLA’s David Geffen School of Medicine. Rather, it will be an additional program offering by CDU’s School of Medicine. The new medical degree program and new building are presently in the planning stages, with a tentative opening date of Fall 2023.



Internal Medicine Residency

The Accreditation Council For Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), the organization responsible for accrediting all U.S. graduate medical training programs, granted initial accreditation to the College of Medicine's (COM) upcoming residency program in Internal Medicine in September 2020.

The Internal Medicine residency is scheduled to begin reviewing match applications soon for the first cohort of eight residents that will begin July 2021. The program is approved to enroll a total of 24 Internal Medicine residents by July 2023. The residents will complete many of their clinical rotations at the VA Long Beach Healthcare System (VALBHS), which provides comprehensive healthcare services to more than 50,000 veterans and serves as CDU's primary clinical partner site for the Internal Medicine residency program.

"The VALBHS is known for its rich clinical experiences as well as a robust patient population volume that provides exposure to a wide range of illness and diseases," said Theodore C. Friedman, MD, PhD, Chairman of the Internal Medicine Department at CDU. "With the visionary leadership of our program director, Arnel Joaquin, MD, and substantial partnership from VALBHS leadership and outstanding faculty, we are confident that our residents will receive high quality training and clinical experiences."

"In just three years, CDU has added 42 new physicians to South Los Angeles, which has long been a federally designated health professional shortage area," said COM Dean Deborah Prothrow-Stith, MD. "Our residents have made a significant impact on the community and we're excited to continue expanding our programs in residency education, which will further increase CDU's ability to serve South Los Angeles."



Students Awarded \$1.3 Million in Scholarships from L.A. Care Health Plan

Since July 2019, L.A. Care, through its "Elevating the Safety Net" program, has awarded eight students in the College of Medicine's classes of 2023 and 2024 full medical scholarships totaling up to \$2.6 million. In 2019, L.A. Care awarded the Class of 2023's Wendy Cervantes, Adolfo Hernandez, Chinonyelum (Nonye) Ikeanyi and Raslyn Preston with scholarships worth up to \$350,000 each. The following year, similar scholarships were awarded to Ope Akerele, Kendra Arriaga Castellanos, Bryce Bentley and Jahmil Lacey. L.A. Care Scholars are selected on the basis of financial need, as well as their expressed desire to serve vulnerable populations.

"I cannot overstate the importance of these scholarships to our students and to CDU's ability to fulfill its mission, which is aligned with that of L.A. Care," said COM Dean Dr. Deborah Prothrow-Stith. "Graduating from medical school without debt is a gift that will keep on giving throughout the lives of the recipients, their families and the communities they will serve. With these leading-edge scholarships, L.A. Care has helped us stay current with the trends toward making medical school more accessible to outstanding students."

L.A. Care Health Plan's "Elevating the Safety Net" initiative launched in 2018 with three initial programs – a physician recruitment program, a physician loan repayment program, and a medical school scholarship program. The year 2020 marked the establishment of a new program within the initiative, which will see the entity commit more than \$5.2 million to establish 14 new residency positions at five medical facilities, which includes Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science.



Match Day 2020

Twenty-two College of Medicine (COM) graduates joined their peers around the world when they learned where their career paths would take them on Match Day, which is a day each year when medical school graduates across the country find out which residency programs have accepted them. This year's ceremony took place on Friday, March 20, in partnership with UCLA via Zoom as a result of the COVID-19 public health crisis.

COM Dean Deborah Prothrow-Stith, MD, PhD, gave remarks during the virtual ceremony, encouraging students not to lose sight of their accomplishments, hard work and dedication even though they were not able to celebrate Match Day in the traditional sense. To try and put the anxiety surrounding the COVID-19 virus into perspective, she spoke of her time as a young physician at the beginning of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the 1980s, noting that times then were also “truly uncertain and rather frightening.” However, health professionals began to understand more about the virus, which led to many significant developments in managing its spread. “[Just like HIV], COVID-19 is a virus that we will be dealing with for years to come, but together and with [the class of 2020’s] leadership and dedication, we will have the same and even greater progress.”

The top residency matches for CDU’s class of 2020 were in primary care specialties, with 67% of students pursuing fields such as family medicine, internal medicine and obstetrics and gynecology. The remaining 33% will pursue sub-specialties such as emergency medicine, anesthesiology and general surgery. Of all CDU students matched, 71% will complete their residencies in California.

CDU’s own residency programs in Psychiatry and Family Medicine also welcomed a new cohort of future practitioners this year, with 14 slots in both programs being successfully filled (six for Psychiatry and eight for Family Medicine, respectively):

Family Medicine

Wuilly Diaz, MD
Nkechiyere Eboka, DO
David Timothy Hampton, II, MD
Julian Kewku Hinson, MD
Kristian James, MD
Awah-Lem Atanga McCormick, MD
George Wiley Clinton
Moreland, III MD, MBA, MPH
Uchenna Omwuegbusi, MD

Psychiatry

Aaron Luxmanan Abraham, MD
Simon Allo, MD
Hadijat Wemmy Audo, MD, MS
Mariam Fam, MD
Mohayed Mohayed, MD
Victor Chinedu Nnah, MD

Since the return of medical resident training to the University in July 2018, CDU has placed 42 new physicians into the South Los Angeles community for the final phase of their training. This is highly significant, as studies show that physicians frequently set up their practice where they train. South Los Angeles, which is in Service Planning Area (SPA) 6, continues to be federally designated as a Health Professional Shortage Area and/or a Medically Underserved Area by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration.



Student Profile

"[CDU's] ambition to cultivate diverse physicians appropriately equipped to serve disadvantaged and minority populations truly compelled me,"



Kalonji Cole is a fourth-year medical student in the Charles R. Drew/UCLA Medical Education program. A native of Tallahassee, Florida, Cole completed his undergraduate education at Florida State University, majoring in Exercise Physiology. Like many individuals who attend CDU, Cole chose to attend the University due to its mission and values oriented towards attaining social justice and health equity for all. "[CDU's] ambition to cultivate diverse physicians appropriately equipped to serve disadvantaged and minority populations truly compelled me," he said.

His passion to serve communities originates from his parents, who both hold positions within higher education and the Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce. "While neither of my parents work in healthcare, I grew up admiring their dedication to the community, education and service," he explained. "[The examples they set] motivated me to dedicate my life's work to something greater than myself."

A self-proclaimed "science nerd," Cole knew early on in his life that he would pursue medicine after watching several family members fall ill to disease and nearly losing his mother to meningitis in high school. Although he was clear in his desire to pursue medicine, Cole initially struggled with the lack of diversity in the field. "While medicine seemed like a great career to merge my interests, my lack of exposure to Black physicians made me question my role in the profession," he said.

He credits his time in a local high school mentorship program, which matched him with a Black resident physician mentor, for ultimately solidifying his decision to study medicine. "[My mentor and I] would travel to high schools in low-income areas throughout Florida to encourage minority students to pursue medicine through this [program]," he explained. "He taught me how diversity and inclusion within the medical establishment are among our most powerful methods of combatting the health disparities plaguing minority communities."

Now a member of the CDU Family, Cole continues to work from his foundation of mentorship, serving as a peer tutor for medical students as well as on various panels to share advice with younger students. He is also actively involved in the CDU Education and Policy Curriculum Committee.

Upon his graduation in 2021, Cole plans to thoroughly utilize the skills instilled in him via the University's signature curriculum, the CDU Advantage. "I want to utilize my advocacy skills to lobby for equitable access to high-quality healthcare for all patients, no matter their social or financial status," he explained. "I want to utilize my research skills to publish in areas such as nutritional literacy, preventative medicine and cardiology. I want to use my patient-care skills to practice empathy and compassion for patients who have a well-earned distrust in the medical establishment."

Perhaps most importantly: "I want to use my public-engagement skills to recruit the next generation of minority medical students and physician leaders."

College of Science and Health

New BS in Psychology

CDU enrolled its first students into the new BS in Psychology with Emphasis in Community Counseling program for the Fall 2020 semester. The curriculum emphasizes the mental and behavioral health problems of diverse populations and underserved communities, and prepares undergraduates to be mental health or substance abuse counselors. It also prepares them to pursue graduate education in psychology, public health, or social work, as well as meet the prerequisite for Entry Level Masters programs in Nursing, utilizing elective credits.

Keck Foundation Grant

The College of Science and health was awarded a \$300,000 grant from the W.M. Keck Foundation called “Research Integration into Undergraduate Education.” COSH Dean Dr. Hector Balcazar was named principal investigator of this award.

The grant will provide funding over the next three years to integrate inter-professional research opportunities and problem-based learning into the CDU Advantage curriculum for each of the five fields of study within the College of Science and Health: biomedical sciences, public health, nutrition science and food systems, radiologic science, and psychology – while establishing undergraduate learning communities around health disparities, providing professional development and promoting interdisciplinary research opportunities for students.



MPH Students Take On Cuba For Third Year in a Row

For the third year in a row, students of the Master of Public Health (MPH) program spent two weeks in Havana, Cuba, in February and March 2020. The cohort, led by Dr. Bitu Amani and adjunct assistant professor Kathryn Hill-Trujillo, MPH, studied under the professors at ENSAP (Escuela Nacional de Salud Pública), as part of the course MPH 584: Global Health Studies: The Cuban Health Model.

Students and alumni on the trip included

Josephine Akingbulu, MPH(c)
Jennifer Alvarez, MPH(c)
Shanelle Bailey, MPH(c)
Maria Barajas, MPH(c)
Kyla Baron, MPH(c)
Joshua Blackmon, MPH(c)
Rakeidra Davis-Hudson, MPH(c)

Kimberly Dorrah, MPH(c)
Krandalyn Goodman, MPH(c)
Lily Jimoh, MBS, MPH(c)
Karlton Johnson, MPH(c)
Briana Lopez, MBS, MPH(c)
Carolina Rodriguez, MPH(c)
Pallavi Sharma, MPH(c)

In May, MPH graduates were able to share what they learned during their stay, which was abbreviated due to the current global pandemic. While the trip was shortened, students were still able to study the Cuban Health System and participate in site visits to clinics, hospitals and other community organizations.





Cedars-Sinai Grant Supports Upcoming Community Health Worker Academy

As part of a two-year grant from Cedars-Sinai, a team of professionals led by COSH dean Dr. Hector Balcazar has been funded to develop a Community Health Worker Academy within the newly developed Cynthia Davis Lifelong Learning Institute for Community Transformation. The \$243,245 grant will support CDU's development of a curriculum to train a variety of health professionals to fill a range of clinical and community needs in medically underserved communities.

The academy will bring state-of-the-art training opportunities to community health workers (CHWs) to further legitimize them as vital parts of the healthcare system. CHWs are individuals chosen by community members or organizations to provide basic health and medical care to their community. In a health care system often described as fragmented, these individuals often help link people to pertinent health care information and services, ultimately improving the quality and cultural competence of service.

This vital workforce can serve multiple healthcare systems to help reach and manage the health care needs of children and adults in underserved communities throughout Los Angeles. If CHWs are adequately trained and credentialed, larger healthcare systems could potentially develop a career path for entry-level CHWs to develop their skills and provide additional career growth opportunities.

Many major healthcare providers already have CHWs on their staff, however, there is no official credentialing for CHWs, nor are there widely-accepted workforce structure levels. Dr. Balcazar explained that this was a larger goal of the Academy, to "get a consensus of the skills, responsibilities and competencies of CHWs that the entire nation can ascribe to" and to "[develop] methodologies of training so CHWs can be hired in clinics."

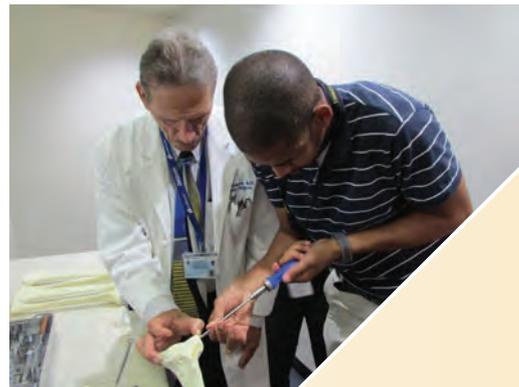
Grant Supports New COSH SDS Program

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) issued five-year grants totaling nearly \$6 million to two new Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students (SDS) programs at CDU that will support scholarships for minority students from educationally, environmentally and economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

One of the grants, awarded to the upcoming SDS program in CDU's Master of Public Health (MPH) in Urban Health Disparities Program, totals \$2,585,195 and will provide \$517,039 per year to support the CDU-MPH program in increasing the number of MPH students from under-resourced communities, including students from under-represented minority groups.

"The CDU-MPH SDS program will address the need to transform the public health workforce by increasing diversity among public health professionals – specifically, professionals with an MPH degree," said Dr. Sondos Islam, who leads the CDU-MPH SDS program. "The program capitalizes on CDU's 53 years of success in recruiting and graduating highly qualified diverse health professionals to transform the workforce by targeting the unmet need for culturally competent care in order to address the health needs of medically underserved communities."

The second SDS program, housed within the Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing (MMDSON), received a five-year grant worth \$3,250,000, or \$650,000 per year, to support students who enroll full-time in MMDSON's two-year Entry Level Master of Science in Nursing program. For both programs, scholarship recipients will be chosen, in part, based on their stated commitment to working in medically under-resourced communities following graduation and on the severity of their financial need.





Student Profile

“Now that I am in a better place, I want to give back to my community and help them in the same ways they once helped me.”



Isaura Macias is a fourth-year student in the College of Science and Health’s Biomedical Science program. Born in Guadalajara, Mexico, Macias immigrated to the United States with her parents when she was one year old. “There was a lot of violence and crime in my city, so my parents wanted to leave in order to give me and my brother a better life and better educational opportunities,” she said. “My family came to the U.S. with no money, no shelter and no medical care. We were helped by compassionate leaders who focused on helping under-resourced and underrepresented communities.”

That compassion, she explained, was what ultimately led her to pursue an education in health. “Now that I am in a better place, I want to give back to my community and help them in the same ways they once helped me,” she said. “I chose CDU because one of their many values is Compassion, which is what propels us to hear the voiceless and advocate for the oppressed. It also obliges us to seek relief for the deprived. From the very beginning, I knew this was a mission that I had to be a part of.”

Her strong sense of faith also significantly informs how she moves forward on her journey to becoming a health professional. “I believe that the most important characteristics in a physician are acceptance, affability and availability. All patients, like us, are ‘made in the image of God’ (Genesis 1:27) and yet, each is fundamentally different from us, with unique ideas, cultures and lifestyles that may challenge or even repel us,” she explained. “[God] recognized and embraced the dignity of each individual and demonstrated that all are worthy of our careful attention, our caring concern and our enduring respect [...] We must ‘walk as Jesus did’ (1 John 2:6) with compassion and cheerfulness.”

She currently serves as President of CDU’s CEAL (Critical Exploration of Academic Literature) Group, which provides a safe and active environment for students interested in gaining exposure to scientific literature and research. “We aim to show the importance of being knowledgeable about the evolving medical field while also providing a platform for students to discuss and critically analyze these articles amongst their peers,” she said.

A highly ambitious individual, Macias took night classes at Santa Ana College to expedite her undergraduate education, and will graduate from the BMS program one year early—in June 2021—as a result. She plans to use the extra time to study for the MCAT, conduct additional research and gain more clinical experience. Upon the completion of her medical education, she hopes to become a family physician and treat patients of all ages.

Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing



MMDSON Celebrates Ten Years

After graduating over 1,300 nursing professionals since it opened in Fall 2010, the Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science kicked off this year's Nurses Week, which took place from May 6 – May 12, 2020, by celebrating its ten-year anniversary.

The school was named after the legendary Los Angeles legislator Mervyn M. Dymally, who served in the California assembly and senate, as well as serving as the state's Lt. Governor. He capped his career with over 20 years in the U.S. House of Representatives. Dymally was a long-time supporter of CDU and highly instrumental in securing funding for the University as it grew over the years. "The school being named after Congressman Dymally is a fitting testament to his legacy and steadfast advocacy for improving access to both healthcare and education for under-resourced communities of color," said CDU President and CEO Dr. David M. Carlisle.

From 2010, when the first cohort of students matriculated into the newly-opened Life Sciences Research and Nursing Education building, to 2012, when the first class graduated 91 nursing students, to this year's commencement, when the school will confer 231 graduate and undergraduate nursing degrees, the Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing has grown steadily and continues to add new programs.

"MMDSON continues to expand and introduce new graduate and certificate programs, and we have plans to develop an undergraduate prelicensure nursing program predominately for high school students, licensed vocational nurses and veterans pursuing their goal to be Registered Nurses. In addition, plans are underway to open a Doctorate in Nursing Practice in Fall 2021. Most important, the focus will continue to be to serve the underserved, the mission of CDU that makes me very proud," said former MMDSON Dean, Dr. Diane Breckenridge.

"In a recent survey of our nursing graduates, 41% of the respondents indicated that they are employed within a 10-mile radius of the University. This is a significant impact and contribution to the city of Los Angeles," said CDU Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, Dr. Steve O. Michael. "As the University embarks on a second five-year strategic plan, we have a renewed commitment to growth and to cultivating diverse health professional leaders to serve in the under-resourced communities."



MMDSON Stays on Track with Service at CDU COVID-19 Testing Site

From April to August 2020, Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing (MMDSON) students and faculty played active roles in the daily functions of the CDU COVID-19 testing site. Nursing students have been able to complete clinical hours for their courses in community, psychiatric and pediatric health at the testing site. To facilitate this, former MMDSON Dean Dr. Diane Breckenridge led a team of faculty members in developing the Nursing, Education, Research and Practice (NERP) model in response to Governor Gavin Newsom's call in March 2020 on health care practitioners, including nursing students, to join the healthcare workforce during the coronavirus pandemic.

Second-year Entry Level Master's (ELM) nursing students Melvina Akwaja, Anna Carlos, Shonna Pryor and Andrea Takayama recalled their experiences working at the site, which included fulfilling integral roles such as translators for Spanish-speaking members of the community, wayfinders, and self-test instructors.

"[Working and volunteering at] the CDU testing site has allowed me to complete my clinical objectives and keep my target graduation date for the ELM program," said Pryor.

"The beginning of the pandemic brought about fear and uncertainty, but it also made me realize that the healthcare field is where I want to be," said Takayama. "I have dedicated over 150 hours of my personal time volunteering at this site because I care about the community I serve. It is important to care about community, and I wholeheartedly know the CDU COVID-19 testing site has showed our community that we care about them."

"The CDU testing site represents equality, social justice, opportunity, wellness and care for the community it serves," said Akwaja. "The most rewarding [part of working at the testing site] for me was [conducting] community outreach. I was privileged to lead a team of my colleagues in educating the community about the testing site's availability."

"At the CDU COVID-19 testing site, I served as a data entry staff member, as well as a drive-up check-in staff member," said Carlos. "My duties also included answering any questions regarding the testing process and providing a sense of reassurance [to test takers]."

"I am proud that CDU and the Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing were able to quickly coordinate our nursing students' volunteer and clinical hours in ways that would both satisfy their graduation requirements and allow them to serve their community during these trying times," said Dr. Breckenridge. "I would like to thank the MMDSON leadership team members who were integral in developing our new NERP education model, as well as all MMDSON faculty members who have supervised and supported our students' work at the testing site for seven days a week since April 2020."



HRSA Grant Supports New ELM SDS Program

The Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing (MMDSON) SDS program received a five-year grant worth \$3,250,000, or \$650,000 per year, from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to support students who enroll full-time in MMDSON's two-year Entry Level Master of Science in Nursing program. The pre-licensure program provides the foundation for safe nursing practice through classroom, hospital and community-based experiences culminating in a clinical immersion experience.

"[The SDS program at MMDSON] builds on CDU's established reputation, strengthens existing partnerships and creates new avenues for recruitment of economically, educationally or environmentally disadvantaged students, including first generation college students," said Dr. Diane Breckenridge, former MMDSON Dean and SDS program director. "Capitalizing on CDU's proven history of successfully recruiting, retaining and graduating students from minority groups that are underrepresented in health professions, MMDSON will address the HRSA's clinical priority of transforming the workforce by targeting the need for a diverse health care workforce."

The other SDS program, housed within the College of Science and Health (COSH), totals \$2,585,195 and will provide \$517,039 per year to support the CDU-MPH program in increasing the number of MPH students from under-resourced communities, including students from under-represented minority groups.

For both programs, scholarship recipients will be chosen, in part, based on their stated commitment to working in medically under-resourced communities following graduation and on the severity of their financial need.



MMDSON Students Lead Black Lives Matter Rally

The National Student Nurses' Association (NSNA) and Student Government at CDU led a peaceful protest rally in support of the Black Lives Matter movement on Thursday, June 18, 2020. The rally began at the University's Life Sciences Research and Nursing Education Building and featured remarks from several speakers including CDU Provost Dr. Steve Michael, NSNA President Shequila Edwards (SON) and CDUSG President Cielo Sanchez (COSH).

During the rally, protestors took a knee for eight minutes and 46 seconds, which is the amount of time that it took for George Floyd to perish at the hands of police earlier this month. Protestors also marched around the local area.





Student Profile

“I was raised with a holistic lifestyle, and with the mindset that ‘prevention is better than treatment,’ she said. “So, I enjoy working on projects that focus on prevention.”



Chioma Nkwocha is an Entry Level Master's student in the Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing (MMDSON) at CDU. A first-generation Nigerian American, Nkwocha was born in Southern California and completed her Bachelor's degree in English at the University of California, Irvine.

Her decision to enter the nursing profession was influenced by her parents and community, as many of her family members work in healthcare. As a child, she completed many medical missions and served as a medical volunteer alongside her family. “I was raised with a holistic lifestyle, and with the mindset that ‘prevention is better than treatment,’” she said. “So, I enjoy working on projects that focus on prevention.”

Like many, Nkwocha chose to attend the University due to its mission dedicated to health equity and social justice for underserved communities. Her prior experience working with underserved communities includes tutoring students with physical, social and mental disabilities. Drawing upon her background in English, she began her own tutoring company in 2016, successfully incorporating culturally appropriate teaching strategies such as English Language Development into lesson plans and instructional materials.

As a volunteer, Nkwocha has served as both a team member and board member for Habitat for Humanity San Bernardino Area, Inc. She has also held lead volunteer positions for Hands-On Inland Empire, First 5 California and Miracle Messages, a non-profit that rebuilds social support systems for the unhoused through family reunifications. She also has served as a volunteer patient advocate in hospices. During her time at CDU, she has served as a President of ELM Cohort 19, as well as member of the MMDSON Honor Society, and the CDU Alumni Association Mentorship Program. In Summer 2020, she also worked alongside Alumni Relations and Corporate Giving Manager Brittney Miller to recruit sponsors while volunteering at the CDU COVID-19 Testing Site.

Miller encouraged Nkwocha to attend both the AfroTech and DEITECH conferences, which became a springboard for Nkwocha's projects. She was inspired to partner with her colleagues to create tools to assist future nursing students, and under the guidance of the CDU Alumni Association Mentorship Program, Nkwocha will present her project—sponsored by CDU's Mission Maker Mini-Grant program—in late Spring 2021.

Upon her graduation in June 2021, Nkwocha hopes to become a doctoral-prepared Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA). She is interested in advocating against systemic undertreatment of minority clients for pain, and ultimately hopes to use her knowledge and skills to be an innovator in healthcare and promote preventive measures while providing better access to underserved communities.

Enrollment

Historic Numbers

Enrollment at CDU reached an all-time high during FY2020: **1,028**

CDU Bus Tours

During the Fall 2019 semester, Enrollment Management Services provided transportation for over a dozen local high schools to allow hundreds of students to visit the CDU campus, receive a presentation by members of the CDU community and have lunch.

Remaining Engagement

Hosted over 100 remote events, including Discover CDU (800+ RSVPs), advising sessions, and financial aid information sessions.



NCRF'S HBCU Caravan Tour Makes Stop at CDU

CDU was the host site for a stop on the National College Resource Foundation's (NCRF) fourth annual HBCU Caravan Tour on Tuesday, January 28, 2020. This was CDU's second year participating in the tour, and nearly 600 students from high schools across Los Angeles, including the neighboring King-Drew Medical Magnet High School, Crenshaw High School, Hollywood High School, and others visited campus to learn about more than 20 historically black colleges, universities and graduate institutions.

Colleges and universities on campus included Florida A&M University, Morgan State University, Shaw University, Texas Southern University and many more. One hundred and four students were admitted to CDU during the fair and one senior, Areli Cuellar of Dominguez High School won an \$18,000 scholarship.

This event and scholarship resulted from an agreement signed between CDU and the NCRF in December 2019 that creates more scholarship opportunities for students at Black College Expo events, as well as offer "priority admission" to NCRF students into undergraduate programs at CDU. As part of the agreement, CDU will also offer one \$18,000 scholarship to a student who is instantly admitted to CDU during each NCRF Expo event throughout 2020. The event was also a part of CDU's own 15-school spring bus tour, in which L.A. high schools bring groups of juniors and seniors weekly to tour the CDU campus and learn more about its undergraduate programs.



Division of Student Services

First Generation Student Day

CDU celebrated its inaugural National First Generation Day, sponsored by Wells Fargo, on Friday, November 8, 2019, with a panel of CDU professionals who are also first-generation college students: Angela Minniefield, MPA, Senior Vice President of Advancement and Operations at CDU; Harold Abramowitz, MFA, assistant professor in CDU's College of Science and Health, and Rasheed Ivey, MD '19, an alum of CDU's College of Medicine. First generation college students are defined as being the first in their families to obtain a bachelor's degree.

Although they have settled into their chosen professions, panelists spoke of still grappling with residual emotions and complications related to their experiences as first-generation college students. Mr. Abramowitz spoke of struggling with "imposter syndrome," or feelings of inadequacy that persist despite evident success, when in a room with his colleagues. Senior Vice President Minniefield discussed the occasional disconnect that she's experienced when returning to her community due to the apparent differences in education and life experiences in comparison to their family and friends. "Oftentimes, we're viewed as having risen above [certain circumstances], but deep down [we're] still the same [people]," she said.

Dr. Ivey, one of CDU's first-generation success stories, spoke of shattering expectations that others had set for him. Describing his path to medicine as "the long route," Dr. Ivey began his medical career at age 9 in CDU's Saturday Science Academy-II and returned to the University a decade later as a researcher and a teacher in the Academy. However, throughout his journey, he noticed that certain individuals would try to steer him towards a more "traditional" career in sports. Dr. Ivey stayed true to his vision for himself and in June 2019, he received his medical degree from the Charles R. Drew University/UCLA Medical Education Program.

CDU is proud to celebrate the accomplishments of its first-generation community, and this inaugural event was planned and organized by the Office of Strategic Advancement, the Alumni Relations Unit and the Division of Student Services.



Division of Student Services and Career Services Keeps Students Engaged During COVID-19

CDU's second annual Career Fair was slated to take place on the Cobb Lawn on Thursday, March 17, 2020. The Division of Student Services (DSC) had even taken the charge in rallying the CDU community to donate gently used attire and shoes to students so they would be able to look and feel their best while learning more about new career opportunities. However, as developments from the COVID-19 crisis continued to unfold, and public gatherings were being cancelled at a rapid pace, DSA had to quickly make a decision as to how they would serve CDU students while also prioritizing the health of the greater good. Rather than cancel or postpone their events as many already had, DSA decided to proceed with the Career Fair in a webinar format. Organizations who presented during the virtual career fair include the FBI, the United States Army, the Peace Corps, Scismic, CannaSafe, KGI, Healthcare Staffing Professionals, Inc., and California CyroBank.

"Our goal was not to cancel the fair, but to allow for an alternative interactive environment," said Kaitlyn Jackson-Ferriot, interim Director of Student Services. Though DSC had to pivot their plans quickly, all Career Fair participants were cooperative with the changes, understanding the severity of the current public health crisis. "Everyone was on the same page in knowing that they had to adjust to a 'new norm.'"

She also noted that the virtual environment provided more benefits than initially anticipated: "The GoToWebinar format allowed employers to explain who they were [in-depth] and the types of jobs available. This [format] might have allowed for even more interaction and opportunities than a traditional career fair, because the employer had a real chance to connect with our students."

"I'd like to thank Nancy Juarez Fuertes, Brittney Miller and the Student Services team, who helped in making this virtual fair come to be in such a short amount of time," Jackson-Ferriot said. "We tested multiple platforms, participated in mock sessions and did everything we could to ensure this event ran smoothly and successfully for employers and students. We wanted to make sure we represented CDU as being professional, adaptable and capable during these times."

Students who were unable to participate in the webinars are still able to review them online, and DSA plans to conduct more career webinars in the near future. "We had speakers that were supposed to present on campus, and they've been happy to conduct online workshops instead," Jackson-Ferriot said. "Just because we are not on campus doesn't mean there should be a halt in our students' professional development. We are determined to keep the students interested and connected."

Expanding Mental Health and Wellness Services to the CDU Community

With grant support from the LA Health Foundation, CDU began to offer expanded mental health services in 2019 to better support the needs of its students. As part of that effort, the University welcomed **Robert Marzio, PhD**, who serves as a psychologist and mental health counselor at CDU. In his role, he works with students in individual counseling sessions, conducts group workshops to provide information about mental health and provides referrals to local services to those who need it. Since joining CDU in 2019, Marzio has seen an increasing number of students take advantage of on-campus counseling services.



Robert Marzio, PhD



Kimberly Womack, MS, NCC

Kimberly Womack, MS, NCC, joined CDU in April 2020, and has provided individual counseling and case management for CDU students, as well as campus outreach through CDU's Student Health and Wellness (SHAW) Center. She also leads the CDU chapter of ActiveMinds peer support network.

Over the course of its first year in operation, the SHAW Center has succeeded in establishing personnel and the ongoing provision of mental health services for CDU students, staff, and faculty. SHAW has continued to provide services to students during the transition to an online learning environment due to COVID-19 and has added programming to address ongoing concerns and challenges.

Research & Publications



CDU Professionals Author Helmet Use Study

A study in the journal *Brain Injury*, co-authored by CDU professor **Shahrzad Bazargan-Hejazi, PhD**, and CDU alumna **Lagina Scott, MD**, noted that 78% of adult cyclists and 88% of young riders who suffered head and neck injuries were not wearing helmets when they were injured. Men were found to be less likely to wear helmets than women and were 36% more likely to die compared to women when in an accident. Researchers from CDU and UCLA came across these results after examining data from 76,032 cycling injuries from 2002 to 2012.

Though researchers did not specifically design the study to track how race impacted helmet use or injury outcomes, they did also observe that Black, Hispanic and Asian cyclists experienced longer hospital stays and higher mortality rates due to cycling related injuries than White riders. Ultimately, the team concluded that the data pointed to a need to educate at-risk groups about helmet use and head injuries.

However, Dr. Bazargan-Hejazi questioned the efficacy of traditional bike safety education. "While the education is necessary, it is not sufficient," Dr. Bazargan-Hejazi said. "If you have the financial resources available to educate people, then the education should be more ingrained in a culturally competent, or peer-based, approach."

This study was featured in top publications such as *Consumer Reports* and *U.S. News and World Report*, as well as the news service *Reuters*.



AXIS Center Awarded One of Eight RCMI Grants

CDU's Accelerating Excellence in Translational Science (AXIS) Center was one of eight research grants to be funded by the National Institute of Health's (NIH) legacy Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI) Specialized Centers program, established in 1985 to advance the science of minority health and health disparities in multiple disciplines, promote the diversity of the biomedical workforce, reduce health disparities and promote health equity.

The AXIS Center will share approximately \$187 million with the other research centers over a five-year period, and provide opportunities for interventions to reduce health disparities within Service Planning Area (SPA) 6. AXIS will also focus on socioeconomic and environmental factors and build upon the application of Precision Medicine in the areas of cancer, cardiometabolic diseases and HIV/AIDS.



CDU Professor Renews Grant To Study Obesity and Cancer

Piwen Wang, MD, PhD, MS (pictured left) an assistant professor in the College of Medicine, has received notification of the renewal a four-year \$1.4 million SC1 Research Enhancement Award from NIH's National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) for the second year. The grant supports research for his project titled, "Co-targeting obesity in prostate cancer chemoprevention and therapy," in which he studies the effect of using a combination of natural anticancer agents, green tea and arctigenin, with a MCP-1 signaling inhibitor in the prevention and treatment of prostate cancer, particularly in an obese state. Dr. Wang's research hypothesizes that concurrently targeting obesity and cancer cells in a non-toxic manner will provide an ideal approach for cancer chemoprevention and therapy.

"This treatment could contribute to the elimination of prostate cancer incidence, mortality and cancer disparities with its potential low cost, cultural acceptability, efficacy and feasibility," Dr. Wang said in an interview with UCLA. "In addition to prostate cancer, GT and arctigenin have shown efficacy against other types of cancer, including breast and colorectal cancer. So, we hope this combination can also provide benefits to high-risk populations and patients of many other types of cancer."



Professor Cynthia Davis and Colleagues Published in Spring Edition of 'Ethnicity & Disease'

The Sankofa Collective, a research collective co-chaired by COSH professor **Cynthia Davis, MPH**, had extensive research published in the Spring 2020 issue of "Ethnicity & Disease," an international medical journal which covers the relationship between ethnicity and health. The issue highlights the Collaborative's work on health disparities and the numerous issues concerning the impact of HIV/AIDS in the African American community.

"A major goal of the Sankofa Collaborative, which AHF and CDU have supported since its inception in 2017, was to have a Special Edition published in a peer-reviewed journal highlighting the research, bio-behavioral, structural and policy needs of the Black community," Davis explained. "[We wanted to highlight the needs of] Black women and families, in particular."

This study was featured in top publications such as Consumer Reports and U.S. News and World Report, as well as the news service Reuters.



COM Professor Awarded Prestigious Grant to Research HIV Prevention

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) granted **Homero del Pino, PhD, MS**, associate professor in the College of Medicine, a five-year K01 grant of \$647,235. The grant will support Dr. del Pino as he conducts research on his project titled Understanding and Engaging Families in HIV Biomedical Prevention for Latino Men Who Have Sex with Men. The K01 grant is a highly prestigious and competitive award offered to promising individuals that provides protected time for an intensive, supervised career development experience as they transition to independent research careers.



Fundraising

Bloomberg Philanthropies Grants \$7.7 M to Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science

The University received a \$7.7-million award from Bloomberg Philanthropies on September 3, 2020, the largest private gift ever presented to CDU. It will allow the University to provide scholarships of up to \$100,000 to nearly 50% of medical students currently enrolled and receiving financial aid over the next four years. The grant will also help provide emergency bridge support for medical students who face hardships, support for students to attend professional conferences with their faculty and peers, personal counseling and advising and mentorship activities, and much more.

CDU received this grant as part of the first investment of Bloomberg Philanthropies' Greenwood Initiative, an effort to accelerate the pace of Black wealth accumulation and address systemic underinvestment in Black communities. Their total investment is \$100-million, shared among the nation's four Historically Black Medical Colleges. In addition to CDU, that includes Howard University College of Medicine in Washington, DC, Meharry Medical College in Nashville and Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta.

As Mike Bloomberg himself so succinctly said at the time the award was announced: "More Black doctors will mean more Black lives saved and fewer health problems that limit economic opportunity. But right now, the burden of student debt and lack of financial aid means that the shortage of Black doctors could get even worse."

Bloomberg Philanthropies

With the current median medical school debt standing at \$200,000, many medical students—but particularly those from communities of color—graduate with tremendous student debt. "The prospect of paying for medical school itself can deter many Black and other students of color from reaching for the dream of attending medical school and becoming a physician," said CDU President and CEO, Dr. David Carlisle. "But even for those who do attend, graduating with hundreds of thousands of dollars in debt makes it difficult to establish and sustain a medical practice.

Thus, the award from Bloomberg Philanthropies makes it possible for more students of color to achieve their dream of becoming physicians, many of whom then return to practice in communities of color from which they came."

The University has reaped additional benefits from this award in the form of visibility, which is significant as the University embarks on its Comprehensive Capital Campaign, as well as opening an independent medical education program. "In many ways, CDU is still a hidden gem," explained COM Dean Dr. Deborah Prothrow-Stith in a late 2020 interview with the Los Angeles Times. "It's not as well known locally as we hope to see in the future, so one of the important aspects of this gift is that it [brings] visibility, [which] has created more opportunities for us, especially in the development and fundraising area."

COVID-19 Testing Site

The California Wellness Foundation, The Ballmer Group and Wells Fargo Foundation donated \$250,000, \$100,000 and \$75,000, respectively, to support general operations at the CDU COVID-19 testing site throughout Summer 2020.

The University also received thousands of donations in the form of sponsored meals, water and other essential supplies for the workers stationed at our COVID-19 testing site volunteers from the following individuals and organizations:

April Grocery Outlet – Compton Taco Pete
 Mariscos Las Palmas Colima Apple Spice
 Not Your Mama's Kitchen Domino's Pizza
 Panera Bread Hawkin's Burgers
 Pizza Hut Truxton's - Westchester
 Sweet Red Peach c/o US Bank
 Office of Assemblymember Mike Gipson
 Fuel Them/Crateful c/o Samuel J. Fox, Esq., Fox Law Group

May Brenda Anderson Betty Johnson
 Apple Spice McDonald's
 Lisa Brigidina Dr. Tom McGee
 Catering by Bryan NYMK Catering
 Chick-Fil-A Panera Bread
 China Gate Restaurant Porto's Bakery
 City Fare Melanie Rodriguez
 Ms. Jessica Flores Carlin Smith-Stine
 CDU Trustee Linda Griego Starbucks
 Dr. Jimmy Hara Sweetgreen
 Rosemary Tilman-Icellum Dr. Sheila Young
 Dr. Lauren Swerdloff
 Dr. Charles Swerdlow
 Yolanda Vera, CEO of MLK Outpatient Center

June Alpha Kappa Alpha (Tau Beta Omega chapter)
 Dine 911
 Mr. Keith Kobayashi and Gallagher Insurance
 Los Angeles Rams organization
 Poppy and Rose
 Porto's Bakery.

July Dr. Kimberly Ancheta
 Assemblymember Mike Gipson and BizFed
 Dine 911.



"It is due to the generous support of our fundraising partners that we are able to continue training diverse health professionals who enter the health workforce prepared to prevail over challenging times such as these," said Angela Minniefield, Senior Vice President of Advancement and Operations at CDU. "We are sensitive to effects that this situation has had on individuals and their families, and we are grateful for the outpouring of support from individual community members, CBOs, foundations and the business community in response to COVID-19."

Beauty Industry Heavyweight Donates \$15,000 to CDU

Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science (CDU) received a \$15,000 grant from Anastasia Beverly Hills (ABH) in August 2020. The grant is a part of a \$1-million pledge made by ABH to fight against systemic racism, oppression and injustice in light of the civil unrest taking place throughout the nation as a result of the systemic and unjust treatment of African Americans. The grant will support general University operations and community engagement efforts.

Since beginning the pledge in June 2020, ABH has donated over a quarter of a million dollars to institutions such as the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, Black Lives Matter, the Loveland Foundation and others. "As founder of Anastasia Beverly Hills, it is my promise that the brand will remain a constant and vocal supporter of equality.

"We vow to use our platform and our privilege to amplify the voices of marginalized groups that deserve to be heard," said founder Anastasia Soare. "We believe in Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science's mission in fighting against health disparities among underserved, and fully support their commitment to community engagement."

"We are deeply appreciative of Anastasia Beverly Hills' for generous support and belief in our mission to educate diverse health professionals, as well as our vision to attain a world without health disparities," said SVP Angela Minniefield. "Special thanks to our Alumni Relations and Corporative Giving manager Brittney Miller for facilitating this partnership, and we look forward to continuing a meaningful relationship with ABH through its community engagement pillar."

Mission Maker Mini-Grant Awardees Announced for 2020

The Office of Strategic Advancement awarded grants totaling \$22,845 for the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science's Mission Maker Mini-Grant Program Spring 2020 Cycle. Support for these grants were made possible with contributions from the Annual Mission Maker Campaign. This cycle's grantees are as follows:

CDU PA Program Learning and Healing Garden

Submitted by Revecca Millan and Thalia Jimenez, COSH

Enhancing Stylist Support

Submitted by Professor Cynthia Davis, COSH

Global Health Leaders Club

Submitted by Josephine Akingbulu, Office of International Affairs

Lambda Nu Induction Ceremony

Submitted by Professor Eugene Hasson, COSH, Radiologic Technology

Let's Move Halloween Health Fair

Submitted by Tamyra Fisk, Saturday Science Academy

Los Angeles Helping Los Angeles

Submitted by Katerina Yu and Revecca Millan, COSH, PA Program

Partnership for Progress (P4P)

Submitted by Kay Lynn Ceja, COM, Medical Student Affairs

Preconception Peer Educator Training

Submitted by Abigail Jameson, COSH

Preparation – The Key to Success

Submitted by Raquelle Holmes, COSH

Project Santa Claus

Submitted by Kay Lynn Ceja, COM Medical Student Affairs

Reach Back Mentorship

Submitted by Tatiana Vazquez, COSH

STEAMM – An Initiative to Expose Youth to the Arts in STEMM

Submitted by Anthony Reyes, Saturday Science Academy

Step Up To R.E.P.P.

Submitted by Ty'riek Layne

COSH TEDxCDU

Submitted by Kaitlin Jackson-Ferriot, Division of Student Services

TRAP Medicine Presents The Shop

Submitted by Jahmil Lacey, CDU Alumni Association

Women's Health Interest Group

Submitted by Dr. Monica Ferrini, COSH



Partner Profiles



LA Health Foundation

The California Endowment

“The respective missions of CDU and The California Endowment are quite similar: we both focus on under-served communities, as well as attaining health equity and increasing access to health services,” explained Dr. Robert Ross, CEO of The California Endowment (TCE). In his role, Dr. Ross works to ensure that TCE fulfills its mission through its Grants and Impact Investing programs, which seek to invest in organizations with similar missions and values.

In addition to the University’s mission, Dr. Ross and TCE have been longtime admirers of the “very relevant” research the University conducts to better understand the needs of the community it serves. “CDU serves as a beacon for health equity and embodies what we’ve long acknowledged that the broader health system must do, which is invest in the development of a pipeline of practitioners and researchers who focus on the needs under-resourced and vulnerable populations,” he said.

Dr. Ross credits CDU with highlighting the importance of prioritizing health workforce diversity in a state that has dealt with the threat of a workforce shortage for decades, with “several hundred thousand positions” that will need to be filled in the next decade. “We also know that COVID-19 has unearthed all types of structural and racial inequities in health, as well as a general mistrust in medicine, particularly in African American communities,” he explained. “The legacy of CDU’s mission and culturally competent approach to training health professionals demonstrates why their approach is so important and critical.”

Recent investments from entities such as TCE, Bloomberg Philanthropies, and California’s Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development are a “shining illustration of the confidence of CDU’s future,” says Dr. Ross. “In that respect, I would like to see the University evolve from being ‘Los Angeles’ best kept secret’ to ‘California’s shining star’ in illuminating the path of addressing issues of the health workforce.”

L.A. Health Foundation

Elvia Foulke, chairwoman of LA Health Foundation's Board of Directors, understands the significant roles that community-based organizations have in affecting community health, as well as the vital role universities have in training future leaders in health care. That is why, in her role of managing the execution of the organization's grantmaking strategy, she ensures that the LA Health Foundation supports organizations with missions that align with their own.

"The mission of LA Health Foundation is to make communities in Los Angeles County healthier," she explained. "As a board, we look for non-profit organizations with innovative strategies to improve the health care system, provide excellent care to our Los Angeles communities and prepare the next generation of health care leaders."

LA Health Foundation's relationship with CDU began in 2018, with a grant for graduate student scholarships and scholarship endowments to advance health workforce diversity. "CDU has made a very positive and lasting impact in the community through its commitment to training diverse leaders in health care who will be prepared to make communities in Los Angeles healthier."

Further, she commended the University for its commitment to strengthening access to counseling and additional mental health resources for its campus community. "While mental health is commonly overlooked, I am proud that CDU has taken the steps to prioritize the mental health and wellness of the students," said.

As the University continues its trajectory of unprecedented growth, investment and visibility, Foulke hopes to see the University prioritize telehealth as a key component of students' education. "While virtual care visits were already becoming popular, COVID-19 has fast tracked telehealth technologies to allow patients to get care remotely and safely," she said. "I would like to see the University at the forefront of preparing their students to embrace and adapt to that technology."

W.M. Keck Foundation

"Following the ideals of our founder, the W.M. Keck Foundation's grantmaking program in Southern California supports arts and culture, education, health and community service projects that will have a significant impact in addressing complex issues," said Robert Day, Chair and CEO of the W.M. Keck Foundation. "Ultimately, we seek to support endeavors that allow us to fulfill our mission of providing far-reaching benefits to humanity."

A longtime supporter of the University, the Keck Foundation's relationship with CDU began in 1981 with funding to support the construction of what is known today as the W.M. Keck Foundation-Allied Health Building. The two-story, 28,000-square foot facility was completed in 1987 and served as a core component of Phase I of the University's campus development plan. Today, the building houses the programs and operations of the College of Science and Health (COSH). Most recently in 2019, the Foundation made a grant to provide experiential learning and high-impact research opportunities to COSH's undergraduate students through the University's signature curriculum, the CDU Advantage.

Joe Day, Co-President, says the Keck Foundation values and understands the importance of cultivating a diverse and culturally competent health workforce as the nation's demographics continue to shift. "We strongly believe in the University's mission and are proud to support the institution's steadfast commitment to training health professionals that truly understand the needs of the communities they're looking to serve," he said.

The choice to invest in the University's curriculum—one which already placed high emphasis on outstanding education, research, clinical service and community engagement—was not a difficult one to make, explained Co-President Steve Keck. "By supporting the work of institutions such as CDU through our philanthropy, we are supporting a social climate in which we can discover new paradigms and innovative solutions that will contribute positively to our understanding of the world."

Alumni

Alumni Relations and Career Services Host Second Professional Development Fair

The Alumni Relations Unit and Career Services hosted the second annual Professional Development Fair on September 17, 2019, in the Keck Lecture Hall. The event featured breakout sessions on salary negotiations, entrepreneurship in healthcare, the importance of mentorship and more. Presenters included Kristena Deyon Hacher of Creative Artist Agency; Kristy Sherrer of the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health; Belinda Addo, MS, MSN, a CDU alum and president of the Global Health Initiative; Adrienne Martinez, PhD, RN, PHN, chair of the CDU Alumni Association; and Natalie Gouché, a social media and marketing coach.

Organizations offering information about health careers included: CannaSafe, Community Clinic Association of Los Angeles, EpiSource, Housecall Doctors, LAUSD, Liberty Utilities, Maxim Healthcare Services, USDA and ViaCare. The event was sponsored by Wells Fargo.



Alumni Relations Unit Launches Mentorship Program

CDU's Office of Strategic Advancement, Alumni Relations Unit and Division of Student Services collaborated to host the kick-off reception for the Alumni Association Mentorship Program on Thursday, November 7, 2019. Mentors and mentees were able to meet for the first time and learn more about the program, which pairs Southern California-based alumni with current CDU students based on their college, major and field(s) of interest.

The mentorship program is a recipient of a 2019 Mission Maker Mini-Grant, and was created due to significant demand from CDU students for tailored mentoring to help them navigate their professional and academic journeys. This is especially important for newer students, who often find themselves grappling with a "secret curriculum" of social cues and academic expectations as they transition and adapt to new their environment.

In June 2020, the mentorship program was awarded the 2020 "Circle of Excellence" Award for Alumni Engagement in the Gold category by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). In their comments, CASE judges called the program "brilliant" and commended the program managers for being resourceful in how they maintained engagement with both students and alumni throughout the duration of the program.

"The program maximized campus partnerships as a means to provide tangible assistance through shadow experiences and mentoring through collaboration with career services and student affairs," the judges wrote.

Those interested in learning more about future cycles of the Alumni Association Mentorship Program can contact Kaitlyn Jackson-Ferriot, interim Director of Student Services, at kaitlynferriot@cdrewu.edu or Brittney Miller, Alumni Associate, at brittneymiller@cdrewu.edu.



Alumni Profiles

Harry Kram, MD

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH



Harry Kram, MD '87, has a longstanding relationship with the University, having completed his surgical residency in 1987 and a Surgical Critical Care Fellowship at the former King-Drew Medical Center in 1988, before finally serving as an assistant professor of Surgery in the College of Medicine from 1989-1996.

After a stint at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, Dr. Kram joined CDU as a surgical resident in 1985. The University's integration of research into its core curriculum deeply appealed to Dr. Kram, who initially moved to California from the East Coast in the 1980s to pursue research opportunities. "At that time, it was very difficult as a resident to do research and clinical work simultaneously," he said. "MLK and CDU offered me that ability, which was unheard of."

Dr. Kram very aware of the systemic racial and societal issues plaguing the United States; he had grown up hearing stories of his aunt march alongside Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to advocate for desegregation and school integration in his hometown of Newark, New Jersey in the 1960s. So, when he arrived at the former King-Drew Medical Center in the 1980s – home to one of the most active trauma wards in a city that was known at the time for being notoriously violent – he could not turn a blind eye to the clear inequities he witnessed both inside and outside of the emergency room. "There was so much racial disparity, not just in healthcare, but with policing, politics within the city and other issues," he said.

The frustrations stemming from those inequities boiled over in 1992, following the "not guilty" verdict of the Rodney King trial. "We watched the trial in the [King-Drew] emergency room," Dr. Kram said. When the verdict was announced, his colleagues urged him to go home early for the day, correctly predicting the chaos and disruption that was about to ravage the city.

After some protest, Dr. Kram ultimately obliged and went home. When he got there and turned on the television, he witnessed the infamous assault of Reginald Denny at Florence and Normandie Avenues. "I had just stopped at the gas station on that corner to get fuel before coming home," Dr. Kram said, explaining how the weight and proximity of the situation finally settled upon him. "The community has come a long way, but what was especially reinforced for me working at MLK Hospital was the fact that people are not treated equally. They should be, but they aren't."

Today, Dr. Kram has his own private practice in Downtown Los Angeles, where he specializes in general surgery and vascular surgery conditions of the legs, as well as head and neck cancer surgery. Of his chosen profession, he explained: "Surgery is one of the few fields where you can see the immediate results of your work." Among his greatest professional accomplishments is what Dr. Kram calls his "greatest save," where he saved the life of a 15-year-old boy who had been shot in the chest and was considered dead-on-arrival. Dr. Kram performed life-saving surgery and the young man was able to return home four days later. "I've saved many lives since then, and today I work to save lives in the long run. But at [King-Drew], we were saving lives overnight," he said. "I owe my entire career and all my feelings of well-being to CDU and MLK Hospital. They made me a great surgeon, and they made me want to be a good person."

Dr. Kram's advice to current CDU students is his "secret formula" of three core principles: vision, passion and persistence. "At the beginning [of your career], you need vision. [When you're practicing], you'll need passion, and [when you're in the latter part of your career], you must persevere."

Raniyah Copeland, MPH

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH



Raniyah Copeland, MPH '11, is a graduate of the College of Science and Health's Master of Public Health program in Urban Disparities. She currently serves as President and CEO of the Black AIDS Institute, the only national HIV/AIDS think tank focused exclusively on African Americans. In her role, she is charged with leading the organization's

strategy and expansion, as well as ensuring that the Institute is fulfilling its mission of stopping the AIDS pandemic in Black communities through the engagement and mobilization of Black institutions and individuals to confront HIV.

"[At the Black AIDS Institute], we believe that the communities that are the closest to the problem have the best solution," she explained. "Every day, I get to focus on dismantling systems that drive negative health outcomes in Black communities while also empowering Black communities to be leaders within the strategies that we're implementing to create change."

Copeland, who completed her undergraduate education in Public Health at UC Berkeley, chose CDU's MPH program for her postgraduate studies "due to its unapologetic focus on communities of color and disenfranchised communities." Further, she was not interested in learning about public health from institutions that reinforced and replicated the oppressive structures that produced negative and often racialized health outcomes.

"[Berkeley] is a wonderful institution, but the lens through which I learned about public health there was completely different than CDU's," she said. "[When I graduated], I was left frustrated because I did not have the tools nor the language to describe the racialized outcomes that we see in health daily. Going to CDU and being able to work with other people who understood the language empowered me, because CDU was discussing racism as a public health issue long before it became a point of dialogue for the rest of the world."

Copeland urged CDU students to recognize the value in their community-oriented curriculum which emphasizes culturally appropriate care, and to utilize their skills as often as they could. "CDU's program is one of the most applicable public health programs that I've seen in the nation. Whatever you're doing in class, you can go to your internship or your job and replicate," she said. "We need more experts in

Jennifer Ordonio, FNP

MERVYN M. DYMALLY SCHOOL OF NURSING



Jennifer Ordonio, FNP '18, is a graduate of the Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing. Today, she works as an aesthetic nurse practitioner specializing in aesthetic/cosmetic medicine and plastic surgery. Her responsibilities in her current role include global assessment of skin-aging and other skin related issues, as well as assisting

post-operative plastic surgery patients with their recovery. She also performs less invasive facial procedures such as dermal filler injections, neurotoxin injections and micro-needling.

"My mission [in medicine] is to enhance natural beauty with a global and balanced approach," Ordonio said of her decision to pursue cosmetic medicine and plastic surgery. "My favorite thing about being a healthcare professional is being able to make a positive impact on people's lives, even if it's small."

Besides finishing school, she considers becoming an aesthetic nurse practitioner to be her greatest professional accomplishment. "I've been in this field since I've graduated and have grown a lot. It took a lot of determination and courage to get where I am today," she said. Although she is "very confident" in how she performs as an injector, she remains in a state of continued learning. "I am continuously seeking out the best trainings for safety, as well as new and improved techniques."

She chose to attend CDU because the University's core values aligned with her own. "I have great respect for an institution that takes such pride in diversity and community engagement," she said. She also highly valued the relationships she forged with her colleagues and professors, urging current students to be intentional about the relationships they create and maintain during this time in their education.

Ordonio also encouraged students to persist on their paths to health education, especially as they encounter inevitable difficulties. "There were many times I felt overwhelmed, but just understand that you are not alone," she said. "Don't give up because you never know who is inspired by your journey."

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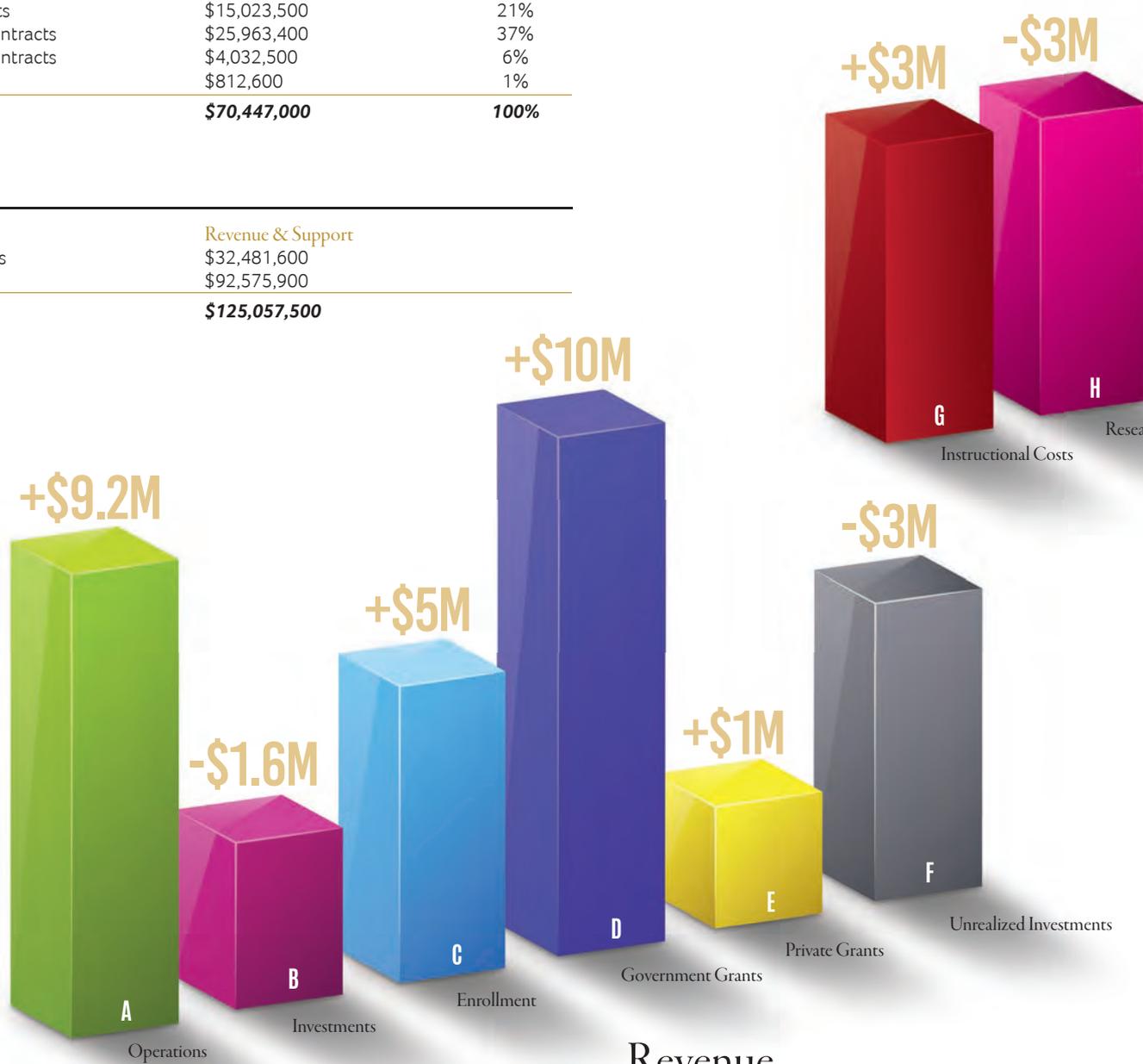
Financial Data

Revenue & Support

	Revenue & Support	Percentage
Tuition & Fees, net	\$24,615,000	35%
Federal Grants & Contracts	\$15,023,500	21%
State & Local Grants & Contracts	\$25,963,400	37%
Private: Gifts, Grants & Contracts	\$4,032,500	6%
Auxiliary Enterprises	\$812,600	1%
Total Revenue & Support	\$70,447,000	100%

Net Assets

	Revenue & Support
Without donor restrictions	\$32,481,600
With donor restrictions	\$92,575,900
Total Revenue & Support	\$125,057,500



Revenue

Revenue & Support

INCOME

A Net Assets
OPERATIONS
 Overall, net assets from operations increased by \$9.2 million.

B Net Assets
INVESTMENTS
 Net assets from investments decreased by \$1.6 million.

C Enrollment
TUITION AND FEES
 The increase in student enrollment was the prominent factor which led to the \$5 million increase in tuition and fees income.

D Grants
GOVERNMENT GRANTS
 State and local grant revenue increased nearly \$10 million due to the one-time \$7.5 million appropriation from the State of California.

E Grants
PRIVATE GRANTS
 Private grants and contracts revenue rose by nearly \$1 million.

F Investments
 Realized and unrealized investment returns declined by \$3 million due to market volatility caused by the pandemic and election year.

EXPENSES

G Costs
INSTRUCTIONAL COSTS
 Instructional costs rose nearly \$3 million due to an increase in student enrollment and distance learning (pandemic response measures).

H Expenses
RESEARCH
 Research expenses declined by nearly \$3 million due to pandemic response measures.

I Plant Operations
OPERATIONS
 Plant operations and maintenance fees increased about \$2 million from pandemic response measures.

J Expenses
TOTAL EXPENSES
 Total expenses increased by nearly \$2 million.



Grand Total
TOTAL REVENUE & SUPPORT
 Total revenue and support increased by roughly \$16 million.

Demographics & Statistics

Students Fall 2019 Race, Ethnicity, Gender

Does not include Graduate Medical Education

Race	Female	Male	Unknown	Grand Total
Black or African American	230	98	2	330
Unknown	28	14	1	43
Hispanic	130	75	2	207
White	27	14	0	41
Asian	110	75	0	185
Multiple	18	10	1	29
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	2	2	0	4
International Students	5	2	0	7
Grand Total	550	290	6	846

Students Fall 2020 Race, Ethnicity, Gender

Does not include Graduate Medical Education

Race	Female	Male	Unknown	Grand Total
Black or African American	247	98	3	348
Unknown	48	17	4	69
Hispanic	162	75	6	243
White	60	12	0	72
Asian	135	60	2	197
Multiple	31	8	1	40
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	7	3	0	10
International	7	1	0	8
Grand Total	697	274	16	987

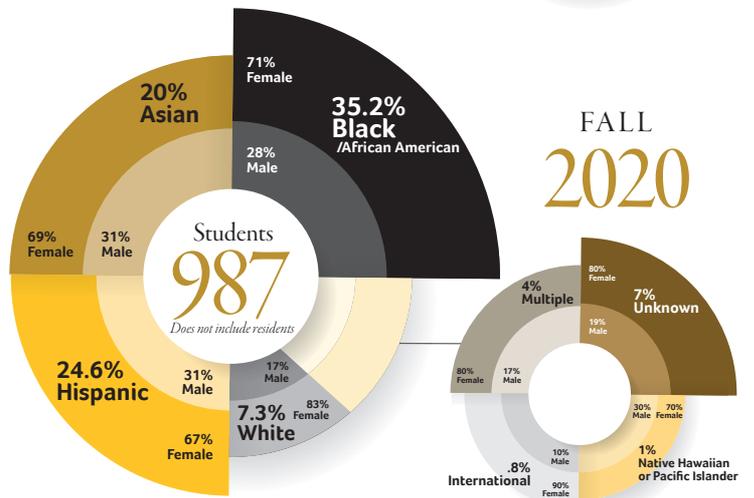
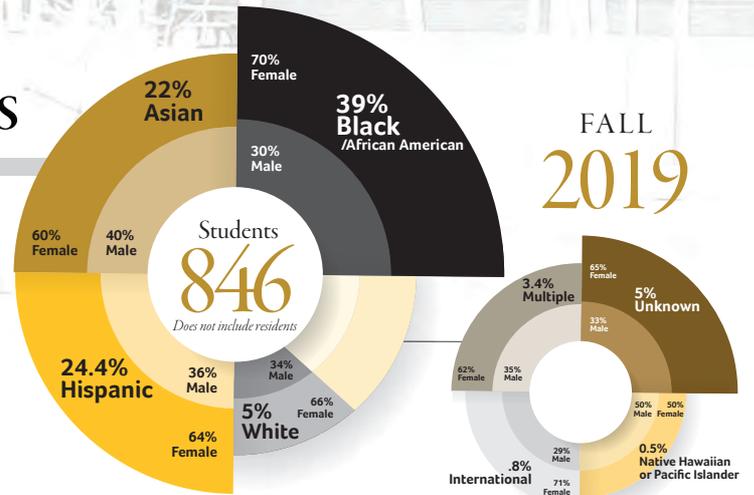
Student Enrollment by College

College	2019 Number of Students	2020 Number of Students
College of Medicine	137	151
College of Science and Health	300	338
School of Nursing	409	498
Grand Total	846	987

Enrollment by Degree

Including Graduate Medical Education

Degree Type	2019 Number of Students	2020 Number of Students
Associates	56	67
Bachelors	96	119
Bachelors of Science in Nursing	30	50
Certificate	69	107
Professional (Medical Education Program)	116	121
Masters in Health Science	74	77
Masters of Public Health	45	41
Masters in Science	28	34
Masters of Science in Nursing	332	371
Graduate Medical Education	28	41
Grand Total	874	1028



Student Average Age

	Fall 2019 Average	Fall 2020 Average
Graduate	36	36
Undergraduate	28	28

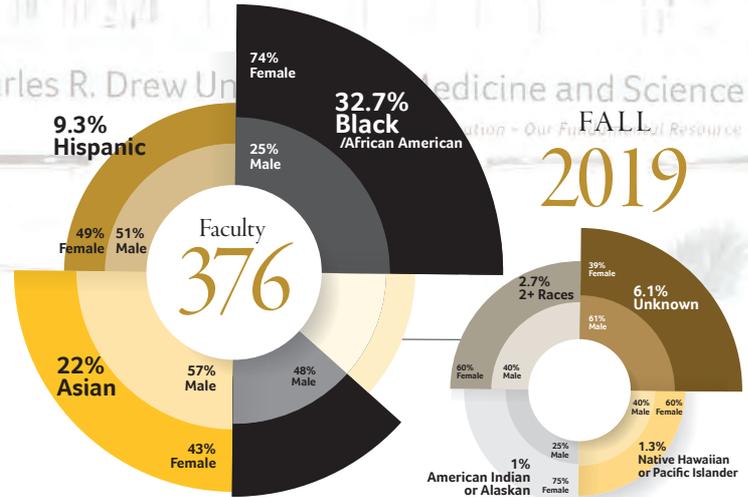
Where do CDU students come from?

State	2019 Number of Students	2019 Percentage of Undergraduate Students	2020 Number of Students	2020 Percentage of Undergraduate Students
California	713	72%	844	86%
Los Angeles County	516	52%	640	77%
SPA 6 (South Los Angeles)	115	12%	115	18%
Out of State	126	13%	138	14%
International Students	7	1%	5	1%
Nevada	38	5%	35	4%
Illinois	6	1%	0	0%
Maryland	5	1%	9	1%
Florida	5	1%	7	1%
New York	4	1%	0	0%
Texas	4	1%	0	0%
Louisiana	4	1%	0	0%
Georgia	0	0%	6	1%
Grand Total	846	100%	987	100%

FALL
2019

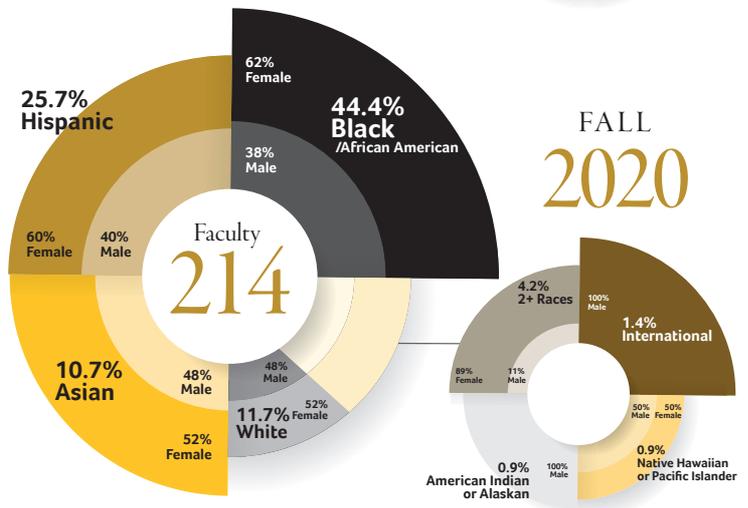
Faculty Fall 2019 Race, Ethnicity, Gender

Race	Female	Male	Grand Total
Black or African American	72	51	123
White	48	45	93
Asian	36	47	83
Hispanic or Latino	17	18	35
Unknown	9	14	23
Two or more races	6	4	10
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	2	3	5
American Indian or Alaskan	3	1	4
Grand Total	193	183	376



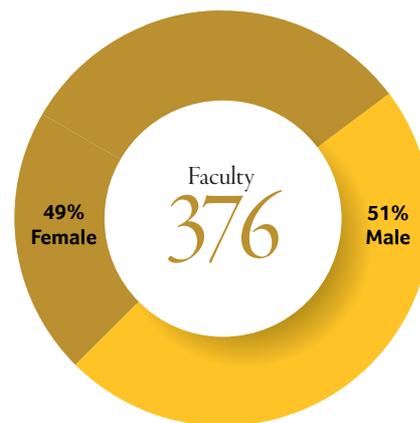
Faculty Fall 2020 Race, Ethnicity, Gender

Race	Female	Male	Grand Total
Black or African American	59	36	95
White	13	12	25
Asian	12	11	23
Hispanic or Latino	33	22	55
International	0	3	3
Two or more races	8	1	9
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1	1	2
American Indian or Alaskan	2	0	2
Grand Total	128	86	214



Faculty by Rank and Gender

Faculty	Female	Male	Grand Total
Instructor	50	22	72
Assistant Professor	105	95	200
Associate Professor	28	27	55
Professor	9	34	43
Professor (Emeritus)	1	5	6
Grand Total	193	183	376



FALL
2019



Mission, Vision & Values

Vision Statement

Excellent health and wellness for all in a world without health disparities.

Mission Statement

Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science is a private, non-profit, student-centered University that is committed to cultivating diverse health professional leaders who are dedicated to social justice and health equity for underserved populations through outstanding education, research, clinical service and community engagement.

Values

Community

At CDU, community encompasses historically underserved, underresourced and underrepresented groups such as those in South Los Angeles and around the world that are impacted by health disparities. As a value, “community” is the binding spirit that inspires and drives our unique approach in preparing health professionals dedicated to social justice and health equity.

Diversity

At CDU, diversity is defined by the multiple perspectives and ideas, plurality of cultures, variety of ethnicities, and differences in individuals within our communities. As a value, “diversity” represents a quintessential element of humanity and social justice for all.

Leadership

At CDU, we hold ourselves accountable and define our collective and individual responsibility as a catalyst for change necessary to reduce and eliminate health disparities. As a value, “leadership” means we embrace our role as a pioneer in health education and research.

Integrity

At CDU, integrity is the strength of character necessary to remain true to our values even in the face of adversity. As a value, “integrity” is conducting trustworthy, ethical, and respectful education, research, clinical, and other services in our committed engagement with underserved communities.

Excellence

At CDU, excellence is the highest quality performance in our operations, interactions, activities and service to our community. Excellence invokes the desire to challenge and transcend the status quo. As a value, “excellence” represents the transformation we seek in ourselves and in our students, faculty and staff.

Compassion

At CDU, compassion is empathy for the plights and predicaments of disadvantaged populations. As a value, “compassion” propels us to hear the voiceless, compels us to advocate for the oppressed, and obliges us to seek relief for the deprived.





Charles R. Drew University
of Medicine and Science
A Private University with a Public Mission

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