



ALUMNI NEWS

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Raniyah Copeland

President and CEO, The Black Aids Institute
Master of Public Health Program, 2011



5 QUESTIONS

1. Why did you choose to study at CDU?

“After being at UC Berkeley, which was a predominately white institution and studying public health, I wanted to study this field with people of color and CDU was the best option for that.”

2. How has CDU helped your career?

“CDU has allowed me to use real world applications and theories in my current work. My professors were very knowledgeable on challenges and opportunities that come with working with people of color. CDU has led me to vast community resources. My professors were important mentors, especially Dr. Nina Harawa, who was my thesis advisor.”

3. As the new President and CEO of the Black Aids Institute, what are the new initiative /plans you have for the organization?

“My vision for the Black AIDS Institute of tomorrow is an organization that is deeply entrenched in the community, providing services at all points of the care continuum along with a well-respected research, policy, mobilization, and capacity building portfolio that is uniquely and unapologetically Black. On the horizon are innovative programming targeting Black women including a Black women and PREP campaign (launched last year) that highlights the utilization of this and new biomedical interventions; and Black women ambassadors. Also, the organization will focus more on intersectional issues such as race, homophobia, and poverty, so folks may be able to access new tools, and reduce barriers to utilization of new tools.”

4. What advice do you have for current CDU students?

“My advice to current CDU students is to figure out what makes you passionate and find supporters and mentors to guide you through your career path, and find opportunities to practice your skills.”

5. What is your favorite mantra/quote to live by?

“There’s a quote by Angela Davis, ‘If they take you in the morning, they will be coming for us that night’ which speaks to how our fates are intertwined and how we have to advocate for one another.”

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ALUMNI OUTREACH



MESSAGE from the Chair

As the weather starts to warm-up in Southern California, the Alumni Association is busy creating programming that gets Alums up and out to explore our local community! Upcoming events, such as our Professional Development Conference and University events such as President’s Breakfast and Legacy Leaders Spring Gala are poised to reconnect CDU graduates and current students with opportunities to serve and grow in Watts-Willowbrook and beyond.

This past year has been a time of growth, and reflection for the Alumni Association. Our overarching goals have been to increase awareness of CDU and promote lifelong connections between alumni and the University, as well as fellowship among alumni and current students.

Thanks to such alumni efforts, we have been encouraged to (re)establish and reaffirm our association's mission and vision statements. As an association, we feel strongly that these underlying, core beliefs should stand as the bedrock for our efforts, and we look forward to planning programs, service opportunities and experiences for our members and local communities that reflect our overarching goal of health equity for all.

Sincerely,

Adrienne Martinez, PhD(c), MSN, Alumni Council Chair

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PRESIDENT'S BREAKFAST

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FIRST LADY OF ZAMBIA VISITS CDU

OUTREACH



The Student Alumni Network (SAN) and Alumni Association participated in Top Dawg Entertainment’s Fifth Annual Christmas Concert Event on December 19, 2019 in Nickerson Gardens of Watts, CA. The concert featured artists such as Kendrick Lamar, Travis Scott and others. The event garnered over 2,000 attendees held on the baseball field of the community center. Members of SAN provided information about the University, sexual education resources from the Oasis Clinic including condoms and specific program information. Members of the community were elated to see students from the University participate in this event and to be introduced to the University’s array of programs and resources. “It is such a great opportunity to be part of the Student Alumni Network because we are able to be community, cultural and health ambassadors”, said SAN member Yvorn Aswad (fourth year medical student).



Thanks TO DREW GIVING CAMPAIGN



The Alumni giving campaign entitled, *Thanks To Drew*, highlights the uniqueness of CDU through the achievements and success of our illustrious alums. The campaign seeks to raise funds for the following:

Alumni Mentorship Program

Students have the opportunity to receive valuable career and educational insights from alumni who were once in their shoes.

Your Gift of \$25:

Covers the cost of a student meal.

Student Scholarships

Student Scholarships are critical as 90% of our students rely on financial aid for their education. Scholarships have a lasting effect on student lives and inspire greatness, as well as propel students to become leaders in tomorrow's world.

Your Gift of \$50 TO \$100: Provides financial support and bridges the gap of student expenses. Gifts will be matched one to one up to \$250,000 to endow scholarships.

BONUS: Alumni Mention in the Alumni Newsletter and exclusive Alumni Association T-shirt.

Alumni Association

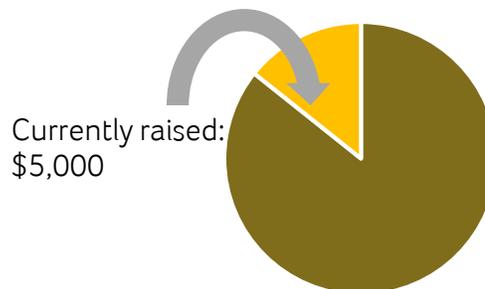
The CDU Alumni Association seeks to maintain, foster and expand the unique and special relationship that exists between the University and alumni through facilitating professional development for alumni and other initiatives that advance the goals of the University.

Your Gift of \$500:

Supports the Alumni Professional Development Conference and community outreach events for the alumni community.

BONUS: Alumni spotlight feature on the Alumni website and exclusive Alumni Association T-shirt.

CAMPAIGN GOAL: \$30,000



Help the Alumni Association reach our **GOAL!**

HOW CAN I GIVE A GIFT?

Online: [www.cdrewu.edu / alumni](http://www.cdrewu.edu/alumni)

Check payable to: Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science

Telephone: Please call us at (323) 357-3669 for assistance in making your gift.

Mail: Office of Strategic Advancement
Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science
1731 E. 120th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90059

SPECIAL THANKS to our alums for making gifts to the campaign:

Dr. Claude McGlorie III
Dr. Wendy L. Mednick
Dr. Kathryn Murray
Dr. Charles Ojelo
Dr. Luz Ramirez
Sylvia Rodriguez, PA

Dr. Tyisha Seymour
Dr. Gilford Vincent

Upcoming Event

A Discussion:

DIVERSITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION: RACE MATTERS

Societal benefit • Economic impact • Implications for healthcare

PRESIDENT'S BREAKFAST

When

Tuesday, February 19, 2019

Registration 8:30 a.m.

Program 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Where

Marina del Rey Marriott

4100 Admiralty Way

Bayview Ballroom

Marina del Rey, CA 90292

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC ADVANCEMENT

(323) 357-3669



Keynote Speaker **Julián Castro**

*Former Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
and former Mayor of San Antonio, Texas*

Panelists include:

Wendy Garen, President and CEO, Ralph M. Parsons Foundation

*Wm. Jahmal Miller, MHA, DHL, Director of Corporate Reputation
and Thought Leadership, Blue Cross of California*

*Dr. Francisco Rodriguez, Chancellor, LA Community College District
Maria S. Salinas, President and CEO, LA Area Chamber of Commerce*

Presented by: Torrey Pines Bank



INDIVIDUAL TICKETS: \$175
TABLE SPONSOR: \$2,000

For tickets:

www.cdrewu.edu/presbreakfast

CDU HOSTS THE 27TH ANNUAL EMPOWERMENT CONGRESS SUMMIT

Over 1,200 people came to the campus of Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science on Saturday, January 19, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday weekend, for the 27th Annual Empowerment Congress Summit, a civic event designed to “educate, engage and empower” the citizens of LA County.

The Summit was started in 1992 as a way to enable individuals and communities to work together to take control over their futures.

Speakers for the plenary session included from Los Angeles County Second District Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, founder of the Empowerment Congress; as well as U.S. Rep. Karen Bass, chair of the Congressional Black Caucus; U.S. Rep. Nanette Barragán (D-44), whose congressional district includes Willowbrook; and Humboldt County Supervisor Virginia Bass, president of the California State Association of Counties.

CDU President and CEO Dr. David M. Carlisle offered opening welcome remarks, noting the similarities between the goals of the Empowerment Congress and the CDU mission. “Like all of you here for the summit, everyone at CDU is inspired daily to “transform communities” ... [Our] mission is to change the face of medicine, to change the face of health, for this community and beyond.”



Photo credit: Leroy Hamilton

CDU PARTICIPATES IN 34TH ANNUAL KINGDOM DAYE PARADE



On January 21, 2019, CDU marched in the 34th Annual Kingdom Day Parade. The theme for this year’s parade was “Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds, Health Democracy”.

Several students from each of the colleges represented the University during the event. Our very own Josephine Akingbulu, MPH student, was pronounced 2019 Kingdom Day Parade Pageant and Scholarship Queen. The crowd was overjoyed to see our students and University mascot, Drew the Mighty Lion walk in the parade. Alongside Dr. Carlisle and our students was the “official” University car which is a 1975 Cadillac owned by Mr. Cazzie Burns in the Office of Strategic Advancement.

CAMPUS UPDATES

Lecture Series @CDU

NEW APPOINTMENT



Dr. Harding Young, College of Medicine Residency Program Alum, Class of 1990, was appointed into the Board of Trustees in October 2018.

Dr. Harding Young is a board-certified Family Medicine physician in Lynwood, California. He is currently licensed to practice medicine in California. He has been in practice for more than 30 years. Dr. Young has hospital affiliations with St. Francis Medical Center, Lynwood, PIH Health Hospital, Downey, and Fountain Valley Regional Hospital and Medical Center.

Dr. Young has received the following awards from Vitals, an online search tool to assist in selecting the best doctors: the Patients' Choice Award in 2010, 2011, 2014, and 2016; and the Compassionate Doctor Recognition Award in 2014.

Dr. Young graduated from the Morehouse School of Medicine, and received residency training at the King Drew Medical Center.

Office of CME

Our mission is to provide excellent Continuing Medical Education (CME). At CDU, we place particular emphasis on primary care and research clusters focused on high impact problems in underserved and underrepresented communities, including factors and conditions that influence health care disparities. The CDU CME Program is geared to improve the physician's ability to become health care team leaders, implementing evidence-based medicine. Our continuing education uses the Institute of Medicine (IOM) and Accreditation Council of Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)/ American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) core competencies as a basis for the content developed, to ensure we are meeting the needs of our learners.

Overview of CME Initiatives

- ❖ Quality Improvement (QI) Series
- ❖ Multidisciplinary Journal Club
- ❖ Professional Development Series
- ❖ Root Cause Analysis
- ❖ Cancer Journal Club
- ❖ Friday Noon Lecture Series
- ❖ Tumor Board

Upcoming CME Activities

- 02 / 01 / 2019 Friday Noon Lecture Series
- 02 / 08 / 2019 Friday Noon Lecture Series
- 02 / 15 / 2019 Friday Noon Lecture Series
- 02 / 22 / 2019 Friday Noon Lecture Series
- 03 / 01 / 2019 Friday Noon Lecture Series
- 03 / 08 / 2019 Friday Noon Lecture Series

For more information on CME activities or CME credit, contact the Office of CME, at (323) 563-4980.

NOTE FROM THE ASSOCIATE



Vision.
/ˈvɪʒən/
Noun.

1. The ability to think about or plan the future with imagination or wisdom. (Merriam-Webster).

The Alumni Council has taken the opportunity to redefine and rewrite the mission and vision for the Alumni Association:

Mission Statement

The mission of the CDU Alumni Association is to build lasting ties between CDU and alumni.

Our goals are:

- *To increase awareness of and attendance at CDU.*
- *To promote lifelong connections between alumni and the University, and fellowship among alumni and current students.*
- *To highlight the achievements of our alumni.*
- *To provide CDU alumni and supporters with meaningful programming and events, information on giving opportunities and ways to positively impact CDU's institutional priorities and goals, including scholarship support.*

Vision Statement

Our vision is a dynamic community of active alumni who serve as ambassadors for CDU and uphold its dedication to the pursuit of excellent health and wellness for all in a world without health disparities.

The Alumni Council believes in clearly defining the needs and wants of the alumni community. However, we need the help of our alums to make this happen. Join us as we continue to build the alumni association through your support of the Thanks To Drew Campaign, becoming a mentor or attending one of our events. I urge you to not just connect with the association but encourage other alums as well.

As famously said by one of the arguably best athletes of all time, Michael Jordan, "Some people want it to happen, some people wish it would happen, others make it happen." Join the Alumni Association's vision in building the alumni network and collectively, let's make it happen!

Thank you.

Brittney Miller
Alumni Associate

CONTRIBUTIONS

The University extends its sincerest thanks to **Dr. Ashis Mandal** for his recent \$40,000 gift to the University, as well **Dr. Fred Parrott** of the Real Men Cook Foundation and Mr. Marvin O’Quinn, member, CDU Board of Trustees for their respective contributions of \$50,000 towards the endowment of medical student scholarships and general operations. CDU would also like to thank the **Los Angeles County Medical Association (LACMA)** for selecting the University as the recipient of \$20,000 in scholarship funds at the 2018 Los Angeles Healthcare Awards on November 30, 2018.

Lastly, the **Auxiliary to the Charles R. Drew Medical Society** presented a total of \$12,000 in scholarships to eight CDU students at their December 2018 meeting: Aubrey Kelly (COM), Kadarius Burgess (COM), Taylor Cole (COM), Yasmine Abbey (COM), Tristan Howard (COM), Richard Timmons-Vendryes (COM), Lauren Barnes (COSH) and Jazmyn Childress (SON).

As CDU continues to expand into a mid-size university and develop in stature, contributions and major gifts from supporters such as **Board member O’Quinn, Dr. Parrott, Dr. Mandal, LACMA and the Charles R. Drew Medical Society** are essential in ensuring we have the proper infrastructure to improve campus facilities and ensure student success.



(L to R): Dr. David Carlisle, President and CEO, CDU, Dr. Daphne Calmes, Dean of Medical Student Affairs, Bria Pettway, COM Student, Kyasha Moore, COM Student

FIRST LADY OF ZAMBIA VISITS CDU



On January 28, 2019, the University welcomed the First Lady of Zambia, Esther Lungu. The meeting included discussion about the Rise-Up! Project currently in Zambia in conjunction with CDU and other ways to collaborate. The First Lady embarked on a campus tour and interacted with many of the students on campus. We look forward to hearing more about future partnerships!

HUMBLE BRAG

Please keep us informed of any new career accomplishments and activities. We would love to showcase the achievements of our alumni community! Send all updates to CDUalumniassociation@cdrewu.edu.

STAY CONNECTED!

 @CDUAlumniAssociation

 @cdrewualumni

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