Letter from the Director

The spring semester is a time for reflection and renewal. It also is a time of anticipation for the future. As the Health Careers Program reflects on the fall semester, we strive to capitalize on the recruitment events from our health professions fair and conference in October. Students have received numerous professional school acceptances from those institutions that participated, which speaks to the importance of committed collaborations. We also are emboldened to prepare our students for understanding the diversity of health careers through our lunch and learn series, as well as, continue to encourage them to participate in alumnae –led workshops and panel discussions. In December, our travels to Trinidad and Tobago with the SAGE program exposed our students to global health disparities to help broaden their perspectives of healthcare needs worldwide. The spring also welcomed our new staff in the office, who will focus on strengthening our affiliated pipelines, developing clinical exposures for our students, enhancing communication of health career related opportunities to the Spelman Community, and providing excellence in advisement to enhance the outcomes of our students. We again thank our campus and extramural supporters for allowing us to carry out our mission of educating women to make a global difference in healthcare. –Dr. Rosalind-Gregory Bass, C’92
The Health Careers Program Office is Growing!

The Health Careers Program is proud to introduce three new staff members: Dr. Alayna Blash, Associate Director, Mr. Leslie Williams, Pre-Health Advisor and Clinical Liaison, and Dr. Tanisha McGlothen, Pre-Health Advisor and Communications Specialist.

Dr. Alayna M Blash, C’94 is the Associate Director of the Health Careers Program at Spelman College. She completed her undergraduate education at Spelman, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry. Following Spelman, she matriculated at the Pennsylvania College of Podiatric Medicine (now Temple University) in Philadelphia, PA. Upon completion of her residency in Primary Podiatric Medicine, she entered private practice. Returning to Spelman, Dr. Blash is focused on enhancing Pre-matriculation Pipeline programs and exposing minority pre-health students to post-graduate opportunities.

Mr. Leslie Williams is one of two new Pre-Health advisors and the Clinical Liaison of the Health Careers Program at Spelman. Mr. Williams received his Bachelors of Science and Business Administration degree in Banking and Finance and his Masters of Science degree in Exercise Science both from The University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Prior to joining Spelman College, Mr. Leslie Williams was a lecturer of Kinesiology, Sport Studies and Physical Education at Morehouse College. During his ten-plus years in the Kinesiology and Exercise Science field, he has held positions working in multiple hospitals and fitness facilities.

Dr. Tanisha McGlothen, C’96 is a Pre-Health Advisor and the Communications Specialist in the Health Careers Program. Upon completing her Bachelor of Science degree at Spelman College, Dr. McGlothen worked in the infectious disease division of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). After which, she earned her Ph.D. in the Biological Sciences from Morehouse School of Medicine. She completed her postdoctoral work at Emory’s Winship Cancer Institute with a concentration in triple negative breast cancer. Dr. McGlothen focuses on preparing Spelman students for medical school, graduate school, as well as nursing and physical assistant programs.

Photos courtesy of Ms. Germaine McAuley
Spelman hosts Princeton MCAT Prep course

This semester, Spelman students were afforded the opportunity to participate in a Princeton Review MCAT prep course, due to the gracious donations of several Spelman College alumnae. As the class session comes to a close and these young ladies prepare to take the MCATs, we are grateful to our wonderful alumnae who have made such an investment in our students.

Sister 2 Sister Financial Literacy Seminar

The Sister 2 Sister Professional Mentoring program was launched in 2011. The purpose of the program is to pair current Spelman students with alumnae in their field of interest in an effort to build professional mentor-mentee partnerships. Students and their mentors interact via personal and professional development seminars held throughout the academic year. The spring Sister 2 Sister seminar focused on financial literacy. Dr. Bass shared practical information that ranged from how to set a budget to ways to finance and repay student loans upon graduation. This workshop gave students an understanding of the cost associated with a host of different health professional schools, but also focused on the sometimes unrealized aspects of financing a career in the health professions. These include knowing your credit score, understanding the difference between the various types of loans available, loan repayment programs, and thinking long term about financial investments. The students walked away not only having a better idea of how to finance their education but also how to plan for long term financial stability.
Health Professional School Acceptances!

The staff and students of the Spelman College Health Careers Program would like to congratulate the following students on their acceptance to health professional school. Each year Spelman has many students who seek admission in the nation’s top graduate and professional schools. We are currently ranked 4th with the American Association of Medical Colleges (AAMC) among institutions supplying 15 or more Black or African American students to medical school. We are ranked first among single sex and liberal arts undergraduate institutions.

**Medical School**
- Tamara Byrd
- Nercie Danger
- Adrianna Jackson
- Jenaye Mack
- Jai McQuilla
- Ashleigh Peoples
- Jayne Rice
- Cecily Scarbrough

**Pharmacy School**
- Alexandria Sutton
- Andrea Boyd Tessler
- Kristina Tynes
- Ticara Wicks
- Kara Wilson

**Physical Therapy**
- Imani White

**Medical School**
- Bianca Campbell
- Anna Johnson
- Keyanna Scott

**Nursing School**
- Megan Goldston

**School of Public Health**
- Bejanchong Foretia
- Alaysia McCutchen
- Jasmine Lucas
- Faith Kirkland
Congratulations to our H.C.O.P.P.P. Scholars!

The Health Career Opportunities Pipeline Preparation Program (H.C.O.P.P.P) was developed by Dr. Rosalind Gregory-Bass in the fall of 2008. The purpose of the program is to prepare pre-health students with the skills necessary to become capable and knowledgeable health care professionals. The H.C.O.P.P.P. program provides mentorship, professional, personal and academic development opportunities for aspiring physicians, dentists, pharmacists, public health specialists, nurses, and other medical professionals. Students are eligible to apply to become an HCOPPP scholar in the fall of their sophomore year. Congratulations to the inductees of the Spelman College Health Careers Program’s Class of 2018 H.C.O.P.P.P. Scholars!

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<th>C’2018</th>
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<td>Chloe Blackmon</td>
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Health Careers Office Kicks of its Lunch and Learn Series

The Health Careers Program hosts a series of “Lunch and Learn” seminars throughout the Fall and Spring semesters. We kicked off this semester with a seminar featuring Dr. LaGenia Mitchell-Smith, C’99. Dr. Mitchell-Smith is a doctor of podiatric medicine who practices here in the Atlanta area. Students were enlightened regarding the path to podiatric medicine, how best to prepare for medical school from a Spelmanite who has gone through the process, as well as what the field of podiatry involves on a day to day basis. Thank you to Dr. Mitchell-Smith for such a great session! Make sure that you are registered with the Health Careers Office to find out about upcoming speakers and events. Stop by the Health Careers office and tell us what health careers you would like to hear more about!

List of Podiatric Medical Colleges in the United States

Barry University of Podiatric Medicine
California School of Podiatric Medicine at Samuel Merritt University
Des Moines University of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery
Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine
Midwestern University Arizona School of Podiatric Medicine
New York College of Podiatric Medicine
Dr. William M. Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine at the Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science
Temple University
Western University of Health Sciences College of Podiatric Medicine
Spelman Participates in Emory University School of Medicine SNMA Tour

As a part of their commitment to providing guidance and mentorship to students under-represented in medicine, the Emory University Student National Medical Association (SNMA) invited Spelman students to attend the Emory University School of Medicine Tour Day. The event included an informational session, a Q&A session with admissions officers and current medical students.

Spelman College Health Careers hosts Columbia University!

Dr. Shelley Weinstock, Director of Career Development at the Institute of Human Nutrition at Columbia University visited Spelman College to speak to students interested in a master of science degree in human nutrition. Columbia University offers a 12 month masters program at its New York City campus. This rigorous one-year curriculum, which includes a research and thesis component, focuses on developing leadership skills among its graduates, who go on to pursue a varied array of health professions including careers in medicine, public health, communications and laboratory research.
The Division of Student Affairs developed the Student Affairs Global Experience (SAGE) program to provide a global immersion experience for Spelman students. This past December, SAGE traveled with 30 faculty, staff, and students to Trinidad and Tobago. The significance of the Spelman College Health Careers students participating in this SAGE global immersion experience was to understand the impact of diabetes mellitus type 2 in the Caribbean. Trinidad and Tobago has been noted to have the 7th highest incidence of type 2 diabetes in this region. Students travelled to urban and rural areas of Trinidad to understand how health care professionals and health care facilities are working together to combat the disease. The students not only learned how socialized medicine is practiced in the Caribbean but also how grassroots initiatives have enhanced the overall prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of these patients.

Pictured: Dr. Bass and Spelman College Health Careers students at the University of the West Indies Medical School during the SAGE global immersion experience in Trinidad.

Pictured: Spelman College Health Careers SAGE participants at Trinidad airport preparing to travel to Tobago.

Pictured: Dr. Gregory-Bass and Spelman College Health Career students at the San Fernando Teaching Hospital in Trinidad. Students were able to hear from area endocrinologist to learn more about diabetes mellitus.
Spelman Students invited to Beauty in Sustainability Luncheon

In celebration of Women’s History Month, the Department of Aviation at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport invited Spelman students to their environmentally themed “There is Beauty in Sustainability” event. The afternoon included a luncheon with local women executives leading the charge to bring awareness to sustainability. The panel included Lisa Wise, executive director of Initiative for Affordable Housing Inc. and founder of re:loom project; Jennifer Hankey, president and CEO of Healthy Green Schools; and Jillian Pritchard Cooke, owner/founder of DES-SYN and Wellness Within Your Walls. Students were also treated to a Going Green Fair which featured sample products from vendors who have committed to providing sustainably responsible products and consumer goods.

Health Careers Program Hosts Physician Assistant Informational Session

According to Money Magazine, physician assistants are not only in high demand, but this health profession is rated as one of the top ten health professions in the country. This semester, the Spelman College Health Careers Program hosted an informational seminar to introduce students to this fast growing career. The seminar covered pre-requisite coursework required, how to obtain the necessary clinical hours, how to choose the appropriate accredited program, and options for financing this career. Common misconceptions about physician assistants were also covered. For example, did you know that licensed physician assistants have their own patients, make clinical decisions, prescribe medication, perform physical exams and assist in surgery? The students walked away with an understanding of how to apply to physician assistant programs, as well as the many funding opportunities available, including loan repayment services. This served as another opportunity to expose Spelman students to the myriad of opportunities available in the field of health careers. Do you think a career as a physician assistant might be a good fit for you? Stop by the Spelman College Health Careers Office to speak to one of our staff members and get more information.
On March 16th, 2016, eleven Spelman students joined by fellow Clark and Morehouse College students, were inducted into the Alpha Epsilon Delta Pre-Professional Honor Society. Alpha Epsilon Delta (AED) was founded in 1926 at the University of Alabama and chartered in the Atlanta University Center (AUC) at Morehouse College in 1997. Students inducted into this honor society have demonstrated academic excellence in the sciences and their overall undergraduate tenure. The Georgia Delta Chapter is only the second chapter of AED established at a Historically Black College and University (HBCU). This year, newly inducted students and guests were addressed by Zandraetta Tims-Cook, MD, MPH, AAHIVS, C’92. Dr. Tims-Cook admonished students to remember that a career as a pre health professional is about using your talents to better the lives of others. Inductees were charged to prepare for service in this organization and beyond. Congratulations to all our inductees!

Pictured: Dr. Tims-Cook, C’92 and newly inducted members of the Georgia Delta Chapter of the Alpha Epsilon Delta National Pre-Professional Honor Society.
Auburn University
USA MOBILE
Health Careers Program
Spring Break Recruitment Tour
University of S. Alabama
VCOM
Spelman College Health Careers Program Staff

Pictured left to right: Dr. Alayna Blash, Dr. Tanisha McGlothen, Dr. Rosalind Gregory-Bass, and Mr. Leslie Williams.

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