Spelman College Health Careers Program has a forty-year history of providing resources, recruitment activities, and application assistance for graduate and professional schools. Spelman has 2,200 students and for the last 4 years we have an approximate average of 300 students registered with our program. Students voluntarily register using an in-network database that allows us to access vital information for advising students and evaluating their academic progress for our comprehensive Health Council committee recommendation letters. The 2016-17 academic year is an exciting time for students in the Health Careers Program. We had an opportunity to welcome the Class of 2020 and re-ignited our registered student organizations, which include the Health Careers Club, Active Minds and Alpha Epsilon Delta Health Professions Honor Society. The office staff worked diligently to plan our class meetings, which were well attended, and Health Professions Week. This year’s Health Professions Week included a clinical skills Lunch and Learn workshop, the AUC Health Professional Schools Recruitment Fair, and the Dr. Georgia Dwelle Networking Reception with area healthcare providers and alumnae. The week ended with our annual Health Professions Conference with over one hundred students, speakers and recruiters in attendance. This academic year is off to a great start.

Dr. Rosalind Gregory-Bass
Students registered with the Health Careers Program, major in many different disciplines. Students interested in the health professions can choose any major, as long as they complete the necessary pre-requisite courses required for their professional school of choice. During the 2014-15 academic years the top three pre-health majors were Biology, Psychology, and Chemistry. In the 2015-16 academic year, there was a shift with the following disciplines having the top number of pre-health students: Biology, Psychology, and Health Sciences. The Health Sciences major is new to Spelman and provides a flexible curriculum for students to take all professional pre-requisites prior to graduation for a variety of health professional programs.
Who is coming to the Health Careers Program for Advisement?

The Health Careers Program advises students representing a variety of majors. In compiling the data to determine which majors come most often to be advised on issues related to their chosen health profession, we determined that the majority of advisement visits were by students majoring in either biology or psychology for both the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 academic years. However, year to date, the majority of advising done in the office is of students pursing a major in Health Sciences.

### TOP MAJORS VISITING HEALTH CAREERS OFFICE

#### 2014-2015
- Undecided, 45%
- Biology, 45%
- Psychology, 10%

#### 2015-2016
- Undecided, 56%
- Biology, 34%
- Psychology, 10%

### TOP MAJORS VISITING THE HEALTH CAREERS PROGRAM OFFICE

YEAR TO DATE
- Biology, 42%
- Health Sciences, 37%
- Chemistry and Biochemistry, 12%
- Political Science, 2%
- Psychology, 7%
Students registered with the Health Careers Program major in many different disciplines. Students interested in the health professions have the ability to choose any major, as long as they complete the necessary pre-requisite courses required for their professional school of choice. During the 2014-15 academic year the top 3 pre-health majors were Biology, Psychology, and Chemistry. In the 2015-16 academic year, there was a shift with the following disciplines having the top number of pre-health students: Biology, Psychology, and Health Sciences. The Health Science major is new to Spelman and provides a flexible curriculum for students to take all professional pre-requisites for a variety of health professional schools prior to graduation.
The Health Careers Program hosted its 10th annual Health Professions Week from September 29th through October 1st. The week included a host of activities designed to provide students with valuable information and networking opportunities with health professional schools from around the country. Forty recruiters attended our AUC Health Professions Recruitment Fair held in Upper Manley on Thursday, September 29th. Students were able to meet one on one with recruiters and health professionals to discuss admissions criteria, internship opportunities, and more. Later that evening over 100 guests, including many Spelman alumnae, joined us for our annual Georgia Dwelle, M.D. networking dinner reception. The week ended with our Health Professions Conference featuring several guest panelists presenting valuable information on a variety of health related topics and fields of study. Stop by the Health Careers Program Office to register for our upcoming events. We have more great events coming up later this semester and you don’t want to miss out!

**Pictured:** Students and invited guests at this year’s Health Professions Conference.

**Pictured:** Students getting valuable information from recruiters Mr. Manuel Santiago from the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Medicine and Public Health and Ms. Chante Hendrix from the University of South Alabama School of Medicine.

**Pictured:** Dr. Bass and students participate in the Passing of the Torch Ceremony at the Georgia Dwelle, M.D. networking reception.

**Pictured:** Spelman students interact with Princeton Review Test Prep representatives during this year’s recruitment fair.

**Pictured:** Health professionals giving students hands on training during the clinical skills workshop.
Health Careers Program Class Meetings

The Health Careers Program currently has over 250 enrolled students. To ensure that every student was well informed of the opportunities available to them at every stage of their matriculation at Spelman, the Health Careers Program Office held class meetings at the beginning of the semester. Each meeting addressed the needs and opportunities available to students by class year. Freshman students were encouraged to take the opportunity to become familiar with the campus and focus on academic success and to start preparing for their summer experiences. Sophomore students were given information on all of the available pipeline programs and the requirements for eligibility. The junior/senior meeting focused on admissions criteria for a diversity of health professional schools.

Pictured: Mr. Williams presenting information on clinical shadowing opportunities to sophomore Health Sciences majors.

Pictured: Dr. Bass addressing students during the first Health Sciences meetings.
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 H.C.O.P.P.P. scholar in the fall of their sophomore year. On Saturday, August 8th, 34 current H.C.O.P.P.P. scholars convened for their annual retreat. The scholars were joined by a panel of experts in various health professional fields for a day full of information and valuable networking opportunities.
Congratulations to our SPARC Winners!

On Thursday, August 25, 2016 the Howard Hughes Medical Institute sponsored its annual Spelman Pioneer Award in Research Competition (SPARC). Interdisciplinary teams of 3-5 students competed to develop a novel solution to a biomedical problem that is posed at the beginning of the academic year. This year, four dynamic teams participated in the event and The Walker team walked away with first prize. The Walker team devised an innovative walker that incorporated the characteristics of both an infant walker and a traditional adult walker. The purpose of this device was to assist individuals with limited or diminished mobility. The Walker team was comprised of Health Careers Program students Jill Cartwright and Nadege Gitego and Spelman student Ginger Washington.

**Pictured:** Nadege Gitego and Jill Cartwright of The Walker Team, which placed 2nd in this year’s competition

**Pictured:** Dr. Rosalind Gregory-Bass with the first place SPARC winners.

**Pictured:** Spelman College SPARC participants
Summer Student Shadowing Opportunities

This year over a dozen Health Careers Program students have participated in clinical shadowing and research opportunities throughout the country. Their experiences ranged from working in operating rooms to athletic training facilities. While obtaining clinical and shadowing experience is a requirement of the Health Sciences major, all students benefit from the opportunity to interact with health professionals and apply the practical knowledge gained in the classroom to real-world situations. Sophomore Michelle says of her shadowing experience, “I have an interest in anesthesiology, so being able to shadow an anesthesiology PA gave me a first-hand look at the operating room. If it wasn't for my participation in the Health Careers Program, I would have never had the opportunity to meet Dr. Philips.” The Health Careers Program currently has shadowing opportunities available with the following agencies: Emory Winship Cancer Institute, Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, Emory Autism Center, Piedmont Hospital, Southern Regional Medical Center, Morehouse College Athletic Training Department, and Covenant CNA School. If you are a health sciences major seeking a shadowing opportunity, stop by the Health Careers Program to speak to Mr. Leslie Williams to help determine the right opportunity for you.

Pictured: Sophomore biology major Ty’Tuaunna Thomas at Columbia University Medical Center shadowing area otolaryngologist.

Pictured: Sophomore chemistry major Michelle Kaimenyi with mentor Dr. Sherman Philips, anesthesiologist PA at Piedmont Hospital.

Pictured: Sophomore, Shami-Iyabo K. Mitchell at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio participating in their six week SMDEP program.

This summer, Health Careers Program junior, Amani Lee, had the opportunity to participate in the Veterinary Summer Internship in Sugarland, Texas with Dr. Amna Plummer. Dr. Plummer, C’95, received her Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine (DVM) from Tuskegee University and is the owner of Critter Care Animal Hospital (CCAH). She supervises 30 staff members, including veterinarians, veterinary technicians, and pet groomers. During her four weeks as an intern at CCAH, Amani had the opportunity to engage in many hands on experiences associated with veterinary medicine. “I was able to participate in a lot of hands on activities including drawing blood, giving vaccines and subcutaneous, intranasal, and intramuscular medications. I also assisted in a spade and neuter procedure. I learned how to use the blood collected to conduct various tests including the OHW test used to detect Heartworm disease. This test detects antigens released by female adult heartworm into the animal’s bloodstream. Using a light microscope, I checked for the presence of tapeworm, roundworm, hookworm, and other parasitic eggs in the blood sample. I learned so much and it was a very rewarding experience.” If you are interested in applying for the Dr. Amna Plummer Veterinary Summer Internship, stop by the Health Careers Program Office to find out about this and other summer opportunities that you may be eligible for.

Pictured: Spelman College junior, Amani Lee and Dr. Amna Plummer, C’95 at Critter Care Animal Hospital in Sugarland, Texas.
Spelman College Health Sciences Student Activities

The major in Health Sciences provides an interdisciplinary approach to recognizing, evaluating and understanding key theories and concepts associated with individual health, wellness and various pathophysiologic conditions and their global impact on society. It includes courses from the natural sciences, social sciences, humanities and fine arts to educate students and enhance their critical analysis of disease processes using both quantitative and qualitative problem-solving skills. The major will also give a comprehensive overview of the career options available in the health sciences.

The Health Careers Program has hosted a series of programming events to actively engage students interested in a career in the health professions. Our first Lunch and Learn of the academic year was attended by over 30 students who gained new insights into the profession of Dr. Ani Whitmore, Ph.D., C’2009. Dr. Whitmore is an Evaluation Fellow working on the Atlanta Childhood Initiative in the Office of Non-communicable Diseases, Injury, and Environmental Health (ONDIEH) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. New Health Sciences majors also attended their first FYE session this semester. Students also had the opportunity to participate in Morehouse School of Medicine’s First Look Program, which gave students the opportunity to interact with faculty, students and admissions staff and get first-hand information regarding the medical school experience. Health Sciences majors also represented at Morehouse School of Medicine’s 21st Annual HeLa Women’s Health Symposium, which serves to bring awareness to current issues in personalized medicine.

Pictured: Dr. Blash welcoming new Health Sciences majors during the first FYE session.

Pictured: Health Science students participate in Morehouse School of Medicine’s First Look Program.

Pictured: Dr. Blash guiding Health Science students through an examination on a breast self-exam model.

Pictured: Health Science students participate in Morehouse School of Medicine’s HeLa Conference.
Spelman College Health Careers Program
Annual Homecoming Breakfast

Each year, the Spelman College Health Careers Program invites alumnae of the Health Careers Program to its annual Homecoming Breakfast. This is an opportunity for alumnae to reconnect and network with students who are currently in the Health Careers Program and for students to form relationships with health professionals in various fields of study.

This year, the Health Careers Program took time to honor one of its own, Consuelo L. “Buffy” Campbell, C’92, who succumbed to breast cancer last year. Buffy, as she was affectionately known, earned her MS degree in Public Health from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and her Masters of Divinity from the McAfee School of Theology at Mercer University before serving as the Associated Director of the Mental Health Program of Liberia at the Carter Center. Ms. Campbell’s parents chose to honor their daughter with a scholarship in her name. Many friends, family and classmates attended this year’s breakfast to commemorate the presentation of the first Consuelo L. “Buffy” Campbell Award for Public Health. This scholarship is given to a current Spelman student who has demonstrated the same passion for the public health issues that Ms. Campbell embodied. This year, the scholarship was awarded to Jabou Jagne, C’2017. Jabou is a Health Sciences major who spent last summer as the Summer Research Program in Social Determinants of Health summer program scholar at Berkeley University, conducting HIV/AIDS research. Ms. Jagne has also her published her first paper on the effects of endocrine disrupting chemicals on women’s health, earlier this year.

Pictured: Mr. Leslie Williams with Health Careers students Aliecia Bouigny and Frances Neal at this year’s annual Homecoming Breakfast.


Pictured: Health Careers Program alumnae enjoying a moment during the Health Careers Program annual Homecoming Breakfast.

Pictured: Dr. Bass greeting Health Careers Program alumnae.
Spelman College Health Careers Program Hosts
Dr. Hazel Dean, C’83
ScD, DrPH (Hon), FACE

The Spelman College Health Careers Program was pleased to welcome Dr. Hazel Dean, C’83 as our Lunch and Learn speaker earlier this semester. Dr. Dean, currently serves as the Deputy Director of the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHHSTP) at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) here in Atlanta, Georgia. NCHHSTP is the lead federal agency responsible for public health surveillance, prevention research, and interventions to prevent and control HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), and tuberculosis (TB).

During her very inspirational talk, Dr. Dean impressed upon the students the importance of writing down and visualizing goals in order to make them a reality. She emphasized asking self-reflective questions such as, “Where do I see myself in ten years and what steps do I need to take to make sure that I am on the right path to get me there?”

Dr. Dean also admonished students to be willing to invest in themselves. Most importantly, she stressed the importance of being prepared. Throughout her career, Dr. Dean attributes a large part of her advancement to hard work and making sure that, as opportunities presented themselves, that she was poised as the most prepared candidate. Counted among her many accomplishments is Dr. Dean’s commitment to mentoring students and holding the door open for those to come after her. If you are interested in finding out more about Dr. Dean or the work that her office does, follow her on Twitter: @DrDeanCDC. Stop by the Health Careers Office for information on this and upcoming Lunch and Learn events.

Pictured: Dr. Hazel Dean with Health Careers Program Staff and Spelman students.

Pictured: Dr. Hazel Dean speaking to students during one of the Health Careers Program Lunch and Learn sessions held in October.
Dental School Panel Speaks at Spelman College

In November, the Spelman College Health Careers Program invited representatives from several dental schools across the country to speak to students interested in a career in dentistry about the path to a career in dentistry and the various opportunities that their respective schools offered. Dr. Jeanette Sabir-Holloway, C’76 of Tufts University was joined by Dr. George Taylor, Dean of Diversity and Inclusion at UC San Francisco School of Dentistry, and Dr. Todd Ester, Director of Diversity and Inclusion at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry. Dr. Holloway is also the founder of the Increasing Diversity in Dentistry (IDID) Pipeline Program. The purpose of which is to increase the number of underrepresented minorities diversity in the dental field. If you are interested in a career in the dental field, stop by the Health Careers Office of Admissions, Tufts University Program Director, Increasing Diversity in Dentistry (IDID)

Dr. Jeanette Sabir-Holloway, C’76
Office of Admissions, Tufts University Program Director, Increasing Diversity in Dentistry (IDID)

Dr. George Taylor, Dean of Diversity and Inclusion (UC San Francisco School of Dentistry)

Dr. Todd Ester, Director of Diversity and Inclusion University of Michigan School of Dentistry

Pictured: Drs. Sabir-Holloway, Todd Ester, and George Taylor with Health Careers staff and students during the November dental school Lunch and Learn panel.
Princeton Review and Kaplan

Standardized Test Prep Courses Coming Soon

Stop by the Health Careers Office for more information.
Tapley 126

MCAT (Medical), PCAT (Pharmacy)
& DAT/OAT (Dentistry)
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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