Mission and Vision

We serve as the Dean’s proponent for diversity and cultural competence among students, faculty, and staff. Our Office accomplishes this mission through collaboration with all departments to develop model recruitment and retention strategies and for curriculum and faculty development.

Our vision is to lead medical schools in the diversity of faculty, students, staff and trainees by developing programs that educate, recruit, and retain a multicultural constituency. We foster an environment that demonstrates BUSM’s belief that diversity adds value to intellectual development, academic discourse, patient care, and research. We believe that diversity is essential to the development of future leaders in healthcare and research to serve our community, nation, and world.

Rafael A. Ortega, MD
Associate Dean
Professor
Vice-Chairman of Academic Affairs
Department of Anesthesiology

Samantha Kaplan, MD, MPH
Assistant Dean
Assistant Professor
EMSSP, Director
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Alexander Norbash MD, MHCMD, FACP
Assistant Dean
Professor
Chairman
Department of Radiology

Thea James, MD
Assistant Dean
Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine
President, EMCM Medical Directors EMCM

William Cruikshank, PhD
Assistant Dean
Professor of Medicine
Director of Graduate Program for Molecular Medicine

www.bumc.bu.edu/oma
EMSSP

The Early Medical School Selection Program (EMSSP), a program designed to increase the number of underrepresented minorities, provides an early and decompressed transition into the medical school curriculum through provisional acceptance into the medical school at the completion of two years of undergraduate study.

Students accepted into Boston University School of Medicine Early Medical School Selection Program remain at their undergraduate colleges through their junior year and pursue programs of study that will best prepare them to spend their senior year at Boston University. Students enroll in at least one six-week summer course at Boston University in each of the two summers prior to spending their senior year at Boston University.

Mentorship

Boston University School of Medicine offers ample opportunities to find mentors with whom to develop meaningful and collegial relationships. An example of our commitment to mentoring is The Academies of Advisors, an innovative career development program that is designed to improve the advising of our students through ongoing guidance and support from experienced faculty members, educators, and role models of professionalism. Our programs emphasize developing intellectual skills while nurturing a sense of well-being and camaraderie. We strive to help our medical students lead a balanced and productive academic life in their quest to become exceptional physicians.

Diversity at Boston University

Boston University is a rich tapestry of multiculturalism. There is ample representation among our faculty and staff of Black/African American, Latino, LGBT, Muslim, women, and many other ethnic and social and cultural groups. We believe that diversity extends beyond race, ethnicity, and gender and also includes diversity of life experiences. A diversity of perspectives leads to innovative approaches to finding solutions to challenges in research and patient care. Open meetings are regularly held to discuss issues impacting the many racial, cultural, ethnic, and sexual orientation groups that comprise our community.

Examples of Medical Student Organizations

American Association of Physicians for Indian Origin (AAPI)
Christian Medical Dental Association (CMDA)
Iranian Health Care Students Association
Maimonides Society
Medical Gay and Lesbian Organization (MedGLO)
Medical Students for Choice (MSFC)
Physicians for Human Rights (PHR)
South Asian Medical Student Association (SAMSA)
Student National Medical Association (SNMA)

Faculty Directory

The Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs maintains a directory of faculty who consider themselves diverse or who have diversity-related interests. Examples of individuals in leadership positions listed in this directory include:

Gregory Antoine, MD, MPH
Associate Professor and Chair
Plastic Surgery

Ruben Azocar, MD
Associate Professor
Anesthesiology Program Director

Renee Boynton-Jarrett, MD, ScD
Assistant Professor
Department of Pediatrics

Carlos Kase, MD
Professor and Chair
Neurology

Jane Mendez, MD
Associate Professor
Surgical Clerkship Director

“The BUMC Band is a diverse ensemble composed of medical students, faculty and staff whose mission is to foster interpersonal relations at the medical center through the enjoyment of music from every tradition.”