
From: Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine <cameeddev@bu.edu>

Subject: Your Fall 2023 Parent News from Chobanian & Avedisian SOM

[View in browser](#)



Chobanian & Avedisian
School of Medicine

Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine Parent Newsletter

November 2023



Greetings from the Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine. All of our students have been extremely busy, whether with classes, exams, clerkships, internships, or research endeavors. They have earned their time off and are looking forward to celebrating the Thanksgiving holiday!

This fall was monumental at BU! Our 2022 School of Medicine and Boston University Distinguished Alumni Award recipient [Drew Weissman, MD, PhD \(CAMED'87, GRS'87\)](#) and his collaborator Katalin Karikó won the 2023 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for their breakthrough mRNA technology that led to the COVID vaccines. And on October 4, [Boston University named Melissa L. Gilliam its 11th President](#). Dr. Gilliam, who will begin her role at BU on July 1, 2024, [brings a background](#) as a research scientist with international experience, and a physician trained in obstetrics and gynecology.

As you read the updates below, if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please reach out to cameeddev@bu.edu or (617) 358-9535. Thank you again for your continued commitment to the School of Medicine.

Student Activities at Chobanian and Avedisian School of Medicine

By Vivian M. Sanchez, MD, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs

Among our many responsibilities and areas of focus, the Student Affairs Office supports student organizations at Boston University Chobanian and Avedisian School of Medicine. There are over 99 different student organizations at Boston University Chobanian and Avedisian School of Medicine. The student-led, faculty-mentored organizations cover a variety of interests and topics such as: advocacy, career paths, enrichment, wellness, and community service. By engaging through these activities, students develop humanism, professionalism, leadership, and well-being beyond the classroom.

Service to our community is a major theme of many of the student groups. In the past academic year, medical student groups invested in community service, logging in 791 volunteer hours. For example, the Outreach Van Project (OVP) brought food and supplies to the East Boston community. The CALM (Cuddling Assists in Lowering Medication Treatment for NOWS) group cuddled neonates in the neonatal intensive care unit struggling with neonatal abstinence syndrome.

The month of October was an active one for student organizations. These are just a few of our many activities:

1. The career interest groups in the fields of vascular surgery, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, cardiology, integrative medicine, and ENT career interest groups met to foster interest in their fields, as well as to expose students to faculty. For example, the Otolaryngology career interest group had an introduction to laryngoscopy workshop.
2. Medical Spanish, Medical Portuguese and Medical Mandarin groups taught members of the medical community how to communicate with patients in their respective languages via carefully prepared talks.
3. GRACE (Grieving, Reflecting, and Cultivating Empathy group) brought physicians to help students navigate end of life discussion with patients.
4. There were cultural celebrations such as Dias los Muertos and Eid.
5. The teaching/mentorship organization, STEP (Science Teaching Enrichment Program) met with Boston Public School high school students interested in science. Anatomy Academy taught middle school students the essentials of nutrition and anatomy.
6. The First Generation Low-Income in Medicine (FEGLI) group, along with the Student Affairs Office, led a financial literacy talk on budgeting throughout medical school.
7. Several of the surgical societies sponsored a Pumpkin Pulpectomy social event connecting students while also developing skills in pumpkin carving.

UPCOMING EVENTS / SAVE THE DATE

MARCH

15

Match Day

Date: Friday, March 15

More details to come for on-campus celebration.

CHOBANIAN & AVEDISIAN SCHOOL OF MEDICINE NEWS & RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS



Drew Weissman (CAMED '87, GRS '87) Wins 2023 Nobel Prize in Medicine for Breakthrough mRNA Technology That Led to COVID Vaccines

The ninth in a list of BU alumni and faculty Nobel laureates, Dr. Weissman shares award with research partner Katalin Karikó for developing the technology behind the Pfizer, Moderna vaccines.

[Read more](#)



Boston University Names Melissa L. Gilliam 11th President

Ohio State University provost, physician, and scholar brings to BU her passion for the arts and humanities along with two decades of higher education leadership.

[Read more on the announcement](#)

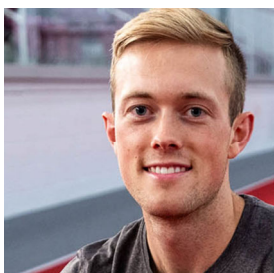
[Read more on Dr. Gilliam's background](#)



Medical Equipment Day 2023

Please enjoy a photo recap of the 2023 Medical Equipment Day, where our 146 first-year medical students received their stethoscopes.

[Read more](#)



CAMED Student Spotlight

Aksel Laudon (CAMED'26) a Star Runner and a Budding Doctor

[Read more](#)

MODERNIZING THE CLINICAL SKILLS AND SIMULATION CENTER



The Clinical Skills and Simulation Center (CSSC) at the Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine serves over 400 medical students each year, where the students practice skills and procedures they will use throughout their careers, such as checking blood-pressure and taking a history, catheterization, pelvic exams, lumbar punctures, and other, more complex procedures. Using simulators, trainers and standardized patients, the center gives our students valuable opportunities to sharpen their diagnostic and clinical reasoning skills, along with communicating with patients in clinical setting.

However, the current CSSC faces notable challenges and constraints, like aging equipment and technology, limited learning space, and staffing limitations. With donor support, our goal is to expand the CSSC's resources and making it more accessible to both students and faculty by updating the space, technology, and expand CSSC based curriculum.

[Learn more about the CSSC...](#)

[Support CSSC Now](#)

CHOBANIAN & AVEDISIAN SCHOOL OF MEDICINE NEWS & RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

 **BLACK WOMEN'S
HEALTH STUDY**



Black Women with Hypertensive Disorders of Pregnancy Have Increased Stroke Risk

In a study from the Black Women's Health Study (BWHS), researchers from Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine found that Black women with a history of hypertensive disorders of pregnancy have an estimated 66% increased long-term risk of stroke.

[Read more](#)



Playing Football May Increase the Risk for Parkinson's Disease

New study from BU CTE Center shows risk factors for Parkinson's Disease increases with more years of play, even in high school and college players.

[Read more](#)

**Join the Parents
Community/Update your
info**

**Support Medical Students
Now**



Celebrating Boston University
Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine



Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine
72 E. Concord Street
United States
Boston, MA, 02118

If you wish to be removed from this group's mailing list, [Unsubscribe](#)