

We are pleased to share updates from the MedStar Academic Affairs Working Group for Racial Justice (WGRJ) in this edition of Academics this Week (ATW).

On Behalf of the Working Group for Racial Justice Steering Committee Co-chairs...

Dear Members of the MedStar GME Community,

The history of race and racial injustice in this country is marred with political, moral, and social overtones. As such we may often feel that voicing opinions on racial injustice quickly becomes political - especially in the context of the upcoming election. We want to assure you that the goal of the **MedStar Health Academic Affairs Working Group for Racial Justice** (WGRJ) is not to spark political discourse or debate. Rather, the WGRJ is committed to fostering discussion, relaying information and educating our Academic Affairs community on both the racial climate that many of us, our colleagues, and our patients face on a daily basis and, how that atmosphere impacts health equity and health outcomes for our patients and the communities we proudly serve.

We understand that these are not easy conversations to have nor are these easy times to witness. There may be occasions where you feel in agreement, in opposition, or in a space of unknown territory with the plans of the WGRJ and the conversations we are having. Know that we appreciate and recognize the importance of hearing from everyone. We are appreciative of your feedback and thoughts and welcome the opportunity for continued engagement.

Thus far, 2020 has been a time of enormous change, sacrifice, trauma, and heartache. We believe and hope that the work of the WGRJ will help us all move one step closer to starting and continuing conversations, building allyship, and moving purposefully as a community of healthcare providers committed to the care of those who have been greatly marginalized in the past and present. We hope to be a catalyst for something more. Together, we will work towards building a diverse and inclusive environment within MedStar Health Academic Affairs for our trainees, faculty and associates as well as eliminating health inequities and barriers for our patients and the communities we serve.

Sincerely,
Linda, Megha, Manas, and Jimmy

WGRJ Co-Chairs

Linda Ataifo, MD - PGY-3, Family Medicine, MedStar Baltimore
Manas Nigam, MD - PGY-6, Plastic Surgery, MedStar D.C.
Megha Shah Fitzpatrick, MD - Pediatric Critical Care, MGUH
Jimmy Street, MD - Trauma Surgery, MWHC

Research Participation Opportunities

We will continue to share opportunities to voluntarily participate in various approved research endeavors across our Academic Health System with each installment of ATW. See attached if you are interested in learning more...

Invitation to participate in a research study entitled "Professional Identity Formation in Underrepresented in Medicine and International Medical Graduate Residents: Insights for Residency Programs".

If you would like to have your research call included in future editions of Academics this Week, reach out to your Program Director and your Associate DIO:

MedStar GME Associate DIOs

Amy Burke, MD - MGUH
Stephanie Detterline, MD - MedStar Baltimore
Sal Pindiprolu, MD - MWHC
Eric Wisotzky, MD - MNRH

GME Feedback, Questions & Comments

Your feedback is always welcomed!

MedStar GME Website: <https://medstarGME.net>

Email: academics@medstar.net

Google form: <https://forms.gle/Qu7sd2EWNuPytyBR9>

Together we can make a difference. OneMedStar. OneGME. OneTeam.



*VP Academic Affairs, MedStar Health
Sr. Associate Dean for Medical Education, Georgetown University Medical Center*

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