HSC Diversity Summit: Engaging High School Students Interested in Health Careers

by Jade Montanez, BSN, RN

The Health and Social Justice Scholars and the Black Student Nurses Association on March 4 hosted a diversity summit for minority high school students at the Health Sciences Center. More than 25 students from local high schools and their guests attended the summit.

The guest speaker was Russell Cox, president and CEO of Norton Healthcare, who discussed the importance of diversity in health care. The students got to tour two professional health science careers from the following disciplines: nursing, medicine, public health and dentistry. During the tours, students received a brief admissions presentation and did activities related to the respective discipline.

Student, professional and community organizations presented opportunities for students. Such as the Professional Education Preparation Program (PEPP) Pre-College Summer Workshop and University of Louisville GEAR UP Health Sciences Summer Academy. Following lunch, students asked questions of a panel of students and professionals that represented each health science school.

Students left with information and resources to assist them in their aspirations of achieving a career in the health care field. One student found a new interest in public health. Another student gained the opportunity to do a summer boot camp-style training with the medical school because of attending the summit.

Thank you to the following sponsors, presenters, tour guides and volunteers: Engage Lead Serve Board, Nursing Student Council, Multicultural Association of Premedical Students, Louisville Urban League, KYANNA Black Nurses Association of Louisville, Student National Medical Association, University of Louisville Schools of Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing and Public Health & Information Sciences.
School of Dentistry

Dr. Madeline Maupin Hicks, History Maker
by Dr. Sherry Babbage, Coordinator of Diversity and Inclusion, ULSOD

Did you know that in 1987 Congress declared March as national Women’s History Month? Ida Gray Nelson Rollins (1867-1953) was the first African American woman to graduate from dental school. After graduating from the University of Michigan in 1890 she opened a practice in Cincinnati and later another in Chicago. The first African American male to graduate from a dental school was Robert Tanner Freeman in 1869, from Harvard. In 1970 Harold Howard was the first African American graduate from the University of Louisville School of Dentistry. Five years later, African American Women’s dental history was made at the University of Louisville School of Dentistry with the graduation of Dr. Madeline Hicks in 1975.

Dr. Hicks had read about Dr. Ida Gray Nelson Rollins when she was in elementary school, her grandmother would read to her from a book, “Sayings and Doings of the Race”, that included the story of Ida Gray. Young Madeline wrote her own name in that book. In Junior High School Madeline completed a career exploration in dentistry and medicine, choosing dentistry as her preferred career. Dr. Hicks is a graduate of Indiana University, where she earned a degree in biology. She also completed studies and received a teaching certificate to teach grades k-12 from the University of Louisville. She taught ninth grade for one year in the Louisville Independent School System, before beginning dental school in 1971. Her mother and father were both educators.

Dr. Hicks built a successful private dental practice that thrived for more than 29 years here in Louisville, Kentucky. After shoulder surgery in 2004, she chose to end her private practice. Since then she has taught part-time at the University Of Louisville School of Dentistry for the past 15 years. The remainder of her time is spent in community service and ministry. She earned a degree in Discipleship and Family Ministry with a minor in Worship from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky in May of 2016.

Dr. Hicks recalls the first day at U of L as a freshman dental student where she became aware that she was the only African American, and one of only three women, in her class. Later, she learned that she was the only African American student in the whole school. “I felt fairly isolated during the first few weeks of classes. I did not know anyone in my class before I enrolled. I was married and lived off campus. So I did not know any of my classmates from the dorm either. But after our first Gross Anatomy tests, the ice broke...I began to study with one of my classmates and I started to feel more at home.” There are many challenges in dental school. “The biggest for me was that I was the first person of color with whom many of my classmates had ever had a conversation with. I was kind of an experiment for them. It took about two years before many of these students accepted the fact...
that I was a good student who could be trusted for accurate information. Over all, I have some really good memories from dental school. We worked hard. But my class mates were a lot of fun, too. I really appreciate the time and effort that the faculty put into helping us become knowledgeable and confident practitioners. I am now grateful that I was put in the position of opening the door of this school for other people of color and women in particular. It was a tough road in some respects. But I think this is a role that I was destined to undertake. Today, it is so rewarding to see the friendships and the racial and gender diversity in the classes. The world is much easier when we learn and work together. Stereotypes are broken. We learn that even though we have cultural differences, we are more alike than we are different in the realm of humanity. Appreciation for our individual strengths and differences work to make our global dental community stronger!"

Dr. Hicks began Open Mouth Ministries in June of 2007 with a free concert to celebrate the release of her first CD, “After the Third Day, songs and prayers for spiritual healing." Open Mouth Ministries is a ministry of Restoration and Empowerment through the love of Jesus Christ. The theme of the ministry is, “From Dentistry to Ministry, Music and Message That Heals the Heart.”

Dr. Hicks is the mother of one son, Chester, Jr., (Charlita) and the grandmother to their three children, Elijah, Elana, and Malachi. Dr Hicks is a lifelong learner, musically gifted and has a heart for service and mentorship. Dr Hicks opened the door and held it open for the rest of us with her grace, dignity, teaching, professionalism and mentorship. Thank You Dr Madeline Maupin Hicks for all you have done and continue to do for the people you serve.

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**Getting to the School of Dentistry Just Got a Little Easier**

**New Signage and Walking Path**

Signage is now in place to help you get to the School of Dentistry while construction is underway on the Pediatric Medical Office Building beside the school.

A new walking path is marked with signs that direct pedestrians from the Chestnut St. Parking Garage (414 E. Chestnut St.) to our main entrance off Muhammad Ali Blvd. When exiting the garage, you’ll notice a red sign pointing right, and then a sign to turn left on Jackson St. You’ll walk past the Ambulatory Care Building (ACB) and turn left again at the University Hospital parking garage driveway. Finally, you’ll see a sign to turn right. Walk to the entrance of the school underneath the brown awning of our building, where you’ll be met by a friendly receptionist.

**Free Shuttle Service**

To better accommodate your needs, the UofL shuttle is now picking up patients at the Chestnut St. Parking Garage. The free shuttle service includes a stop just inside the driveway at our main entrance off Muhammad Ali Blvd., and runs approximately every 15 minutes. Patients transported by car also can be dropped off at our main entrance.

We have posted maps in the Chestnut St. Parking Garage to indicate the temporary walking path and the shuttle route. A reference to the map and links to view updated information related to parking and accessibility options can be found on our website at [http://louisville.edu/dentistry/contact/directions](http://louisville.edu/dentistry/contact/directions)
Who Owns Our Cells?

As HBO prepares to premiere the movie adaptation of Rebecca Skloot’s bestselling 2010 book, “The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks,” the discussion begins anew about ethical standards related to patient specimens collected by biorepositories. It is a discussion Kyle Brothers, M.D., Ph.D., of the University of Louisville Department of Pediatrics is now helping to shape.

Brothers is teaming with researchers at Case Western Reserve University to take a look at networks of biorepositories across the United States. Biorepositories are the facilities at universities, hospitals, laboratories and elsewhere where blood, tissue and other human specimens are frozen and stored, along with data about the donors of these samples.

With a four-year, $1.7 million grant from the National Institutes of Health and its National Human Genome Research Institute, the research team is examining the clash of personal privacy concerns with the need to broaden and share the tools of research – a bioethical dilemma.

That type of dilemma is at the heart of the Henrietta Lacks’ story. Poor, African American and living in segregated Baltimore, Lacks was an unwitting pioneer for medical breakthroughs when her cells were used without her or her family’s knowledge to create the first immortal cell line in the early 1950s. The HeLa cell line has become one of the most important tools in medicine, vital in developing the polio vaccine, cloning, gene mapping and more. Lacks, however, died of cervical cancer in 1951, and never knew of her contribution to medicine.

In 2013, the National Institutes of Health and some members of the Lacks family reached an agreement guaranteeing that genetic information about Henrietta’s cell line would not be shared without prior NIH review. However, profits made from use of the cell line have never been shared with the Lacks family, and as recently as February of this year, some members of the family indicated they still intend to sue for compensation.

“The story of Henrietta Lacks illustrates the kind of ethical dilemmas we wrestle with, particularly as samples and data are shared across networks of multiple biorepositories working together,” said Brothers, who appeared in 2011 on a panel discussion with Sonny Lacks, one of Henrietta’s sons, discussing these issues at Belmont University in Nashville.

“What policies should be in place to guide these efforts? What commitments have physicians and researchers made to participants? How they can keep those commitments when they share this information with others? These are the tough questions we are researching and ultimately, helping to develop frameworks for answers.”

The movie version of “The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks” debuts April 22, 2017, at 8 p.m. EDT on HBO.
UofL Nursing Students Give Back During Spring Break

Instead of a beach getaway, a handful of nursing students spent their spring break giving back to the Louisville community and those in need.

On March 14, seven undergraduate students helped administer vaccines to more than 100 adults and children at Kentucky Refugee Ministries, a nonprofit organization that provides resettlement services to refugees.

Students administered vaccines to prevent chickenpox, hepatitis B, diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus to refugees from Iraq, Nepal, Somalia and Syria.

“I wanted to help people who have come here for a better life,” said junior nursing student Ivone Adamenou while preparing a measles, mumps and rubella vaccine.

The UofL Department of Medicine Global Health Initiative organized the event, which allowed nursing students to gain experience administering vaccines and served critical immunization needs of refugees.

“These are the types of patients students can expect to see when they work in the hospitals,” said School of Nursing Assistant Professor Montray Smith, M.S.N., M.P.H., R.N., L.H.R.M., who helped supervise the students. “Louisville has a sizeable refugee population, and this is an excellent opportunity for students to gain firsthand experience working with this population.”

Remote Area Medical trip to Nashville

Five undergraduate nursing students kicked off their spring break on March 11 by helping those who
struggle to afford or access health care. The students, Smith and School of Nursing Assistant Professor Diane Riff served at a Remote Area Medical (RAM) clinic in Nashville triaging about 400 patients who received dental and medical care.

RAM operates mobile clinics that provide free health care to those who do not have access or cannot afford to see a provider.

Student Kathryn Stuckey wanted to attend the trip to help people who would not have been able to receive treatment without the clinic.

“Many people expressed how grateful they were for us and that solidified that I am going into the right profession,” Stuckey said. “I will always be willing to lend a hand because I believe that everyone deserves equal treatment regardless of their income, race, culture and any other factor.”

**Norton Children & Hospitals Week**

On March 15, undergraduate and master’s degree students provided brief education sessions about healthy lifestyle choices and safety at Norton Children & Hospitals Week. Kindergarteners from local schools took field trips to the event, hosted at Louisville Slugger Field.

Nursing students taught children on poison prevention, helmet and seatbelt safety, brushing and flossing correctly and the importance of getting enough sleep. Areas that mimicked hospital departments, including the emergency room, X-ray and surgery, were meant to help children overcome fear and anxiety associated with hospital visits.

The 34th annual event was part of programming organized by Norton Children’s Prevention & Wellness.

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**UofL Swimmer, Nursing Student Receives ACC Scholarship**

UofL swimmer and nursing student Andrea Cottrell has been recognized for excellence in the pool and in the classroom.

Cottrell and fellow UofL swimmer Grigory Tarasevich are among 54 student athletes to receive the 2017 Weaver-James-Corrigan Award from the Atlantic Coast Conference, which provides recipients $5,000 scholarships. The ACC awards the scholarship to student athletes who have achieved success in the classroom and their respective sport while demonstrating exemplary conduct in the community.

The students will be honored at the annual Cone Health ACC Postgraduate Scholarship Luncheon presented by ESPN on April 12.

Receiving the scholarship took Cottrell by surprise. “It’s really going to help me tremendously with financial peace of mind to continue my nursing studies,” she said. “I’ve always been an athletic person and it’s nice to be recognized for my academics.”

Being part of a team as a swimmer has prepared Cottrell to work as part of a team of health care providers once she enters the workforce. She found her calling while in high school when her brother’s premature infant was being treated in the neonatal intensive care unit.

“One of the nurses was my friend’s mom, and she helped me understand everything and showed me what she does,” Cottrell said. “It really opened my eyes that it was something I would enjoy doing.”

Cottrell, a dual major in nursing and exercise science, is a breaststroke specialist and team captain originally from Reynoldsburg, Ohio.

A member of the USA National Team, she was named a two time ACC Swimmer of the Week and College Swimming’s National Swimmer of the Week. This year, she is a four-time medalist at the ACC Championships. At the United States Olympic Trials, she was a two-time finalist.
Public Health and Information Sciences

Expanding STEM Education is the Focus of New Degree Collaborative

Employment growth in careers related to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), underscores the importance of a new degree collaboration between Kentucky State University and the University of Louisville. The initiative allows KSU undergraduates majoring in math to study seven semesters (3.5 years) at KSU, and three semesters (1.5 years) at UofL, earning a bachelor of arts or bachelor of science (BA/BS) in math at KSU and a master of science (MS) in biostatistics from UofL. Students benefit by completing six years of study in five years.

“We continue to see a growing demand for a more highly educated workforce throughout the Commonwealth,” said UofL’s Interim President Greg Postel, M.D. “This collaborative effort will expose underrepresented groups to graduate education in a degree that will lead to high-demand, high-paying jobs and help Kentucky continue to move forward in an ever more competitive economy.”

“We are pleased to partner with a great institution like the University of Louisville, and I thank the KSU and UofL faculty for their innovative and creative thinking; our aim is to build a strong P-20 pipeline to serve Kentucky and this initiative helps meet that goal,” said KSU Interim President Aaron Thompson, Ph.D.

Interested students are identified in the early stages of their study at KSU and are mentored for the graduate program. They must take the GRE and apply for admission to UofL. Upon admission, students study the spring semester of their senior year at UofL and take courses that count toward a bachelor’s degree in math at KSU and the master’s degree in biostatistics at UofL. The balance of the master level courses are completed in the fifth year toward the MS degree in biostatistics.

State Senator Gerald A. Neal, 33rd District, is an alumnus of both KSU and UofL and says the initiative is a significant inter-institutional collaboration.

“This is what Kentucky needs. It not only connects the dots between institutions, but connects a students’ course of study to promising careers. I look forward to assisting this effort, and strongly encourage others to help generate the scholarships that will ensure its success,” Neal said.

“The degree collaborative helps to fulfill the need of quantitatively trained professionals who are always in demand in the pharmaceutical, biomedical and insurance industries, as well as in government and academia,” said Craig Blakely, Ph.D., M.P.H., dean of the UofL School of Public Health and Information Sciences. “We plan to connect these students to state industries via practicum and internship opportunities.”

“This partnership provides students opportunities to pursue both...”
research and a high-demand, specialized degree. Not only are we preparing Kentucky State University students for workforce development in the Commonwealth, but we also are preparing our students to compete in a global workforce,” said KSU’s Interim Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs, Candice Love Jackson, Ph.D.

Blakely and Love Jackson credit UofL Chair and Professor of the Department of Bioinformatics and Biostatistics K.B. Kulasekera, Ph.D., and KSU Associate Professor of Mathematics and Chairperson of the Division of Mathematics and Sciences Fariba Bigdeli-Jahed, Ph.D., for their tireless effort and leadership in developing the innovative program for KSU students.

Kulasekera, who originated the idea, says he hopes to eventually grow the relationship, allowing for teaching and research collaborations between UofL and KSU faculty.

### National Public Health Week 2017

During National Public Health Week, April 3 – 9, 2017, SPHIS is hosting a series of events to focus attention on several issues and changes that must be addressed to create a healthier community. Thanks to the SPHIS Student Government Association (SGA) and Chapter of the Kentucky Public Health Association (KPHA) for organizing several events.

**April 3-18**  
**Salvation Army Food Drive, Box locations:** HSC—Lobby of the SPHIS Building (Gray Street) / Belknap—Room 107, Hsc Advising Center, Studio Arts Building

**April 3-9**  
**Tweet-a-thon**—Students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends are encouraged to submit tweets on the public health topic of your choice. Rememebr a tweet is only 140 characters and can include links. Submit tweets to: http://bit.ly/nphwtweets or @ulsphis

**April 4**  
11:00 am-2:00 pm  
**Gratitude Lunch**—Lunch is available for any public health student or employee who writes a quick note to a public professional—professor, administrator, or LMPHW employee. SGA will deliver the notes along with a sticker or button. **Location:** HSC—Room 030 (Student Lounge) / Belknap—TBD

**April 5**  
10:00 am -12:30 pm  
**Public Health Tent**—Public health students will setup a tent on in the Humanities Quad on Belknap to distribute fruit and public health information to students, faculty and staff. Stop by to say hi!

**April 8**  
9:00 am-12:00 pm  
**Neighborhood Clean Up**—We’re gearing up for the gray Street Farmers Market by doing a community clean-up. SGA is getting supplies from Project Brightside and will buy lunch for volunteers afterwards. We will be meeting at the SPHIS Building located at 485 E. Gray Street.

**April 9**  
3:00 pm-5:00 pm  
**Out of the Darkness Walk**—Join the SPHIS team for the Out of the Darkness campus walk for suicide awareness. We will gather in the Humanities Quad of the Belknap Campus at 3:00pm.

For additional information contact Melissa Schreck at 852-8781.
Connections and Creativity in Challenging Times
by Sarah Nuñez, Assistant Director, Cultural Center

Our communities are facing unprecedented amount of fear due to the recent Executive Orders about immigration that Donald Trump initiated in late January. There are many people being targeted for additional scrutiny by landlords, employers, and law enforcement. Those of us concerned with an open academic and welcoming environment are called to become better connected with local community agencies, leaders, and families that are directly affected by the increased presence of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), deportations, and raids in our local community. We are also called to be more creative with our time, resources, and talents so that we can be there for our students and their families in this critical time.

What you can do:
1. If students in your classes are absent for several days please reach out to them to be sure they are all right. If they or their families have been deported, be sure to work with them, their advisor, and the Bursar to have them withdrawn from their courses and clear up any outstanding balances on their accounts. You can also reach out to local agencies or campus organizations to see what next steps can be done to assist the student and family.
2. Read up on resources provided by local and national organizations such as:
3. Follow the local news. Journalist Philip Bailey with the Courier Journal writes about most developments in the movement for sanctuary in Louisville.
4. Use the National Immigrant Law Center website for breakdowns of the legal implications of executive orders and national laws relating to immigration.

The day after the election the UofL campus community stands at The Thinker in support of immigrants holding signs that say “immigrants are welcome here”, “No ban, no wall”. 
Follow advocacy groups on Facebook. We recommend United We Dream, UndocuMedia, Define American, Mijente, Dream Action Coalition, and Louisville Showing Up For Racial Justice

Contact the UofL Undocumented Student Resource Council (USRC) or student groups such as Fighting for Immigrant Rights and Equality (FIRE) to learn more, support, and help out.

Host a workshop or training to learn more about undocumented students and immigration for your staff and faculty.

Donate to the Sagar Patagundi Scholarship Fund, La Casita Center, and other organizations serving immigrants and refugees in the local area.

At UofL, the Undocumented Student Resource Council (USRC) meets monthly and is working to solve problems for students as they arise, raise funds for our undocumented student scholarships, and create deeper connections with staff and faculty who advocate for students and their families. For more information about any of these campus or community initiatives, please contact USRC Co-Chair, Sarah Nuñez at sarah.nunez@louisville.edu or FIRE at fire.louisville@gmail.com.

In solidarity,
Sarah Nuñez, Assistant Director, Cultural Center

“If you have come to help me, you are wasting your time. But if you have come because your liberation is tied up with mine, then let us work together.”
— Lill Watson, aboriginal activist
Dr. Grace M. James
by Jon Aaron Moody

Dr. Grace Marilyn James, the first African American Pediatrician on faculty at the University of Louisville School of Medicine, was also the first of two African American women on faculty at any southern medical school during that time.

Grace was born to Edward L. James, a produce company owner, and Stella Grace Shaw James, the manager of her local post office, in 1923 Charleston, West Virginia. She attended West Virginia State College and the University of Chicago while completing undergraduate and post graduate work. She later graduated in 1950 from Meharry College in Nashville, TN with her MD. Dr. James went on to complete her residency in pediatrics at the Harlem Hospital in New York City. During this time she studied child psychiatry at Creedmoor State hospital in Queens Village, and became a fellow at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

In 1953 Dr. James relocated to Louisville to open a pediatric practice and walk-in clinic for Louisville’s impoverished West end. Dr. James worked for the Louisville City and Jefferson County Health Department, and was a pediatrician for the West End Day Care Center as well.

During a time in Louisville when hospitals were still racially segregated, Dr. James joined the University of Louisville School of Medicine as an instructor in child health. As time went on she would later become a staff member at eight of the Louisville area hospitals. She was the first African American woman on the staff of Louisville Children’s Hospital, and the first African American woman to serve as an attending at Louisville’s Kosair Children’s Hospital. Dr. James was also the first African American woman to be granted membership in the Jefferson County Medical Society.

Dr. James’ death in 1989 did not end her legacy. She spent her life caring for the African American community of Louisville, Ky and has long served as a role model for African Americans considering a career in medicine. The National Library of Medicine includes Dr. James in their online exhibition “Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America’s Women Physicians.”

Did you know…?

Dr. Grace M. James

Dr. Grace M. James

Dr. Grace M. James
Events and Announcements

- **Chalk-It Out**  
  Monday, April 3  
  11:00 am—1:00 pm  
  Location: Red Barn  
  Join Women 4 Women Student Board and reclaim your personal space with sidewalk chalk, write all of the unspoken messages you’ve wanted to say and any inappropriate comments that have been said to you. Join and show your support to victims by signing a pledge to combat street harassment.

- **The Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research is Turning 10!**  
  Tuesday, April 4  
  4:30—6:00 pm  
  Location: Ekstrom Library, Room 258

- **Killing the Black Body Redux: 20 Years of Reproductive Violence and Justice**  
  Thursday, April 6  
  Location: Gheens Science Hall, Rauch Planetarium  
  Keynote: Dorothy Roberts

- **Women Faculty of Color**  
  Friday, April 7  
  2:00—4:00 pm  
  Location: Shumaker, Room 139  
  Join us to hear graduate students and faculty of color share their own stories of success and struggle, and discuss tools and strategies for building lasting relationships while staying motivated and energized as academics. Click [here](#) to register.

- **Nominations for the Gold Standard Award for Optimal Aging**  
  Deadline: April 15  
  The Gold Standard for Optimal Aging Award celebrates and honors adults who embody the Institute’s vision for a world where all older adults lead flourishing lives. This award recognizes older adults who are 85 years or older and who are outstanding models of optimal aging in the following four categories: physical, social, spiritual and creative.  
  Additional Information: [website](#), 852-5629, [email](#)

- **A Seat at the Table: Self-Positioning in current Social Movements**  
  Friday, April 21  
  6:30 pm  
  Location: Strickler Auditorium 101  
  Presented by The Minority Association of Graduate Students  
  Keynote: Jamilah Lemieux, American columnist, cultural critic, and editor

- **Brown Cancer Center Mammograms for UofL Employees**  
  Tuesday, May 16  
  Location: Gottschalk Circle, next to the Shumaker Research Building  
  The James Graham Brown Cancer Center unit will be on Belknap Campus to provide mammograms for women 40 years and older. Call 502-852-6318 to schedule an appointment. Co-sponsored by the UofL Women’s Center.