THE COMMONWEALTH FUND

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

FELLOWSHIP IN MINORITY HEALTH POLICY

2010 • 2011
PURPOSE

The Commonwealth Fund/Harvard University Fellowship in Minority Health Policy (CFHUF) is designed to prepare physicians, particularly minority physicians, for leadership roles in formulating and implementing public health policy and practice on a national, state, and/or local level. Under the auspices of the Minority Faculty Development Program (MFDP) at Harvard Medical School (HMS), five one-year fellowships will be awarded per year. Fellows will complete academic work leading to a Master of Public Health (MPH) degree at the Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH), and, through additional program activities, gain exposure to, and understanding of, major health issues facing minority, disadvantaged, and underserved populations. CFHUF also offers a Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree at the Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) to physicians already possessing an MPH. It is expected that CFHUF will support the development of a cadre of leaders in minority health, well-trained academically and professionally in public health, health policy, health management, and clinical medicine, as well as actively committed to careers in public service.
BACKGROUND

Health care delivery in the United States is undergoing rapid change with implications for physicians, patients, and institutions. The impact of these changes on historically underserved minority populations is largely unknown. Minority Americans are more likely to report poor health status and experience higher mortality rates for many conditions, including heart disease and cancer. Access to health care is often impeded because many individuals are uninsured, rely on public coverage, or live in communities with limited availability of providers. If major national health issues are to be fully and equitably addressed, the perspectives and concerns of all racial and ethnic groups must be considered.

Highly trained physicians, especially minority physicians, can contribute significantly by participating in policy decisions to influence the health care of minority and disadvantaged populations. This level of participation requires a knowledge of government, management, and public health as well as clinical medicine. Policy leaders in minority health must understand the issues and be culturally competent to ensure that minority health needs are met.

While physician education and training establish a firm foundation on which to build effective health leadership, CFHUF is unique in its dedication to training physicians for leadership roles in health policy.
The Commonwealth Fund/Harvard University Fellowship in Minority Health Policy is a one-year, full-time, academic degree-granting program designed to create physician-leaders, particularly minority physician-leaders, who will pursue careers in health policy, public health practice, and academia. It is designed to incorporate the critical skills taught in schools of public health, government, business, and medicine with leadership forums and seminar series conducted by Harvard senior faculty and nationally recognized leaders in minority health and public policy; supervised practicums and shadowing opportunities; site visits, conferences, and travel.

Each fellowship provides: $50,000 stipend, full tuition, health insurance, books, travel, and related program expenses, including financial assistance for a practicum project.

CFHUF is designed to prepare physician-leaders who will, over time, improve the capacity of the health care system to address health needs of minority and disadvantaged populations. To accomplish this, the program will:

- Provide strong academic training, including an MPH or MPA, for highly qualified physicians.
- Enhance the leadership ability of physicians, offering them substantive knowledge in health policy and management, while creating a network of physician-leaders capable of advancing successfully among the public, nonprofit, and academic sectors.
• Provide each fellow with mentoring by Harvard senior faculty and administrators as well as access to national leaders in health policy and public health practice.

• Bring together the faculty and resources of HMS, HSPH, and HKS to provide an enhanced curriculum addressing issues of public health, policy, and practice, particularly as related to minority health issues.

• Utilize resources at HMS, including the Office for Diversity and Community Partnership (DCP) and MFDP, to enhance the networking, career development, and career advancement of fellows.

ADMINISTRATION

Direction and administration of the program is provided by the Minority Faculty Development Program (MFDP) at Harvard Medical School (HMS). MFDP was established in 1990 to serve as an umbrella organization for minority recruitment, development, and retention initiatives undertaken at HMS and affiliated hospitals. Joan Y. Reede, M.D., M.P.H., M.B.A., Dean for Diversity and Community Partnership; Director, MFDP; and Program Director of the Commonwealth Fund Harvard University Fellowship in Minority Health Policy, provides overall supervision and direction of program development, implementation, and evaluation.

Faculty from the Harvard Medical School, Harvard School of Public Health, Harvard Kennedy School, Graduate School of Education, Harvard Business School, Harvard School of Dental Medicine, and Graduate School of Arts and Sciences are involved in program development and implementation.
ELIGIBILITY

- Physicians who have completed residency, either BE/BC. Additional experience beyond residency, such as chief residency, is preferred.
- Experience or interest in addressing and improving the health needs of minority populations.
- Strong evidence of leadership experience or potential, especially as related to community efforts or health policy.
- Intention to pursue a career in public health practice, policy, or academia.
- U.S. citizenship.

REVIEW CRITERIA AND SELECTION

Applications will be reviewed for academic and training qualifications; commitment to a multicultural perspective in program planning, program implementation, and policy analysis; experience in projects devoted to improving the capacity of the health care system to address health needs of minority and disadvantaged populations; and evidence of leadership potential.

The Harvard Coordinating Committee, composed of distinguished faculty, administrators, and the program director, will review applications, interview candidates, and select the fellows.
HOW TO APPLY

Candidates for the MPH degree must apply for entrance into HSPH, including application for financial aid at HSPH, when applying to CFHUF.

Candidates for the MPA degree must apply for entrance to HKS, including application for financial aid at HKS, when applying to CFHUF.

Acceptance to CFHUF is contingent on acceptance to HSPH or HKS. However, candidates not accepted to CFHUF are still eligible for admission to the schools.

Inquiries about CFHUF and requests for application materials should be addressed to:

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DEADLINES

January 4, 2010 Deadline for applications
March 15, 2010 Selection of 2010-11 CFHUF Fellows
April 15, 2010 Notification of 2010-11 CFHUF Fellows

Please note: The deadline for the HSPH application is December 15, 2009.
The Commonwealth Fund is a private foundation established in 1918 by Anna M. Harkness with the mandate to enhance the common good. It supports efforts that help people live healthy and productive lives and assists specific groups with serious and neglected problems. It supports independent research on health and social issues and makes grants to improve health care practice and policy. Its support of CFHUF demonstrates its longstanding interest in minority health issues and leadership development.

**2009-2010 COMMONWEALTH FUND/HARVARD UNIVERSITY FELLOWS IN MINORITY HEALTH POLICY**

**JAYA AYSOLA, M.D., D.T.M.H.**

*Medical Director, The New Orleans Children’s Health Project*

*Section Chief, Community Pediatrics and Global Health*

*Department of Pediatrics*

*Tulane University School of Medicine*

*New Orleans, LA*

Dr. Aysola was most recently the Medical Director of the New Orleans Children’s Health Project and Assistant Professor in Pediatrics and Internal Medicine at Tulane University School of Medicine. In addition, she was the Section Chief of Community Pediatrics and Global Health. In 2008, she received the Tulane Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award from the Department of Pediatrics. Her move to New Orleans came in response to Hurricane Katrina and her strong desire to assist in the recovery process. Initially, she provided pediatric and adult care to communities devastated by the storm, through a program funded by the Children’s Health Fund. Since 2006, she has transitioned the program from urgent care to primary care pediatrics and comprehensive mental health care. Responding to the growing Hispanic migrant population, in 2008 she applied for and received a grant from Baptist Community Ministries for a Hispanic Outreach Initiative to provide the project’s existing services in Spanish. Under her leadership the program expanded to include a health education and disease prevention program designed to promote wellness in the community. In January 2009, she created the
Section of Community Pediatrics and Global Health dedicated to resident training in tackling the challenges of health care disparities domestically and abroad. Prior to her work in New Orleans, Dr. Aysola received her Diploma of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene from the London School, and her work experiences took her to Puttaparthi and Calcutta, India, Lamnarai, Thailand, and Siem Reip, Cambodia.

Dr. Aysola received her medical degree from the University of Pittsburgh, School of Medicine in 2000 and completed her residency in both Internal Medicine and Pediatrics at William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, MI in 2004.

LYLE IGNACE, M.D.
Chief of Internal Medicine, Navajo Service Unit
Gallup Indian Medical Center
Gallup, NM

A member of the Coeur D’Alene Tribe of Idaho, Dr. Ignace is currently the Chief of Internal Medicine, Navajo Service Unit, at the Gallup Indian Medical Center (GIMC), Gallup, NM. He is a Public Health Service Civil Servant in the Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service. A longstanding member of the Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP), he served on their executive board 2000-2003 and again 2007-2008. He is also the principal clinical investigator for GIMC’s Chronic Care Initiative. This is a collaborative effort between the Institute of Health Care Improvement and the Indian Health Service to develop and implement a chronic care model that is designed to improve health care management and promote disease prevention for all Native Americans.

Dr. Ignace received his medical degree from the University of Minnesota School of Medicine in 1996 and completed his internal medicine residency at the Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI in 1999.

KAMILAH JACKSON, M.D.
Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellow
Yale Child Study Center
New Haven, CT

Dr. Jackson was most recently a Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellow and the John Schowalter Chief Resident at the Yale Child Study Center in New Haven, CT. She was also an Edward Zigler Fellow in Child Development and Social Policy for the 2008-2009 academic year. Her work at the faith-based community health center, Full Circle Health, Bronx, NY, was aimed at reducing the stigma surrounding mental illness in a predominantly African
American and Latino population. This experience led her to the Community Outreach Service (COS) Program where she worked as the Outreach team Psychiatric Consultant. Currently, she is working with the Intensive In-Home Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Service Program (IICAPS) as a Psychiatric Consultant to a team that provides in-home services for substance abusing mothers of children who have been identified as “at risk” by the state’s department of children and families. She also is interested in the development of Child and Adolescent mental health services in the Caribbean.

Dr. Jackson received her medical degree from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in 2004 and completed her residency in adult psychiatry at the Emory University School of Medicine in 2007. She became a Diplomate of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology in April 2009.

ALDEN LANDRY, M.D.
Resident Physician, Harvard Affiliated Emergency Medicine Residency Program Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center Boston, MA

Dr. Landry has most recently completed his final year of residency in the Harvard Affiliated Emergency Medicine Residency Program at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA. During the two years he served as chair of the Diversity Committee, Dr. Landry developed the Medical Student Lecture Series for local medical students, recruited potential residents at various regional and national conferences, organized health-education workshops in conjunction with the Community Outreach office at BIDMC, guest lectured to pre-medical student organizations at multiple colleges throughout the Boston area, and worked in conjunction with the Visiting Clerkship Program (VCP) of Harvard Medical School to mentor medical students. He is an instructor to paramedics with the Fallon and Cataldo ambulance companies. He is also an instructor to the Protective Services Detachment of the 10th Mountain Division, US Army. He has collaborated with Massachusetts State Police Special Operations Officers to train 15 combat medics prior to deployment to Iraq by conducting high fidelity, live fire simulation medical training at Fort Devens, MA. Dr. Landry volunteers as a member of Big Brothers and Sisters of America, and since 2007 has been a Resident Liaison to the Boston Red Sox.

Dr. Landry received his medical degree from the University of Alabama, School of Medicine in 2006, and completed his residency in emergency medicine at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA in June 2009.
SUSAN SAUCEDO, M.D.

Staff Physician, University Muslim Medical Association (UMMA) Community Clinic
Los Angeles, CA

Dr. Saucedo is currently a staff physician at the University Muslim Medical Association (UMMA) Community Clinic, Los Angeles, CA, as well as a part-time staff physician in Kaiser Permanente, Los Angeles, CA. Prior to that, she was a substitute teacher for grades K-8 in the Lennox School District. She continues to mentor students and has given lectures at numerous schools including the Hawthorne Academy of Math and Science High School and Ascot Elementary School. She has gained leadership experience through her volunteer efforts in Tanzania, Costa Rica, and Mexico. Dr. Saucedo has been honored with the LMSA Commitment to the Community Awards in 2003 and 2004, a National Medical Fellowship Scholar from 2000-2002, and a California Community Service Scholar in 2003. She was also a Robert Wood Johnson Minority Medical Education Program (MMEP) Scholar in 1997.

Dr. Saucedo received her medical degree from the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA in 2004. She completed her residency in family medicine at the Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Family Medicine Residency Program, Los Angeles, CA in 2007 and a Family Medicine Faculty Development Fellowship at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, Torrance, CA in 2008.
HARVARD COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Members coordinate CFHUF within the Harvard University community, contributing to program development, practicum supervision; professional mentoring, and annual selection of fellows.

MYRON ALLUKIAN, Jr., D.D.S., M.P.H., Associate Clinical Professor, Oral Health Policy and Epidemiology, Harvard School of Dental Medicine; Oral Health Consultant

ROBERT BLENDON, M.B.A., M.P.H., Sc.D., M.A., Professor, Health Policy and Political Analysis, Harvard School of Public Health and Harvard Kennedy School

TOM DELBANCO, M.D., Richard and Florence Koplow-James Tullis Professor, General Medicine and Primary Care, Harvard Medical School; Division of General Medicine and Primary Care, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

CHESTER DOUGLASS, Ph.D., D.M.D., Professor Emeritus, Oral Health Policy and Epidemiology, Harvard School of Dental Medicine

KAREN EMMONS, Ph.D., Associate Dean for Research and Professor of Society, Human Development, and Health, Department of Society, Human Development, and Health, Harvard School of Public Health; Deputy Director of the Center for Community-based Research, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

ARNOLD M. EPSTEIN, M.D., M.A., John H. Foster Professor, Chair, Department of Health Policy and Management, Harvard School of Public Health; Professor, Medicine and Health Care Policy, Harvard Medical School

LISA I. IEZZONI, M.D., M.Sc., Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School; Director, Institute for Health Policy, Massachusetts General Hospital

BARBARA J. MCNEIL, M.D., Ph.D., Ridley Watts Professor, Health Care Policy, Head, Department of Health Care Policy, Harvard Medical School; Professor, Radiology, Harvard Medical School and Brigham and Women’s Hospital

JOSEPH P. NEWHOUSE, Ph.D., John D. MacArthur Professor of Health Policy and Management, Director, Interfaculty Initiative in Health Policy, faculties of Harvard Medical School, Harvard School of Public Health, Harvard Kennedy School, and Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences

DAVID R. WILLIAMS, Ph.D., M.P.H., Florence Sprague Norman and Laura Smart Norman Professor of Public Health; Professor of African and African American Studies, Harvard University

PETER ZIMMERMAN, M.P.P., Lecturer in Public Policy, Senior Associate Dean for Strategic Program Development, Harvard Kennedy School