

F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine

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"When my service is ended and I look back over the milestones of my career, I want most to be remembered for the military medical school."

F. Edward Hebert House of Representatives
4 January 1941 to 31 December 1976

F. Edward Hébert

In 1972, under the sponsorship of the late U.S. Congressman from Louisiana, Rep. F. Edward Hébert (pronounced A-bear), Congress enacted the Uniformed Services Health Professions Revitalization Act, authorizing the establishment of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU).

The act directed that the university be organized under the U.S. Department of Defense and located within a 25-mile radius of the District of Columbia. It further stipulated that a Board of Regents, appointed by the president of the United States with the advice and consent of the Senate, be responsible for the governance of the institution.

In addition, the founding legislation authorized the university to develop advanced degree programs in the various health sciences. It placed a priority on medicine and required that the university be organized to graduate no fewer than 100 medical students by the year 1982.

In 1983, Congressional legislation officially designated that the USU School of Medicine be named the F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine, hereafter referred to as the School of Medicine or the School. The USU School of Medicine is a tuition-free institution.

F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine Administration

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Message from the Dean

“America’s Medical School”— the F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences—was established by Congress in 1972 to educate future healthcare professionals for the U.S. Department of Defense and the U.S. Public Health Service. In addition to our medical students, we also educate biomedical scientists, clinical psychologists and public health professionals for careers of national service.

The reason most medical students choose to attend USU is their commitment to serve our country as clinicians and health care leaders in a uniformed service. Rather than repaying a lender for their education, they repay our nation. Our faculty honor this commitment by preparing our students for high-impact as physicians, public health practitioners, clinical psychologists and biomedical researchers dedicated to promoting health, healing the sick and injured, and advancing the health of the public in the U.S. and around the world.



Like other U.S. medical schools, our curriculum is designed to provide our students with the knowledge, skills, training, and attitudes to become competent, compassionate, and caring physicians. But because USU is also the leadership academy of the military health system, we educate and train our students to become highly effective leaders. To this end, our curriculum emphasizes military medicine, preventive medicine, tropical medicine, disaster and humanitarian assistance and survival in harsh climates. Our objective is to assure that when every graduate leaves this institution they are prepared to provide outstanding care and healthcare leadership in a wide range of settings, from modern tertiary care hospitals to a battlefield or a refugee camp on the other side of the world. This is why our graduates are eagerly sought by residency training programs, and more than 5,200 of our physician alumni have gone on to serve with pride and distinction in support of military and public health operations across the nation and around the world.

All of us in the School of Medicine are committed to fostering clinical and academic excellence by keeping USU in the forefront of advances in medical education, military medicine, public health, science, technology, and patient care. This determination ensures that our educational programs will always be contemporary, impactful and relevant. Our goal is to assure that every student who graduates from the Hébert School of Medicine is well prepared to serve in a world that is undergoing rapid and profound change and is ready to overcome any challenge and capitalize on every opportunity to provide excellent patient care and advance the health and national security of the United States.

Arthur L. Kellermann, M.D., MPH
Dean, F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine



F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine

A medical career in the uniformed services is like no other. Matriculation at the F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine—“America’s Medical School”— of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) involves a commitment to such a career. The practice of medicine as an active duty officer provides a variety of experiences that offer the opportunity for continuing professional and personal growth.

Although the needs of the services determine specific assignments and places of duty, medical officers have wide latitude in determining the content, direction, and pace of their career development.

Patient care in hospitals and clinics provides specialty training and practice as well as opportunities for clinical investigation. The team concept of medical care in the services permits the physician to practice medicine with the full support of professional paramedical and administrative personnel.

Patient care in peacetime is practiced primarily in modern facilities with easy access to colleagues and specialists to consult on problem cases. Although medical officers must be sensitive to the costs of medical care, the care of a patient is never compromised by the patient’s inability to pay.

The uniformed services offer many medical career opportunities, including preventive medicine, public health medicine, aerospace medicine, and submarine and diving medicine. Medical officers command most medical units and organizations. The challenge of applying leadership and management skills to medical care and to the supervision of healthcare professionals is demanding, yet satisfying. One rewarding aspect of these careers is the opportunity they offer to live and work with the outstanding men and women of the uniformed services.

Uniformed medical officers will find the pay adequate for themselves and their families. Fringe benefits include 30 days of paid vacation annually and a generous noncontributory retirement plan. Medical officers and their families have opportunities to travel, especially during overseas assignments where they may become intimately familiar with new places, foreign cultures, and people.

The decision to become a career uniformed services medical professional should not be made without

careful deliberation. Even peacetime assignments can involve substantial personal sacrifice. In wartime, such sacrifices become even greater. Combat requires the exercise of sound medical and military judgment under stress. The School of Medicine does not seek those who expect or would be satisfied with an easy professional life.

Above all, successful medical officers must understand the ideals of both the military and the medical profession and see no conflict between them. Only by devoted service to the two professions—medicine and the military—can one gain full satisfaction as a uniformed services physician.

History and Philosophy

In 1976, the School of Medicine received provisional accreditation as a four-year medical school from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), the accrediting body for all U.S. medical schools, and admitted a charter class of medical students. In 1980, the School of Medicine was given full accreditation and graduated its first class, which comprised 29 students. A full eight-year term of accreditation was awarded to the School by the LCME in 2008.

Since then—“America’s Medical School”—has become a national resource, offering challenges unparalleled in health education. The School has attracted outstanding faculty to teach students the knowledge, skills, and attitudes they will require in order to become competent and compassionate medical officers.

By functioning as an educational resource for the uniformed services, the School enables military medical departments to develop graduate level programs in health education. It further enhances the capabilities of the services in developing continuing education programs, contributing to lifelong professional competence. Additionally, through the School of Medicine, military physicians have an opportunity to contribute to academic medicine and research.

The School of Medicine’s principal emphasis is on training medical officers for the U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, and U.S. Public Health Service. Students are selected with the understanding that they will be trained for service to the Nation, including assignments abroad or at sea. Dedication to the idea of service to country must be foremost among an applicant’s reasons for coming to the medical school.

Administration and Faculty

The USU medical program operates under the Dean of the School of Medicine. The Dean and departmental chairpersons are responsible for working with medical center commanders and the surgeons general of the uniformed services to ensure the adequacy of clinical and investigative programs.

At present, the USU operational academic elements include the School of Medicine, graduate programs in the basic sciences, the Graduate School of Nursing and the Postgraduate Dental College; plans allow, however, for the future development of other health sciences programs.

The teaching staff of the medical school comprises approximately 3,500 basic and clinical science faculty members. The mix of military and civilian faculty varies among departments, and students can expect both military and civilian faculty at all levels of instruction.

Clinical Facilities

Students receive part of their clinical training at teaching hospitals affiliated with the university; these institutions are recognized as among the military’s finest.

Washington DC area: Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, the Air Force’s Malcolm Grow
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Medical Clinics and Surgery Center, Fort Belvoir Community Hospital, The National Institutes of Health, The Naval Medical Research Institute, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute, and the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases, San Antonio Military Medical Center (Texas)

Additional complementary education in the basic and clinical sciences is provided by, among others, the following federal government resources:

- Naval hospitals at Portsmouth (Virginia), Pensacola (Florida), and Jacksonville (Florida)
- Air Force regional hospitals at Eglin (Florida), Keesler (Mississippi), Travis (California), and Wright-Patterson (Ohio)
- Army medical centers at Brooke (Texas), Eisenhower (Georgia), Martin (Georgia), Tripler (Hawaii), and Womack (North Carolina)
- The Centers for Disease Control (Atlanta, Georgia)

Elective courses are offered in clinical and research facilities in the United States and in areas of the world where there are diseases rarely seen in the United States. Residency programs in all major specialties are offered at these medical centers. Affiliated with the university through joint faculty appointments and common teaching and research activities, these centers have sizable outpatient workloads and together have more than 3,000 teaching beds.

Medical Student Status, Pay, and Benefits

While enrolled in the School of Medicine, students serve on active duty as reserve commissioned officers in grade O-1 (i.e., second lieutenant in the U.S. Army or U.S. Air Force; ensign in the U.S. Navy or U.S. Public Health Service) with full pay and allowances for that grade.

Military personnel who are accepted for entrance and hold appointments in grades higher than O-1 must be recommissioned as O-1 upon matriculation. Regular officers of the uniformed services selected for entrance must resign their regular commissions to enter the School. Resignations should be arranged to be effective upon admission to preclude a break in service.

Enlisted acceptees are discharged from their services at their duty stations the day preceding their effective permanent change of station (PCS) date of transfer to the School. They are commissioned on the day of official departure from their units. It is important to ensure that the discharge date is the day prior to the PCS date to preclude a break in service.

Pay: Each student’s monthly salary comprises three categories of pay and allowances: base pay, basic allowance for subsistence (BAS), and basic allowance for housing (BAH). Table 1 depicts monthly pay for a student with no prior service at the O-1 grade in 2015, both with and without dependents.

Table 1. Breakdown of Monthly Salary at Grade O-1 in 2015

Type of Pay	With Dependents (\$)	Without Dependents (\$)
Annual base pay	35,211.00	35,211.00
Basic allowance for housing	27,648.00	23,940.00
Basic allowance for subsistence	3,040.00	3,040.00
Annual total (gross pay)	65,899.00	62,191.00

Base Pay: Base pay is established by an individual’s service longevity (i.e., years of service). The only taxable portion of a military member’s pay is the base pay.

Base pay may also be taxed by a student's state of residency, depending on which state is designated as a student's official residence. The amount shown in the chart is the minimum monthly base pay for an O-1 with no prior service.

Basic Allowance for Subsistence: BAS, which is nontaxable, is one standard amount for all officers.

Basic Allowance for Housing: BAH is based on the location of the member's primary duty station and whether a student has dependents. Dependent pay is the same for all service members, regardless of the number of dependents. This allowance is provided to all military members who reside off base and is nontaxable. The O-1 amount is shown in the chart.

Save Pay Provision: SEC. 524. Treatment of Prior Active Service of Members in Uniformed Medical Accession Programs. (Section 2114 of title 10, United States Code): If a member of the uniformed services selected to be a student has prior active service in a pay grade and with years of service credited for pay that would entitle the member, if the member remained in the former grade, to a rate of basic pay in excess of the rate of basic pay for regular officers in the grade of second lieutenant or ensign, the member shall be paid basic pay based on the former grade and years of service credited for pay. The amount of such basic pay for the member shall be increased on January 1 of each year by the percentage by which basic pay is increased on average on that date for that year, and the member shall continue to receive basic pay based on the former grade and years of service until the date, whether occurring before or after graduation, on which the basic pay for the member in the member's actual grade and years of service credited for pay exceeds the amount of basic pay to which the member is entitled based on the member's former grade and years of service.

Longevity Credit: The four years spent in medical school do not count toward determining pay upon graduation. All students are commissioned into the regular medical corps on graduation day in grade O-3 (captain in the U.S. Army or U.S. Air Force; lieutenant in the U.S. Navy or U.S. Public Health Service). At the O-3 grade, the combined base pay, BAH (including locality pay for Washington, DC), and BAS for a student with no prior service and no dependents is approximately \$78,755 for 2015; for a student with no prior service and dependents, it is proposed for approximately \$82,535.

Length of prior service, however, does count in determining the amount of base pay in grade O-1. All students receive annual pay raises as granted by Congress for all commissioned service personnel.

Promotion Credit: Currently, a maximum of one-half year is creditable for each year of prior commissioned service in determining medical corps promotion eligibility at graduation by the regulations of the service concerned.

Service Obligation: Officers awarded the doctor of medicine degree following a four-year program of medical studies are required by law to serve on active duty for seven years. The obligation for those serving in the Public Health Service is ten years, as the Public Health Service does not have an inactive ready reserve component. Time spent in graduate medical education (i.e., an internship or residency) does not count toward the payback. Upon completion of the active duty service obligation, students who served on active duty for less than 10 years after graduation are placed on the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) roster. (Graduate medical education does not count toward the 10 years.) While on the IRR roster, service members are on inactive reserve status, with no weekend or annual active duty drill required, but are subject to call-up by the president of the United States in times of emergency. The amount of time required is as follows:

- Active duty service less than eight years: six years on the IRR roster
- Active duty service of more than eight years, but less than nine: four years on the IRR roster
- Active duty service of nine years or more, but less than 10; two years on the IRR roster

Except as law or service policy otherwise prescribe, the IRR obligation is added after all other active duty

obligations have been served, including time for USU, ROTC, or the service academies.

A medical graduate of the School who is relieved of his or her active duty service obligation before completion may be given, with or without the consent of the graduate, any of the following alternative obligations, as determined by the secretary of the military department concerned.

- A service obligation in another armed force for a period of time not less than the member's remaining active duty service obligation
- A service obligation in a component of the selected reserve for a period not less than twice as long as the member's remaining active duty service obligation

Leave Policies: As officers on active duty, students are authorized 30 days of leave per year. Because of curriculum requirements, leave can be taken only during official school breaks, such as winter recess, spring break, and the months of June, July and August. Leave is approved and scheduled by the commandant. Federal holidays and end-of-examination breaks are generally authorized periods of absence.



Benefits: As active duty officers, students are eligible for a wide range of benefits. They may use commissary (i.e., military supermarket) and Post Exchange (i.e., military department store) facilities where costs are considerably lower than in their civilian counterparts. Certain legal services are free, such as advice on income tax matters and execution of personal wills.

Students are eligible for low-cost life insurance and are provided comprehensive medical and dental care at no charge. The university has its own campus health service, which is available to students and their families for medical care and counseling.

Dependents of students have the same entitlements as dependents of other active duty personnel, including commissary and Post Exchange privileges as well as the services of military legal officers. In addition, they are eligible for medical treatment and care in uniformed service facilities on a space available basis or, under certain circumstances, from a civilian medical resource at partial government expense.

Dental care is not available for dependents at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC); however, military members are encouraged to enroll their dependents in the TRICARE Active Duty Family Member Dental Plan from United Concordia. Specifics of the dental plan are available through the United Concordia website at <http://www.ucci.com> or by calling 1-800-866-8499.

Charges for other types of dependent healthcare vary depending on circumstances but are generally much lower than they would be under other medical programs.

Housing and Living Expenses: The University does not have dormitories. Students are responsible for arranging for their lodging and meals. The BAH and BAS, nontaxable monthly housing and subsistence allowances, are provided in addition to basic pay to help defray housing/food expenses.

Housing costs in the Washington, DC, area, including rentals, are higher than in many other major metropolitan areas. Upon request, the base housing office can help students locate suitable living accommodations.

If they desire, students may dine in the School's cafeteria or at the military dining facilities at WRNMMC. All of these on-base dining facilities provide meals at reasonable prices.

Uniforms: Students must wear prescribed military attire in class. New students need not report in uniform to their temporary orientation duty stations. Time for uniform purchase and fitting is allowed during orientation. Students are required to report in uniform when arriving at the university in August.

The purchase and maintenance of uniforms is an individual responsibility. Students receive an initial uniform allowance of \$300 during orientation if they are entering commissioned service for the first time. Uniform and accessory costs vary but usually range between \$500 and \$1,000 and generally exceed the uniform allowance.

Travel Expenses: Matriculants to the School of Medicine are reimbursed for travel expenses for relocating themselves and their dependents to the Washington, DC, area. Travel and per diem expenses for students are partially paid while matriculants attend officers' orientation programs en route to the university. The remainder of the travel expenses are paid upon arrival at the university.

Students may move personal effects and household goods to Washington, DC, at government expense after they have consulted with the nearest military travel management office. Department of Defense joint travel regulations limit the amount of reimbursement for travel and impose a ceiling on weight for shipment of household goods, but these limitations should not financially burden most students. Several weeks before matriculation, new students are sent detailed information on moving and travel entitlements. Students should wait for moving information and orders from the School before moving.

Tuition, Books, and Equipment: The School of Medicine is a tuition-free institution. In addition, books and instruments are furnished to students either without charge or on a loan basis. Access to computer resources necessary to complete curriculum requirements is required. This may entail purchase of a computer by individual officer students.

Student Organizations

The Office for Student Affairs coordinates and facilitates most student activities at the university. The wide range of activities and organizations in which medical, nursing and graduate students are involved reflects the diversity of interests in the student body. Below is a list of student organizations currently registered with the Office for Student Affairs, which maintains a list of student and faculty/staff contacts for each.

Academic

Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA): AOA is the only national honor medical society, and its singular purpose is to recognize and perpetuate excellence in the medical profession. Election to AOA is an honor signifying a lasting commitment to scholarship, leadership, professionalism, and service. A lifelong honor, membership in the society confers recognition for a physician's dedication to the profession and art of healing. Students are eligible for election to the society in the Spring of their third year and Fall of their fourth year. Criteria for election include overall academic achievement, contributions to the university and the community, and a high standard of character and personal conduct. An induction fee payable to the national office is required, as are modest annual national dues which include a subscription to *Pharos*, the society's publication.

Academic Support Programs: As part of the medical school class governance system, each class elects an academic representative who helps develop academic support programs. These representatives work closely with the Office for Student Affairs to assess the peculiar needs of their respective classes and

implement programs which will best meet these needs. Examples of past activities by various classes are study groups, a “study buddy” program, student-led reviews, note exchanges, and study skills presentations.

Professional

American Medical Association – Medical Student Section (AMA-MSS): The primary functions of AMA-MSS are to keep students informed on national issues concerning medical education, to provide an outlet for voicing ideas, and to aid in career planning. This year, the group will aim to focus on service, both to the students and to the school. The organization is an affiliate of the AMA and the Medical and Chirurgical Society of Maryland. Meetings are held every one or two months.

Association of American Medical Colleges—Organization of Student Representatives (AAMC-OSR): The AAMC coordinates the medical educational system, from national board exams to the standards that accredit medical schools. The OSR is the student voice to the AAMC. As a student representative you would represent the unique perspective of USU students at national and regional conferences. Once becoming a representative, there are many opportunities to participate in higher levels of leadership to help the promotion of medical education.

Association of Military Surgeons of the United States (AMSUS): The mission of AMSUS is to promote all areas of federal health care. USU students participate in the Baltimore-Washington Student Chapter, whose goals are to stimulate interest in and discussion of military medicine, to provide special opportunities for medical and military education, and to develop leadership. Meetings are monthly; annual national dues include a subscription to Military Medicine.

Student National Medical Association (SNMA): SNMA is a forum which addresses problems associated with race relations and minority groups, with particular attention given to minority health issues. It also provides a support network for minority students at USUHS. Activities include regional conferences, community-based programs, as well as speaking to local high school and college students. SNMA is an affiliate of the national organization based in Washington, D.C. Membership is open to all. National dues include a subscription to The Journal of the Student National Medical Association.

Student Government

Class Governance: Each medical school class elects officers to manage class business and activities and to represent and advocate student interests in the USU community. Class elections are conducted on an annual basis, with the following positions being filled: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Academic Representative, Social Representatives, Peer Development/Honor Representatives, and Information Technology Representative.

Student Advisory Council (SAC): The SAC is the executive student leadership group designed to study and manages issues across class boundaries and provides a student body consensus which may be communicated to responsible USU officials. The president and academic representative of each class are members of the SAC. The SAC is advisory to the Dean.

Service/Social

Aerospace Medical Student and Resident Organization (AMSRO): is an affiliate of the Aerospace Medical Association (ASMA). The USU chapter’s goal is to advance the science and art of aviation and space among medical and graduate students by educating about career opportunities, disseminating knowledge through lectures, and providing experience through research and clinical clerkships. The club meets on a monthly basis and features guest speakers on a number of topics including dive medicine, air

evacuation, space medicine and the pilot's perspective on flight medicine.

Anesthesiology Interest Group (AIG): The Anesthesiology Interest Group (AIG) is a partnership between the SOM students and the Anesthesia Department, and, by extension, the military anesthesia community. Our goals are: 1) to serve as a resource for students interested in Anesthesiology, 2) to serve as a resource for students who are considering Anesthesiology among other options, with the objective of helping the student discover which specialty fits them best, regardless of what that may be, 3) to be a resource for Anesthesia knowledge and skills relevant to all military physicians, including airway management, resuscitation, clinical pharmacology, critical care, venous access, medicine in austere environments, and perioperative medicine, and 4) to be one of many addresses at which any student, regardless of interest, can seek mentoring for almost any purpose. Along those lines, we can arrange speakers for meetings, arrange flexible shadowing and early clinical exposure and match faculty up with students who need mentoring for any reason, at any time during the curriculum.

Apollo Society: The Apollo Society is an organization dedicated to sharing and celebrating the artistic talents of the USUHS community. We host four Open-Mic events per year with the generous support of The Family Medicine Interest Group.

Asian Pacific American Student Association (APAMSA): This national organization's goal is to address those issues important to Asian American medical students. They are interested in both directly promoting the health and well-being of the Asian community as well as helping health care providers working with these communities understand how to care for the Asian patient in a culturally sensitive manner. APAMSA provides a forum for APA medical students to meet, exchange information and experiences and develop personally and professionally. Membership is open to the entire student community.

CADUSUHS: The CADUSUHS is the yearbook for the university, produced totally by students. The editor-in-chief is a fourth-year student responsible for the overall design and production of the yearbook, as well as its senior section. The club has a number of other positions which require volunteers; these include class section editors and co-editors, and students to collect digital photos and utilize online resources to create layouts. Members' workloads vary throughout the year, becoming a little heavier just before publication deadlines.

Catholic Medical Student Association (CMSA): The Catholic Medical Student Association serves to bring the Roman Catholic community together at USU. The goal of the CMSA is to engage each Catholic student spiritually, intellectually, and religiously. CMSA hosts several speakers throughout the academic year on topics related to the Church, medicine, and the military. In addition, CMSA hosts small-group lunch meetings where discussions range from topics of faith to controversial issues in bioethics. Finally, CMSA wants to bring the Catholic community together outside the confines of USU through community service, outreach, and social events. Membership is open to the entire USU community.

Christian Medical Association (CMA): CMA is the USU chapter of the national organization: Christian Medical & Dental Association (CMDA). The purpose of the national CMDA organization is to motivate and equip Christian doctors and medical students to practice their faith in Jesus Christ in every aspect of their lives. The USU chapter (CMA) is specifically dedicated to providing opportunities for students, faculty, and staff to grow spiritually, encourage one another through Christ-centered relationships, and reach out to our communities. CMA at USU offers weekly Bible study and fellowship, regular family gatherings and other opportunities for community service. There are no dues for CMA and medical students can join the national CMDA for no cost. For more information, please refer to www.cmda.org (national CMDA) and the bulletin board outside the Student Community Center (USU chapter).

Dermatology Interest Group: The Dermatology Interest Group strives to provide students interested in

dermatology with the most up to date and relevant information regarding residencies and sub-specialties within the field. A shadowing program is available for those wanting to observe dermatologists at work, and a variety of dermatologists are invited to speak about their career choice, family life and day to day work routine. Meetings are held a couple of times a year and we hope to see you there.

Dermatones: The Dermatones is an a cappella singing group, consisting of both men's and women's voices in barbershop and traditional choral arrangements. The group performs at numerous university functions throughout the year (including mess dinners, social occasions, and memorial services) and special functions (such as Christmas caroling at the Soldiers and Airmen's Home of Washington, D.C.). The Dermatones meet weekly for practice and enjoyment. No dues.

Emergency Medicine Interest Group: EMIG exists to foster interest in the medical specialty of emergency medicine. With regular meetings, EMIG will discuss relevant topics in emergent care focused on paralleling real medicine with that which is learned in USU classes by utilizing EM physicians, journal articles and students' experiences. We also sponsor a program whereby students may shadow an emergency medicine physician to see the specialty in action.

Family Medicine Interest Group (FMIG): The goal of the FMIG is to serve the interests of USU students with respect to community service, career development, and medical education. Activities and events increase exposure to the specialty of family medicine, a discipline which stresses the comprehensive and continuous care of patients and their families. The club is an affiliate of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) and the Uniformed Services Academy of Family Physicians (USAFP). Through community activities and department workshops, members learn about the diverse field of family medicine, its residency programs, and the challenges facing future primary care physicians. Meetings and programs occur throughout the year, and more information on individual programs can be found on their website at <http://www.facebook.com/USUHSMFMIG>.

Genomic Personalized Medicine Interest Group: The group's overarching goal is to help bring genome-informed, personalized medicine to the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences and the Department of Defense by introducing medical students to genomics and its myriad of clinical implications early in their careers. The aforementioned is to be accomplished by identifying and discussing advances in genomic medicine; creating opportunities for rotations and workshops in genetics/personalized medicine; and attending lectures by guest speakers involved in personalized clinical medicine and research. Further, it is the group's intention to create avenues of access to research opportunities in informatics, clinical and preventive genomics.

Global Health Interest Group: The Global Health Interest Group (GHIG) is a student-run group designed to foster an interest in global health and development among the USU community. GHIG not only offers its members access to scientific and operational knowledge, but also offers students a channel to communicate and connect with a wide range of global health experts.

Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Response Interest Group: The HA/DR Interest group is sponsored by CDHAM and designed to support students in the SOM, GSN and other graduate programs interested in HA/DR medicine. We provide a variety of networking, educational, and service opportunities through lectures, workshops, and service projects.

Internal Medicine Interest Group: IMIG exists to bring together senior faculty members and students for the purposes of learning about internal medicine careers, lifestyles, and gratification. The group meets once or twice a month for discussions led by military internists, interactive clinical scenarios, and clinical workshops. The group also arranges for interested students to make rounds with doctors in hospitals, and to identify a mentor to help guide your future in internal medicine. For those interested and motivated students, research opportunities are also available. Information on IMIG is available on the university's

computer bulletin board. No dues; everyone welcome!

Latter-Day Saint Student Association (LDSSA): The LDSSA is an approved program of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It serves to help all Latter-day Saint students stay closely affiliated to the Church, find fellowship among those of common belief, succeed in their studies, and balance their secular education with spiritual development. The organization acts to motivate each student to become a powerful influence for good on the campus and in the university's affiliated hospitals. The LDSSA also attempts to provide students with service opportunities, as well as meaningful social activities which are consistent with the standards of the Church. All members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints who are students at USU are automatically members of LDSSA at USU. Membership is also open to the entire student community.

OB/GYN Interest Group: The OB/GYN Interest Group meets monthly to learn more about the specialty and to explore women's health care issues in general. Guest speakers are invited to discuss relevant OB/GYN topics, deployment opportunities as an OB/GYN, current women's health issues, OB/GYN as a primary care specialty, and residency opportunities. Pre-clerkship members have an opportunity to get hands-on clinical experiences by shadowing at the Labor and Delivery ward at WRNMMC, have the opportunity to participate in the new student-patient partnership program and can also become involved in many surgical shadowing opportunities. Anyone wishing to explore their interest in caring for the female patient is encouraged to attend. No dues.

One Nation: One Nation is the indigenous health interest group led by the Indian Health Service students at USUHS. We meet monthly with subject matter experts and IHS administrators to discuss issues relevant to Native American and Alaska Native health, such as traditional medicine, diabetes prevention, and preventing violence and substance abuse in the postcolonial context. In addition, we connect students to mentors in the field, resources for learning, indigenous events in the DC area, and on-site shadowing opportunities. Our goal is to improve USUHS medical students' ability to lead in the IHS and, as outlined in the IHS mission, "to raise the physical, mental, social, and spiritual health of American Indians and Alaska Natives to the highest level." We welcome anyone with an interest in improving healthcare for indigenous peoples to attend. Events are held at USUHS or at IHS headquarters in Rockville. Participation is free of charge.

Operational Medicine Interest Group: The mission of the Operational Medicine Interest Group is to assist medical students in gaining exposure to and information about opportunities to practice medicine within the Operational Medicine Communities of the various services. The OMIG facilitates training opportunities, provides guest speakers, and serves as an information source for the USUHS community. We meet monthly and charge no dues.

Orthopaedic Interest Group: The goal of the Orthopaedic Interest group is to provide students who are interested in the field of Orthopaedics exposure and access to this surgical sub-specialty early on in their medical school careers. Unique opportunities for members include small group lectures given by orthopaedic attending or resident physicians immediately followed by shadowing in the OR, sawbone labs to allow students to practice surgical technique using orthopaedic instrumentation, and individual opportunities for research. In addition to these hands on learning experiences, we strive to hold monthly meetings with physicians from different sub-specialties within Orthopaedics to provide an encompassing view of this great field.

Pathology Interest Group: The purpose of the Pathology Interest Group is to inform students about careers in Pathology while teaching them skills that will be helpful in medical school and beyond. The group is intended for all medical students, not just those who have a long-term interest in pathology. The group meets once a month, schedules permitting. There are no dues, just the hope that members will show up, eager to learn and gain new experiences.

Pediatric Interest Group: The purpose of the Pediatric Interest Group is to provide students with information about a possible career in military pediatrics. The group sponsors monthly lunch meetings, plans several community service projects, offers mentoring opportunities with staff pediatricians, coordinates research experiences, and encourages collaboration with other student interest groups.

Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Interest Group: Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation is an exciting specialty that encompasses management of musculoskeletal injuries, Traumatic Brain Injury, chronic pain, stroke patients, wounded warrior care, and prosthesis management. If you are interested in Sports Medicine, Neurology, or Anesthesiology this specialty combines parts of these specialties and may be for you. Activities that are available in the group include practicing musculoskeletal exams, ultrasounds of joints, joint injections and shadowing opportunities at Walter Reed. Meetings are once every 2-3 months. There are no dues currently.

Preventive Medicine Interest Group: The Preventive Medicine Interest Group meets periodically to learn more about the specialty and to explore issues in public health and the prevention of disease. Guest speakers are invited to discuss relevant and current preventive medicine and health promotion topics, including international health, operational medicine, outbreak investigations, disaster relief, humanitarian assistance, health policy and advocacy, and more. Specialty training and career opportunities in preventive, occupational, and aerospace medicine are included. Pre-clerkship student members are encouraged to recognize the impact of preventing disease in both military and civilian populations. Anyone wishing to explore their interest in practicing preventive medicine and applying preventive medicine strategies to any other medical discipline is encouraged to attend. No dues.

Psychiatry/Neurology Interest Group: The purpose of the Psychiatry/Neurology Interest Group is to educate students about specialties including Psychiatry, Neurology, Neurosurgery, and related fields, and to explore major issues and current topics within these fields. The group also serves to provide a way for students to get in contact with professionals to further pursue their interests. Finally, the Psych/Neuro Interest Group will disseminate information about opportunities that become available to students interested in these specialties. Meetings are held once per module.

Radiology Interest Group: The purpose of the Radiology Interest Group (RIG) is to inform students about all the different career paths in Radiology, including diagnostic radiology, radiology oncology, and interventional radiology. We host general information meetings, as well as tours of various radiology departments at WRNMMC. The group is intended for all medical students. There are no dues - all that is required is interest and/or curiosity! There is no set schedule, but medical students will be given notification of RIG events via e-mail.

Special Operations Medicine Interest Group: The mission of the SOIG is to assist medical students in gaining exposure to and information about opportunities to practice medicine within the Special Operations Communities of the various services. The SOIG facilitates training opportunities, provides guest speakers, and serves as an information source for the USUHS community. We meet monthly and charge no dues.

Sports Medicine Interest Group: The Sports Medicine Interest Group's goal is to provide USUHS medical students exposure to the principles and practice of sports medicine in both military and civilian medicine and to create opportunities for students to receive didactic and shadowing experiences in the application of sports medicine principles in relevant medical fields and specialty settings. Dues are not required though some specific activities may require a fee if students choose to participate in them. The group meets about once every two months and sponsors other activities as needed and based on student interests, some on an ongoing basis. The focus of the group is mostly to get the students outside the classroom and lecture halls as they learn and practice new skills.

Student Spouses' Club: The Student Spouses' Club is an organization for the spouses and significant others of the students at USU. The primary goal of the club is to provide support, friendship and community for student families through a variety of social and service activities throughout the year. The club holds monthly membership meetings, as well as numerous barbecues, adult socials, parent-child activities, and raises funds for Wounded Warriors through a 5k and 10k run. SSC also publishes a blog, and hosts Information Sessions to help students and spouses learn more about life in the military and what to expect while at USU. All spouses and significant others of active duty students at USU are welcome to participate.

Surgery Interest Group: The Surgery Interest group seeks to provide students interested in pursuing a career in surgery with the latest and most pertinent information about residencies and sub-specialties within the field. A shadowing program is available for those wanting to see surgeons at work, and a variety of surgeons are invited to speak about their specialties, career tracks, and family life. Opportunities are also available to learn some basic surgical skills and techniques as well as volunteer in the community. Meetings and skills labs are held every month.