



**March 2024**

## **Observances**

03/01-03/31 | **Women's History Month**

03/08 | **International Women's Day**

03/10-04/08 | **Ramadan** (a month of fasting, prayer, and reflection for Muslims. It is a commemoration of Mohammed's first revelation.)

03/10 | **Daylight Savings Time Begins** (Clocks will move forward by one hour at 2 a.m.)

03/19 | **Spring Equinox/Ostara/Alban Eilir** (A Pagan, Druid, and Wiccan holiday to celebrate spring and fertility.)

03/20 | **Naw Ruz** (The Baha'i and Persian New Year and celebration of spring.)

03/23-24 | **Purim** (Purim commemorates the time when the Jews were living in Persia and were saved from genocide by the courage of a young Jewish woman named Esther.)

03/24-25 | **Holi** (The Hindu Festival of Colors which celebrates the coming of spring and the triumph of good over evil.)

03/28 | **Maundy Thursday** (Christian Commemoration of the last supper that the founder of the religion ate with his followers before his crucifixion.)

03/29 | **Good Friday** (The Friday before Easter which commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus, the founder of Christianity.)

03/31 | **Easter** (The Christian holiday celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.)

## **Events**

03/07 | **Celebration of Gender Equity – *Why Intersectionality Matters for Life Sciences and Medicine*** – A lecture and awards ceremony hosted by the ODEI Gender Equity Initiative – Speaker: Debora Kamin Mukaz, PhD, M.S. – 12:00-1:30, MedEd 200, or [join via Zoom](#)

03/07 | **Understanding Gaza: Tracing Violence and Reconciliation in Palestine/Israel** – Dr. Sa’ed Atshan – 3:00-4:00, Alumni House Silver Pavilion  
– [click here to RSVP](#)

03/08 | **Understanding Ramadan: Implications for Healthcare** – 12:00pm, MedEd 200

03/15 | **Match Day Celebration** – 11:45am-1:00pm, Grand Maple Ballroom, 4th Floor, UVM Davis Center

03/18 | **Pediatric Health Equity Grand Rounds: *Storytelling as Healing Justice: Uplifting Youth Voices*** – guest speakers: Sarah Lowry, Ferene Paris, Noblette Irazoke, Nadine Izikabuntu, Apolina Mbeleci, Passy Matendo – 12:00, McClure Lobby Conference Room or [join via Zoom](#)

03/19-22 | **Inclusive Excellence Symposium: Leading with Love in Pursuit of Justice** – [click here to register](#)

03/23 | **URiM Pathway to Pediatrics (UPP) Mixer** – 4:30-5:30, Hoehl Gallery – [click here](#) to learn more

03/30 **Translating Identity Conference** – a conference centered round trans joy – [click here to learn more.](#)

Missed an event? [Visit our video library](#)

## ODEI Announcements

### 2024 Nickens Scholarship Nominee Announced



**Wendy Memishian '26** been selected as the Larner College of Medicine’s nominee for the American Association of Medical Colleges (AAMC) Herbert C. Nickens Scholarship.

Each year, the AAMC invites medical schools to nominate one third year medical student for the Herbert C. Nickens Scholarship. From those nominees, the AAMC selects five (5) outstanding third year medical students from across the country to receive a \$5,000 scholarship.

Memishian’s leadership as part of the Social Justice Coalition, as well as her participation in other student groups focusing on addressing the health care needs of underrepresented and underserved

population, including racial and ethnic minorities illustrates her dedication to equity and the initiative she has taken in working collaboratively to close gaps in education and advocacy.

[Read More about the Nickens Student Scholarship →](#)

## New Affinity Student Interest Groups

Two new chapters of national medical student organizations have been established at the Lerner College of Medicine.



**The South Asian Medical Student Association (SAMoSA)**, is dedicated to unifying medical students and promoting South Asian health initiatives across the United States of America by promoting research surrounding issues related to South Asian health and wellness, encouraging advocacy on culturally competent care and racial health care disparities and developing a mentorship network for medical students

SAMoSA is led by **Harjas Sabharwal '27**, **Isabel Thomas '27**, **Erin Manogaran '27**, and **Varsha Pudi '27**.



**The American Muslim Medical Student Association (AMMSA)** led by **Sulekha Kilas '27**, **Hamza Mirza '27**, **Zaymee Syeda '27**, **Raihan Kabir '27**, **Ranya Moshashaian Asl '27**, is a student led organization welcoming Muslim students, physicians, and leaders to explore the inherent intersection between Islam and medicine. AMMSA's goal is simple: to empower American Muslim medical students by providing opportunities for excellence in spiritual growth, professional development, and community building.

## DEI at UVM



### **Inclusive Excellence Symposium**

The 2024 Inclusive Excellence Symposium will be held on March 19-22 and explores the relationship between love and

social justice work with renowned scholars, performers, and activists, including Delma Jackson III, Megan Red Shirt-Shaw, Durryle Brooks, and Jasiri X. **Larner faculty and staff can register for free with the code: LCOM**

[Register here](#)

## Announcements

### **Pediatric Health Equity Grand Rounds**

The department of Pediatrics will be holding its inaugural Health Equity Grand Rounds at 12:00 noon on Thursday, March 18th in the McClure Lobby Conference Room and Zoom. The event, *Storytelling as Healing: Uplifting Youth Voices*, will be a discussion of the race-based trauma and healing justice practices that are used in our community. It will feature guest speakers Sarah Lowry, a mental health counselor specializing in trauma-centered dram therapy, Ferene Paris, a Burlington-based storyteller and founder of All Heart Inspirations, and four students from Winooski High School: Noblette Irazoke, Nadine Ikizakubuntu, Apolina Mbeleci, and Passy Matendo. Lunch will be served at the event. The meeting ID for the [Zoom Event](#) is 985 4942 9402, and the passcode is hegr.

### **AAMC Early Career Women Faculty Leadership Development Seminar's Application Now Open**

The AAMC Early Career Women Faculty Leadership Development Seminar's application period will open in mid-February. The seminar's curriculum will provide a foundation for modeling leadership behavior and will focus on critical skills and strategies to assist you as you prepare for professional advancement or promotion. Due to the content focus, applicants' CVs must include or highlight activities demonstrating progress towards academic promotion and engagement in leadership roles.

[Read More →](#)

## Calling for Nominations for Imbasciani LGBTQ Lecturer

The Office of Diversity Equity and Inclusion is seeking speaker nominations for the 2024 Vito Imbasciani Ph.D., MD '85 and George DiSalvo LGBTQ Health Equity Lecture, Which will take place Monday, September 30th, from 4:30-6:30pm. This lectureship, launched in 2014 with a generous gift from medical alumnus Vito Imbasciani, Ph.D., and his spouse George DiSalvo, aims to bring experts to the Larner College of Medicine who address topics that prepare future physicians for providing competent medical care and prevention services that are specific to LGBTQ+ populations.

The Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion invite all members of the LCOM community to use [this link](#) to submit speaker nominations for providers, advocates, educators, and administrators who are champions for LGBTQ+ health equity by Friday, March 15th.

## Join the Gender Equity Listserv

Want to keep up to date on Gender Equity events and initiatives? Join the [Gender Equity Listserv](#).



## Become a Faculty Mentor to a Medical Student

The LCOM Mentors program pairs medical students who are members of groups underrepresented in medicine with faculty members and/or residents who have common interests and goals. This relationship can support the medical student (the mentee) to become familiar with institutional expectations, networks, and practices that are relevant to productivity and advancement at the Larner College of Medicine (LCOM).

For more information contact [Eileen CichoskiKelly](#) or to sign up, please [fill out this short form](#).

## From the AAMC

### Breaking Barriers: A Timeline of Women in Medicine

In 1873, Harvard Medical School professor Edward Clarke, MD, stated that excessive education for women would leave them with “monstrous brains and puny bodies.”

Not surprisingly, the number of U.S. women physicians was zero until well into the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Today, hundreds of thousands of women doctors serve patients across the nation and more than half of the students in the country’s medical schools are women. How did we get where we are?

[Click here to view the timeline](#)

### 2024 GDI Professional Development Conference

Join the Group on Diversity and Inclusion (GDI) for four days of dynamic learning, networking, and collaboration from March 25-27. Engage with leaders, faculty, administrators, and stakeholders shaping diversity and inclusion in academic medicine institutions around the nation. Don't miss the

chance to revolutionize institutional culture, empower marginalized voices, and transform community engagement. Explore the agenda and secure your spot now!

[Register Here](#)

### **2024 GDI Exemplary Leadership Award**

To increase recognition of diversity and inclusion leaders and teams, the GDI Steering Committee established the GDI Exemplary Leadership Award. This award recognizes innovative leadership and impact from an individual or team responsible for developing and implementing an outstanding and highly effective program that demonstrates evidenced-based best practices for enhancing diversity and inclusion in academic medicine and biomedical sciences. All GDI Representatives and other AAMC affinity group representatives at medical schools, teaching hospitals, or academic societies are eligible and can nominate colleagues for this award. The deadline for this award is March 8, 2024.

[Nominate a Colleague or Team](#)

### **Nominate your colleague for Top Hispanic Health Professionals - 40 under 40**

The National Hispanic Medical Association and the National Hispanic Health Foundation are looking for medical professionals who are 40 years old or under to feature in our prestigious Top 40 Under 40 List. While membership in NHMA is not required, we are seeking individuals who embody the qualities of a remarkable physician or health professional and the principles that our organization embodies: honesty, empathy, respect towards patients, competence, courage, altruism, and a strong commitment to public service.

[Nominate a Colleague](#)

### **Register for webinar on measuring students' perceptions of equity and inclusion**

The AAMC will present a webinar on March 11 at 2 p.m. ET as part of its [Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Anti-racism \(IDEAS\) Learning Series](#) on tools available to assess medical students' perceptions and experiences. The new Promoting Diversity, Group Inclusion, and Equity (ProDiGIE) instrument is a tool that can measure medical students' perceptions of equity and inclusion in the learning environment using data collected annually by the AAMC. Panelists will discuss how they developed and validated ProDiGIE and how medical schools may use it in the future to address disparities for their learners.

[Register Here](#)

### **Registration opens for Black Maternal Health Equity Summit**

The Black Maternal Health Equity Summit (BMHES) is a half-day convening of stakeholders, including the AAMC Center for Health Justice, whose formal and informal education, lived, and work experiences will help inform research questions and evidence-based solutions to advance health equity for Black mothers and all mothers. [Deirdre Cooper Owens, PhD](#), will deliver a keynote address followed by stories from local mothers and an overview of research and policy updates, challenges, and opportunities. The program will also include a breakout activity to apply learnings and shared insights. The free event will be held on April 14 at Cleveland State University and the deadline to register is April 5.

[Read More →](#)



### **Register for Social Mission Alliance Conference**

[The Social Mission Alliance](#) (formerly known as the Beyond Flexner Alliance) will host its seventh annual health equity conference in Durham, North Carolina, from April 8-10. Equity Amplified: Uniting Toward Social Mission Transformation is an opportunity for attendees to learn from and network with a community of educational reformers, advocates, and social mission leaders. The AAMC is a co-sponsor of the conference.

[Read More →](#)

### **Call for sessions and posters for ABMS Conference 2024**

The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) has opened a call for sessions and posters for the [ABMS Conference 2024](#). This health care conference is focused on board certification with a focus on assessment, lifelong learning, improvement, and professionalism. Individuals and organizations are welcome to submit more than one abstract, though each abstract must be submitted separately. All accepted submissions will be presented in-person and presenters will be required to register for ABMS Conference 2024. The deadline for session abstracts and posters is April 1.

[Submit Session or Poster Here](#)

### **AAMCNews: Drugs used in hospitals leave giant carbon footprint**

The production and use of pharmaceuticals creates significant greenhouse gases. Hospitals are trying to reduce their own impact but face challenges.

[Read More →](#)

### **AAMCNews: Recognizing a distinguished career in academic medicine**

Steven L. Kanter, MD, executive director of the Association of Academic Health Centers and former head of the Association of Academic Health Centers International, to retire in June after spearheading the merger of those organizations with the AAMC.

[Read More →](#)

### **Join Match Week celebrations on social media**

The AAMC, National Resident Matching Program (NRMP), and American Medical Association (AMA) invite students, residents, faculty, and others to celebrate Match Week as part of the 2024 Main Residency Match taking place March 11-15. Throughout the week, use #Match2024 on social media to tag congratulatory messages with photos and videos of students, faculty, and staff taking part in festivities. The AAMC will also be creating a [YouTube playlist of Match videos](#) and a Facebook album with photos from member institutions across the country (submissions can be sent to [socialmedia@aamc.org](mailto:socialmedia@aamc.org)).

### **New collection of AAMC resources for medical educators**

A new collection of resources provides an overview of the AAMC's medical education offerings, from tailored learning events, trainings, and professional development conferences to programs, initiatives, data sets, and scholarship on key and emerging topics. Opportunities are available for those across the medical education community to engage with the AAMC, advance their careers, and help move the field of medical education forward.

[Read More →](#)

## Articles of Interest

### **The Widow-Maker Scare: The Hidden Risk Factors and How a Routine Stress Test Saved a Life**

In the summer of 2023, Buddy Singh's daily workouts were accompanied by an unexpected visitor: a mysterious pain in his back, nestled somewhere deep between his shoulder blades. He went to the Emergency department at the University of Vermont Medical Center and had his heart function evaluated. What they found was surprising.

[Read More →](#)

### **\$1Billion Donation will Provide Free Tuition at a Bronx Medical School**

*By Joseph Goldstein*

Dr. Ruth Gottesman, a longtime professor at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, is making free tuition available to all students going forward.

[Read More →](#)

### **Why the Mental Cost of a STEM Career can be Too High for Women and People of Colour**

*By Jean King*

Under-represented groups face chronic barriers, creating psychological — and physical — effects. The scientific community must ease this burden.

[Read More →](#)