Social mission of a group of medical schools in the USA

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Social Mission of Medical Schools

To educate physicians to care for the national population

Annals of Internal Medicine 2010;152:804-811
“Social Accountability of medical schools is the obligation to direct education, research and service activities towards addressing the priority health concerns of the community, region and/or nation they have a mandate to serve”

-WHO, 1995
Social Mission Score

Percentage of graduates

- who are underrepresented minorities
- who are practicing in medically underserved communities
- who are in primary care
Medical School Rankings Based on Social Mission Score

1. Morehouse School of Medicine
2. Meharry Medical College
3. Howard University
4. Wright State University
5. University of Kansas
6. Michigan State University
7. East Carolina University
8. University of South Alabama
9. Ponce School of Medicine
10. University of Iowa
What are the strategies (“modalities”) used in pursuit of social mission?

- Mission
- Pipeline
- Admissions
- Curriculum
- Location of Clinical Experience*
- Tuition Management
- Mentoring
- Post-graduate engagement

*and engagement with community
Schools Presenting at *Beyond Flexner* Conference

- Morehouse School of Medicine
- Southern Illinois University
- University of New Mexico
- Northern Ontario School of Medicine
- University of Oklahoma at Tulsa
- A.T. Still College of Osteopathic Medicine
Mission

CLEAR + TANGIBLE + TARGET POPULATION = MISSION
UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO SCHOOL OF MEDICINE:
The mission of the University of New Mexico School of Medicine is to advance the health of all New Mexicans by educating and increasing the diversity of health professionals, leaders and scientists; providing outstanding and compassionate medical care; advocating for the health of all New Mexicans and pursuing new knowledge and excellence of practice.
Mission

A.T. STILL SCHOOL OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE IN ARIZONA: A.T. Still University of Health Sciences serves as a learning-centered university dedicated to preparing highly competent professionals through innovative academic programs with a commitment to continue its osteopathic heritage and focus on whole person healthcare, scholarship, community health, interprofessional education, diversity, and underserved populations.
Mission

- Morehouse School of Medicine is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of individuals and communities; increasing the diversity of the health professional and scientific workforce; and addressing primary health-care needs through programs in education, research, and service, with emphasis on people of color and the underserved urban and rural populations in Georgia and the nation.
Mission

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Pipeline

Outreach by the school to premedical students/institutions (at any level) with the intent of augmenting the pool of prepared candidates for the study of medicine.
Pipeline

Elementary & High School → Undergraduate → Post-baccalaureate
Pipeline Highlight

Southern Illinois School of Medicine: MEDPREP, Medical/Dental Preparatory Program

1. Underrepresented minority and disadvantaged

2. Nearly 1300 students since 1972

3. Matriculate to 37 medical schools nationally, 7 yearly to SIU

4. URM 16.4%, higher than the region
Admissions Highlight

MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE:

Applicants that fit MSM’s mission – who

- will increase the diversity of the health professional workforce
- will provide medical care to underserved communities in urban and rural GA and the nation
- are more likely to enter the primary care specialties
Admissions process that relies heavily on non-cognitive factors

- Past experiences: homeless shelters, foreign mission trips, rural experiences, etc.
- Character
- Responsibility
- Compassion
- Probability of pursuing primary care career in underserved community

Students do well on licensing exams despite below-average Medical College Admission Test scores and grade point average
Curriculum Highlight

UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO: Public Health Certificate

- Required for medical students
- Core Public Health courses
- Seventeen credits
- Culminating clinical practicum
Location of Clinical Experience Highlight

NORTHERN ONTARIO SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

• Entire third year
• Medium sized communities
• Eight month course
• Specialty experiences
Tuition Management Highlight

University of Oklahoma School of Community Medicine

- Large grant for scholarships and loan repayment
- Exchange for practice in underserved areas of Oklahoma
Mentoring

School strategies and programs intended to promote an environment of social accountability such as role models and mentoring that encourage the imprinting of students with values of social accountability.
Mentoring Highlight

- A.T. Still School of Osteopathic Medicine

- Main campus is in Arizona, but students are assigned to 9 Community Health Centers in 7 states in years 2-4.
- Regional Directors of Medical Education are nominated by the CHC and mentor students for 3 years.
Post-graduate Engagement

To include countering the “hidden curriculum.”
Modalities/Strategies

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- Pipeline
- Admissions
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*and engagement with community