Investing in the Future of Medicine:
One Student at a Time

Shauna Seaman, medical student and recipient of the Justina Ford Scholarship for Commitment to the Underserved.
The University of Colorado School of Medicine is generating the highest quality physicians in primary care, specialty care and academic medicine to serve the future healthcare needs of our state and the nation.

We offer an exceptional medical education with nationally prominent programs that explore cancer, diabetes, heart and lung disease, mental health issues and obesity. The medical school is home to nearly 2,500 fulltime and 2,800 volunteer faculty members.

In addition to educating students and participating in research, faculty members are actively involved in patient care and community service. Our faculty members are extremely successful in securing federal research grants, ranking sixth among the country’s 80 public medical schools in attracting research funding. We consistently rank among the best medical schools in the country—both in terms of grants awarded from the National Institutes of Health and in terms of our expertise in primary care as noted by U.S. News & World Report.

Each year we graduate:
• 140 Medical Students
• 265 Residents and Fellows
• 80 PhD Scientists
• 46 Physical Therapists
• 40 Physician Assistants

If you live in Colorado, it is quite possible you’ve been treated by a University of Colorado-trained doctor, as more than 50 percent of the medical school’s graduates practice in our state.

World-Class Resources
Our location at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus offers a combination of leading edge research and state-of-the-art facilities. The Anschutz Medical Campus is the Rocky Mountain region’s largest research, patient care and education center. With brand new laboratories and world-class hospitals, the campus provides the infrastructure and attracts the patient population to achieve innovation in every aspect of biomedical science—from basic research to clinical trials and from drug development to commercialization—all in one place.

We Understand the Rapidly Changing Healthcare Landscape
The physicians of tomorrow will require new and different skills than today’s doctors. They will have access to an array of extraordinary experiences: personalized medicine, advances in technology, clinical translational research, improved diagnostics and new modes of delivery.

They will also be confronted with significant challenges such as an aging population and growing epidemics like type 2 diabetes and obesity.

In addition, the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) estimates that we will face a shortage of nearly 160,000 physicians within the next 15 years.
Investing in the Future of Medicine

Student Profile: CARMEN SEPULVEDA

Carmen Sepulveda has always known what she wanted to do with her life. Before even entering medical school, she knew she wanted to work with an urban, underserved population. A first-generation American, Carmen’s parents are Chilean, so she grew up speaking Spanish and English. And she says she is inspired by her parents: her father is a medical interpreter and her mother a devoted volunteer in schools that serve Spanish-speaking families.

“I always knew I wanted to go to medical school,” Sepulveda says. “So when I received a scholarship I was very excited. I was thrilled to know that there were people out there who were helping me achieve my dream of becoming a doctor.”

Her dreams also include running a volunteer clinic where she can treat anyone who needs it, either for free or for very low cost.

“I would love it if lack of insurance and access weren’t barriers to healthcare,” she says. “My goal as a physician is to reduce those barriers.”

She said CU was her top choice, and when she graduates she hopes to practice medicine in Colorado.

“I have a gift that I speak Spanish. And I have the cultural connection of being Hispanic and so I want to work with that population because I feel like I can bring a lot to the people of Colorado,” Sepulveda says.

Healthcare reform is expected to add to the overall demand for doctors and increase this projected shortfall by as much as 25 percent, according to AAMC.

We are training doctors and other health professionals who will enter this changing field ready to enrich the practice of medicine through service, education and breakthroughs in knowledge.

Our Students are Outstanding

Entry into our programs is extremely competitive. Last year, the University of Colorado School of Medicine received nearly 4,000 applications. Only 160 students were enrolled, with an average GPA of 3.72 and MCAT mean of 32.5.

The class of 2014 represents 68 colleges and universities, and hails from 16 states.

Once here, our students are immersed in a humanistic environment of education, patient care, research and community service. They emerge as committed professionals possessing the highest standards of care while enriching the practice of medicine through service, education and generation of new knowledge.
To improve the medical profession’s capacity to serve an aging and increasingly diverse population, we must attract the most promising students, regardless of their ability to pay.

All scholarship recipients at the University of Colorado School of Medicine must, first and foremost, share our core values of academic excellence and community service. We emphasize academic merit at every point in a medical student’s career with us—upon entry into the School of Medicine and with additional grant and award opportunities as they progress through our programs. “Scholarships for medical school are crucial,” says Rob Winn, MD, associate dean of admissions. “Patients require doctors who can respond to their unique needs—across cultures and across urban and rural settings. With the help of scholarships, we can recruit the medical workforce needed for tomorrow by attracting and retaining the greatest talent for Colorado and creating diversity in the workforce itself.”

Winn goes on to say that the students who were recruited this year had a median GPA and median MCAT that was higher than the majority of the rest of the incoming class. “We are bringing in quality people who will add to the discussion and diversity of thought. We would not have been able to do that without scholarships,” Winn says.

Need-Based Scholarships: Opening Doors, Creating Choices
More than 85 percent of the incoming class of MD students needs some degree of financial assistance. The average medical student’s debt upon graduation has nearly doubled over the past ten years due to a variety of factors, including a higher cost of living, increased tuition, reduced state subsidies and changes to federal loan programs. Here at the University of Colorado, the debt load of a School of Medicine graduate typically

A few of the President’s Scholarship recipients (from left to right): Adam Kahlil, Geoffrey Fauchet, Jessica Jack, Ryan Roth and Austin Badeau.
runs over $100,000, with some students forced to borrow more than $200,000. These figures are typical across the country as nationwide the average debt for medical school graduates is $150,000; nearly 20 percent carry a debt of more than $200,000.

The result of this debt is that some medical students are making career choices away from primary care to higher-paying specialties.

Yet our state and our nation are experiencing a shortage of primary care physicians, particularly in rural areas.

We must eliminate the unacceptable financial barriers that influence these choices.

“With the help of scholarships, we can recruit the medical workforce needed for tomorrow by attracting and retaining the greatest talent for Colorado and creating diversity in the workforce itself.”

Rob Winn, MD, associate dean of admissions
Diversity Scholarships: A New Era for Medicine

We believe that diversity enhances the learning environment for students, residents, fellows, faculty and staff. It strengthens the school’s ties to nearby communities, contributes in measureable ways to improving the community’s health, decreases health disparities and increases health equity.

Perhaps the greatest change facing tomorrow’s medical professionals is an increasingly diverse patient population. Doctors practicing in a diverse community must understand how various cultures perceive illness and disease. They must recognize increased risks in different populations and be able to develop trusting relations regardless of social, economic or ethnic differences.

Patients require doctors who can respond to their unique needs across cultures and across urban and rural settings.

By bringing in bright students from diverse backgrounds, the medical school creates a better, more stimulating learning environment for ALL of our students.

Attending medical school with a diverse population enhances the experience for our students and ultimately improves the entire profession by engendering a broader view and providing exposure to the needs of a varied population.

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Student Profile: ADAM KHALIL

Originally from Egypt, Adam Khalil came to the United States to attend Grinnell College in Iowa. After college, he pursued research and discovered that he wanted his future to involve research and medicine.

“I want to go into academic medicine…and my scholarship is going to help me because academic medicine doesn’t pay as well as private practice,” says Khalil.

He plans to study neuroscience so he can treat cancer patients who may be out of options and require the combination of clinical medicine and research.

“My dream is to make a change for people who have brain tumors. It’s not one of the most common cancers but it is one of the most devastating diseases,” he says.

He says that scholarships made his education possible here and in college. He goes on to say, “It has made a difference in my life and in my colleagues’ lives…and in making our decisions for our futures as well.

“I don’t know how to say thank you, but it has a huge effect.”
What is Diversity?
The CU School of Medicine has adopted a definition of diversity that includes historically underrepresented groups in medicine such as African American, Hispanic American, Southeast Asian and Native Hawaiian.

In addition, the School of Medicine defines diversity and inclusion to incorporate factors such as being the first in their family to attend college (first generation college student), rural, economic status, gender, disability, educational disadvantage and veteran status.

Meeting the Challenge: Access to Excellence in Medical Education
The University of Colorado School of Medicine is uniquely positioned to create the medical workforce of tomorrow.

All that stands in the way of a diverse and top-notch class of medical students are financial resources for scholarships and student support. With your help, we can attract the best students, give them the best education and send them into the medical profession prepared to serve.

The Time is Now: University of Colorado’s $10 Million Challenge
The University of Colorado has committed $10 million over the next five years ($2 million annually) to support medical students from historically underrepresented economic, geographic and ethnic backgrounds.

You can double the impact of your gift. Gifts designated for current scholarships to support diversity will be matched one-to-one with institutional funds to create a larger pool of available scholarships for medical students.

This challenge is available through 2014 or until the $10 million goal has been met.
Help Us Seize the Moment.
To learn about the many ways you can make a gift, contact:

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At a recent luncheon, Mrs. Nancy DeLauro (right) had the opportunity to visit with some of the medical students she sponsors, including Paul Cheung (left). Mrs. DeLauro’s late husband John DeLauro, MD, was a School of Medicine graduate, longtime member of the CU Foundation Board of Directors and a passionate advocate for the University of Colorado.

Help Us Prepare Excellent Doctors for Colorado and the Nation

All patients need and deserve physicians who are proficient and flexible in a changing world. With your help, we can create the medical workforce needed for tomorrow by attracting the greatest talent.

Your gift will secure the University of Colorado School of Medicine’s competitiveness in attracting the best and brightest medical students from around the country. It will also help Colorado retain a highly qualified medical workforce to serve its citizens in urban, rural and diverse settings.

We are training physicians who are highly skilled, diverse, culturally sensitive and prepared to embrace the most exciting opportunities and daunting challenges of the future. They are worthy of our commitment.

Our shared investment in them will yield enormous returns.

University of Colorado
Anschutz Medical Campus
School of Medicine

All gifts should be payable to the University of Colorado Foundation, specifying the appropriate fund.

April 2011 WM/CC