Greetings CDU Alumni and Happy New Year!

A new year has begun! The CDU community welcomes 2015 with great enthusiasm and anticipation for a new year of growth and positive change, both as individuals and as a community.

CDU is focused on our strengths and aspirations; as articulated in our strategic initiatives: Academic Excellence, Student Success, Institutional Excellence, Community Service, and Clinical Service. These themes highlight our priorities and deepen our commitment to teaching and learning, as well as to building a stronger, more diverse and inclusive community; as we continue our quest towards the eradication of health disparities.

Even as the University strengthens its teaching and learning mission, we continue to respond to the needs of our current and prospective students as well as the populations we serve. Your continued support and involvement in CDU allows us to carry on and expand our legacy of providing unique, quality training for our future healthcare leaders.

Thank you for being a part of this noble institution. Thank you for your support over the past year. Please join us as we embark on a journey of accomplishments in the year to come.

Sincerely,

David M. Carlisle, MD, PhD
President and CEO

P.S. I look forward to seeing you at the CDU Winter Alumni Social: “Celebrating Decades of Excellence and Compassion” on Saturday, January 24, 2015 at the Monterey Hill Restaurant. Additional information is available in this newsletter.
Dr. Vanessa Yasmin Calderon ‘02, A Champion for Change

Dr. Vanessa Calderon’s ‘02, desire to serve dates back as early as third grade. Dr. Calderon remembers being asked what she wanted to be at age eight and her response was “I want to help others and be a doctor.” Despite the barriers she faced along the way, Dr. Calderon knew that serving others would be her purpose in life. “I have always wanted to make a difference.” Growing up as the daughter of immigrant parents she was consistently taught the value of hard work and that opportunities were limitless as long as she committed herself to what she wanted. Dr. Calderon credits the lessons taught to her as a child as a factor that motivated her to apply to Drew/UCLA for medical school. “Drew from day one was a bonding experience with 24 other students who felt the same desire I felt to serve others from various backgrounds all here with one purpose and one passion.” The Drew program was not just medical school; I gained a family who is still caring and supportive to one another in everything that we do. The Drew experience is one truly unique from others because everyone truly cares about the other person. The professional development you get along the way to serve others is second to none. Dr. Calderon also credits her career to having a close family and their committed support.

Since completing her residency, Dr. Calderon, has been involved in policy decisions that affect health disparities and has committed her practice to not only serving, but also to advocating for policy that helps underrepresented communities gain access to healthcare. During medical school, she took a year off to work in Washington D.C. to help change/advocate for policy that helped give underrepresented populations access to sufficient and quality healthcare coverage. Dr. Calderon says she will continue to serve and advocate for others and credits her cumulative experiences to her education at Drew/UCLA.
CDU Welcomes New Master’s Level PA Program Starting Fall 2016

Dear Charles R. Drew University Alumni,

Charles R. Drew University (CDU) is in the process of developing a Master of Health Science, Physician Assistant Studies Program. As a CDU alumnus you are part of a unique group of dedicated medical providers. I feel passionately about providing the surrounding community with the opportunity to support a Master-level PA program, which will ultimately produce competent medical providers who are able to bridge the gap in health care disparities within our community. We are asking for your help in securing clinical affiliation sites and with recruitment of three full-time program faculty.

About the PA Program: The CDU Physician Assistant program is located within the College of Science and Health and is a 27-month Master of Health Science program beginning in August of each year. The PA Program anticipates matriculating its inaugural class in August 2016. Students will learn and acquire clinical skills in a variety of healthcare settings and will obtain experience in disease management, disease prevention and health promotion. A strong emphasis on medical nutrition therapy in the curriculum will prepare students to address complex nutritional needs of patients, as well as the growing global emphasis on prevention and holistic medical care. Students and faculty will share the campus with members of the medical, nursing and public health disciplines, affording the unique opportunity to collaborate with students, faculty, patients and other medical professionals in a diverse range of medical disciplines and cultural settings. Faculty development opportunities will provide program faculty with the unique skills necessary to engage and enhance learning experiences. Student-centered, innovative teaching approaches will encourage creativity and help develop future leaders. Graduates of the program will have distinctive skills and experiences that will set them apart from other medical providers.

Please contact me if you are interested in participating as a clinical affiliation site or becoming part of the program’s founding faculty, or to simply learn about the progress of the program.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to read about the new PA Program and for your support!

Katayoun Moini, CNSC, RD, MHS, PA-C
Director, Assistant Professor
Physician Assistant Program

Spring 2015 Alumni Survey Coming in March

Thank you to all who completed the 2014 Alumni Survey. Your input was extremely informative. Data analysis from your survey responses will support our decision to put effective systems and processes in place that reflect alumni opinions. A summary of your feedback was shared in the Fall 2014 newsletter. We truly believe our alumni are one of the best sources of information regarding how Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science (CDU) has prepared its graduates for employment, continuing education, and life in general. We will issue the 2015 Alumni Survey in the next two months. Your input will be most valuable in helping us more effectively address how we might better serve graduates of our programs. This survey is designed to better understand the needs of our alumni and collect ideas relative to the relationship between yourself and CDU. As you may recall, Dr. Claricia Shepherd was the winner of the drawing for the iPad Mini last Spring.
The Alumni Mentoring Program will launch its first mentor/mentee pairings on January 26, 2015. It is because of your response to the call, that we are pleased to announce that we will pair 25 mentees with CDU alumni for the Spring 2015 semester. Please make yourself available to your mentee via email, phone, lunch, dinner, or other events and by responding in a reasonable time frame. We look forward to CDUAA engaging our students and helping them along the way. Please keep in mind we desire to keep this program as a yearly option to our students. Alumni have a wealth of information that can serve as academic and career tools that help our students to become the next generation of leaders.

A special thanks to the following for agreeing to be mentors: Dr. Luis Ontiveros, Arleen Sta. Maria, Dr. Lisa Downing, Dr. Fernando Reyes, Dr. Vanessa Calderon, Dr. Nneka Orjiakor, Dr. Antonio Bonet, Rachel Riley, Dr. Ambrisha Joshi, Andrea Riser-Zanders, Dr. Tracy Charles, Lauren Senkbeil, Dr. Ngozi Chukwu, Dr. Raquel Soto, and Mary McCoy.
Sheldon D. Fields, PhD, ARNP, FNP-BC, AACRN, DPNAP, FAANP joined the Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing (MMDSON) at Charles R. Drew University as its new Dean on January 12, 2015. Dr. Fields most recently served as Assistant Dean of Clinical Affairs and Health Policy, Associate Professor of Nursing and Co-Director of the Doctor of Nursing Practice Program in the Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences at Florida International University (FIU) in Miami, Florida.

With a nursing career spanning over 20 years, Dr. Fields has led administrative, research and academic units. He has participated in over $20 million dollars of research projects that focus on HIV prevention and has been funded by foundations, NIH, and other governmental agencies. Dr. Fields is a respected researcher with over 55 conference and poster presentations, and over 45 scholarly articles, book chapters, seminars, invited lectures, webinars, newspaper articles and television appearances related to HIV prevention and treatment among Black men. He is currently the protocol co-chair for the HIV Prevention Trials HPTN-073 study, an $8 million dollar NIH funded study to assess the initiation, acceptability, safety, and feasibility of Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) among Black men who have sex with men in three US cities (including Los Angeles) utilizing the C4 model (Client Centered Care Coordination).

Prior to joining the faculty at FIU, Dr. Fields was a tenured associate professor of nursing in the School of Nursing at the University of Rochester in Rochester New York, and before that an assistant professor in the Decker School of Nursing at Binghamton University in Binghamton, New York. A health policy analyst on the Affordable Care Act in 2009, Dr. Fields was the first ever male registered nurse selected for the highly competitive and prestigious Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellowship Program. As a fellow, he worked in Washington, DC on Capitol Hill for Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) on the Senate’s Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions – Aging Subcommittee during the historic healthcare reform debates and passage of the Affordable Care Act.

Dr. Fields received his PhD, in Nursing Science from the University of Pennsylvania, his MS, in Family Nursing (with a certificate as a Family Nurse Practitioner) and BS, in Nursing from Binghamton University. He completed post-doctoral studies at the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies at the University of California, San Francisco. He is a former national director of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care and an advanced HIV/AIDS certified registered nurse (AACRN). He is also a fellow of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (FAANP) and a Distinguished Practitioner in the National Academies of Practice (DPNAP).

We gratefully acknowledge the exceptional work of Dr. Shirley Evers-Manly, the Associate Dean of Nursing, who has served as Interim Dean of the MMDSON for the past 2 years. Her work has moved MMDSON forward and allowed growth of all the programs and faculty within the School of Nursing. We will now be fully staffed administratively with a Dean, Associate Dean and Interim Assistant Dean of Nursing in the School of Nursing.

President Carlisle expressed his enthusiasm for the appointment of Dr. Fields by saying, “We are enormously pleased that Dr. Fields is joining the CDU family. He brings a breadth of experience in academic administration, research, policy, clinical practice, and teaching.”

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Fields to the CDU family!
# Upcoming University Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January</th>
<th>February</th>
<th>March</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/24: Winter Alumni Social</td>
<td>2/4: Dr. Louis Sullivan Book Signing &amp; Reception 4-6:00pm</td>
<td>3/20: Match Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2/17: Black History Program</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For detailed information on these and other CDU events, visit us at cdrewu.edu - Click on Calendar
The CDU Annual Mission Maker Campaign is well underway. Since its launch on December 2, 2014, the campaign has raised $33,257 or 53% of the campaign goal of $62,400. The Office of Strategic Advancement would like to thank all of our donors and supporters who have given to assist CDU in reaching our goal. Your giving has aided the University in assisting with student, faculty and staff support as well as facility upgrades on campus. This year the campaign will support:

- Three $7,500 to 10,000 scholarships awarded to students from the College of Medicine, College of Science and Health and the Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing;
- Continuing support for the Mission Maker Mini Grant program; and
- Enhancements to student support services

Thank you to all who made the above awards possible. With your help, we can reach our goal of 100% participation! Also, if your company provides a Matching Gift Program, please let us know. Every donation, no matter how large or small, makes a difference and helps us to continue to train tomorrow’s health care leaders today. Click here to donate today!

Invest in CDU. Invest in the future.

“The CDU Mission Maker Campaign translates into improved quality and access to healthcare for some of Los Angeles’s most needy children and families. Please support this remarkable campaign.” - Seleda Williams, MD, MPH, PHMO III Alumnus, College of Medicine, Class of 1989

ANNUAL MISSION MAKER

Campaign

Congratulations to our Alumni

- Dr. Perry Montoya ’89 MD was named Chairman of Internal Medicine at Sharp Rees-Stealy Medical Group in San Diego, CA. Dr. Montoya’s group was recently awarded this National Acclaim which is awarded by the American Medical Group Association
- Dr. Marlene Rucker ’86 MD was recognized for her community service in Fresno, CA.
- Dr. Gracie Ann Dinkins’99 MD received the honor as a Speaker for the February 2015 Colloquial Series. She will also be traveling to Sierra Leone to treat Ebola patients.

Support for the CDU Alumni Association—As a supporter of the CDU Alumni Association you have the satisfaction of knowing your financial support is making a difference in our ability to enhance the educational experience and promote the institutional advancement of CDU. Visit https://donate.cdrewu.edu/scholarships_2.asp for information on how to make a donation to the College of Medicine Alumni Association’s 1,000 x $1,000 Fund; Albert J. Saunders, Sr. College of Science and Health Scholarship Fund; Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing: Dr. Gloria J. McNeal Founding Dean Fund; The Mrs. Lillian Harkless Mobley Presidential Endowed Scholarship Fund and the Mission Maker Campaign. Thank you in advance for your support!