

NEWSLETTER

The Texas Undergraduate Medical Academy

Volume 4 Issue 3 | January/February 2023 | Erin Renfro & Tenley Sablatzky



UMA Scholars volunteering during the 2023 Pre-Health Conference

Announcements

Hello, UMA Students, faculty, and staff, I hope you are all having a successful semester so far. Welcome to the first newsletter of the new semester. Continue to succeed in all you do and good luck on midterms!

- UMA Historian,
Erin Renfro

What's Inside This Issue?

PG 2 NAAAS Conference and UMA Research

PG 3 UMA Pre Health Conference

PG 4 Practice MCAT/DAT Exam and Student Spotlights

PG 5: Student Spotlights Continued

PG 6: Crochet Club

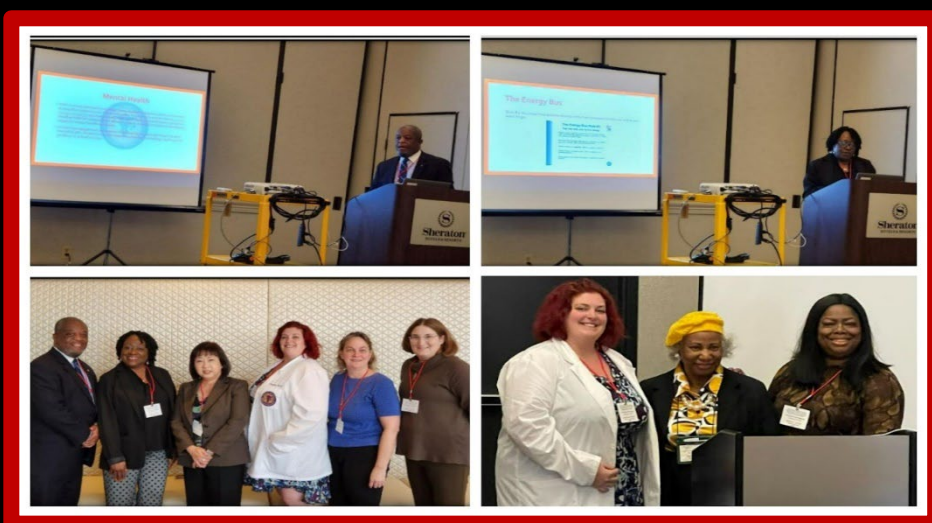
PG 7: CERT and 2023 Prairie View Trail Ride

PG 8: Pageant Winners and Purple Jacket Induction

PG 9: Birthdays and Upcoming Events

NAAAS Conference

February 15th through 17th, 2023, five UMA faculty and staff, along with one student, traveled to the annual National African American Studies Association's conference in Arlington, Texas, to present their research. Dr. Daniels spoke about achieving peak academic performance, Dr. Daniels and Mrs. Huynh spoke about the benefits of intrusive advising, Dr. Daniels and Mrs. Campbell spoke on the unique design of her Leadership and Ethics classes, Ms. Brekke spoke about linguistic theory behind the book "Black Skin White Masks", and Ms. Sablatzky spoke about algorithmic biases in online databases. Additionally, UMA Junior, Jacqueline McGill, presented for the first time on the values and themes in Southern Literature.



Top left: Dr. Daniels presenting at the NAAAS conference; Top right: Mrs. Campbell presenting at the NAAAS conference; Bottom left (left-to-right): Dr. Daniels, Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Huynh, Jacqueline McGill, Mrs. Brekke, and Ms. Sablatzky pose for a photo; Bottom right: Jacqueline McGill poses with her NAAAS session moderator and another presenter.

UMA Research Lab



UMA Junior, Katie Johnson, and Jasper Scholar Anisa Cole have had the opportunity during the Spring semester to conduct research with Dr. Sultana in the UMA's BSL-2 research lab.

2023 UMA Pre-Health Conference



UMA Alums, Dr. Alexandria Talley and Dr. Leah Douglas (top left).

2nd and 3rd year medical school students from the University of Houston; including two UMA alums, Charles Anugwom and Lance McCoy (top right)

Dr. Jason Monroe (bottom left)

Dr. Daniels opening the conference (bottom right).

Panelists: UMA alumni and current students.

Left to right: Dr. Talley, Cale Watkins, Jacob Williams, Cliffic Guidry, Caroline Grannum, Dr. Douglas.

Below: Dr. Monroe talks with high school students (top left), Dr. Daniels speaking at the conference (right), UMA Students greeting conference attendees (bottom left).



Practice MCAT/DAT

The Texas Undergraduate Medical Academy hosted two practice MCAT/DAT exam sessions on February 11th and March 4th, 2023, for UMA students who are preparing for the MCAT/DAT.



UMA students during the practice MCAT/DAT session on March 4th, 2023

Student Spotlights

Trinity Brigham



This fall, I will attend The University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) School of Population and Public Health (SPPH) in Galveston on a full scholarship to earn my Master of Public Health, focusing on Epidemiology. I am so grateful and excited for this opportunity because one of my lifelong goals is to decrease the disparities that negatively impact the African American community. First and foremost, I would like to thank my parents, as I truly could not have achieved this goal without their encouragement and faith in me. I am also grateful for my friends, the Undergraduate Medical Academy, and the Honors Program. Dr. Daniels, Dr. Moore, and Mrs. Young have been the best mentors I could have ever asked for, as they have always been there to help ensure I have the resources I need to achieve my

goals. I am grateful to Mr. Swisher, Mrs. Huynh, Mrs. Straker, and Mrs. Ingram for always being there to listen and help me whenever needed. After graduating from the School of Population and Public Health in 2025, I will continue to medical school. Receiving my MPH at UTMB is the next chapter in this exciting journey of becoming Trinity Brigham, MD/MPH.

Caroline Grannum



This Fall I will join Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine Class of 2027! I feel blessed to have earned this fantastic opportunity. The sacrifices I've made, my ongoing determination, and the support I've received since high school have led me to this amazing point.

The process of working towards veterinary school has certainly been a rollercoaster ride for me. During the low points I questioned my ability to even get into veterinary school and I lost a bit of motivation. Had I not clung to the support of my parents, my professors, my friends, and my family of cats and dogs, I would not have made it this far.

I am grateful for all the advice and assistance I received from my professors and mentors: Dr. Dennis Daniels, Mrs. Quyen Huynh, and the Undergraduate Medical Academy; Dr. Gloria Regisford and the Biology department; Dr. Milton Daley and the pre-vet club; Dr. Allegra Lamison-Stansberry (DVM) and the North 10th Street Animal Clinic. Thanks to them for believing in me and helping me develop into a resilient student and future veterinarian.

I look forward to providing specialty care in areas where such care is scarce and to mentoring pre-vet students. I hope that my journey encourages and inspires those students who are working toward goals of improving themselves, becoming doctors, and contributing productively to our society.

Crochet Club

This month the Crochet Club held their first meeting of the semester on February 3rd where there was a great turnout! In February the Crochet Club also had their first introductory suturing class. The Crochet and Suturing Club will continue every other Friday throughout the Spring semester. After Spring Break, the Suturing Club will be honing their skills using the Medical Creation Suturing Practice Kits!



UMA Scholars
enjoying Crochet
Club activities (top
and middle)

Paige Wilson
teaches Anisa Cole
how to suture
(bottom)



CERT Class



Above: UMA students practicing CPR, cribbing, and splinting during CERT and CPR class.

UMA students Kierston Atkinson, Anisa Cole, Jessica Henderson, Louisa Idah-Oze, and Shantel Taylor earned their First Aid/CPR/AED certification on March 1st.

Sherylle H. Fuller at the 2023 Prairie View Trail Ride

Award: Flag Bearer for the Prairie View Trail Riders Association for 30 Years



Certificate Presentation of the Annual Chili Cook-Off (bottom right)

Pageant Winners



This month several of our UMA scholars participated in the Rho Theta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi's 20 Miss Pearls pageant, where each participating UMA member won an award. Congratulations to Kendel Thomas (middle) for winning the pageant as Miss 20 Pearls, Kiyah Thomas (left) for 1st runner up as Miss Rho Theta, and Justyce Redeau (right) for 2nd Runner up as Miss 1911!

Purple Jacket Inductions

On February 4, 2023, some of our UMA students were inducted into the 14th class of the Purple Jacket organization. This women-led organization highlights leadership, integrity, poise, and self-respect. Congratulations to the new Purple Jacket members!



The new members and previous members taking picture.

Top: Camryn Murray, Kaylin Johnson, Geri Jenkins, Eryka Appiah-Amaning, Erin Renfro, Justyce Redeau

Bottom: Jordan Shaw, Kendel Thomas, Kiyah Thomas, Jacari Tate

Birthday Celebration

This month we were able to celebrate our UMA birthdays! To show appreciation to our fall, January, and February birthdays our UMA chaplain, Eryka Appiah-Amaning organized a pick-up of a special treat.



Upcoming Events and Birthdays

February and March Birthdays

FEBRUARY

JESSICA HENDERSON	2/8
ERIN LAFLEUR	2/9
KENDEL THOMAS	2/17
KIYAH THOMAS	2/17
HOPE POINTER	2/17
MACI GUY	2/21
NYAH FEGINS-ROSE	2/22
EHIGUESE OBIOMON	2/24
AMINA ROSE	2/27

MARCH

JUSTYCE REDEAU	3/7
SIAH GREEN	3/9
JORDAN SHAW	3/19
JABARI SMITH	3/20
JADA MENDOZA	3/23
JACOB WILLIAMS	3/30

Upcoming Events

March

9-11: Mid-Semester Exams
13-18: Spring Break
24: Community Service Hours Due
(Mid Semester)
TBA: Mini Grand Round
27: Final Date to apply for Spring
2023 Graduation
31: Medical School Visit - UTMB

