Happy New Year and Welcome Back! I hope everyone had a relaxing break and is ready to finish this semester well. I wish everyone a fresh new start to the spring semester of new a decade.

Inside this issue:

1. MCAT Bootcamp
2. Bikes & Trikes
3. Birthdays & Events
4. UMA Student Spotlight
5. Encouraging words
The Undergraduate Medical Academy held a mini MCAT bootcamp during the winter break on December 11-19, 2019. About 12 UMA students participated in preparing for the MCAT. Students followed a structured schedule completing a morning and afternoon session daily, and completing assigned UWorld activities. Kayla Marsh states that "it was a lot of work, quite tiring; but extremely helpful for concept reviews and having an idea of what I need to study more." This was a great prep to get us started in preparing for the MCAT.
Bikes & Trikes

UMA students raised $185 to donate three bicycles. We hope they had a great Christmas!
Upcoming Events

- First Day of Classes: 13 Jan.
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday (University Closed): 18 Jan.
- First day of Kaplan Course (selected students): 20 Jan.
- 12th Day Class: 29 Jan.

Birthdays!

- Samuel Peña: 8 Jan.
- Dan Aristide: 14 Jan.
- Monét Serieux: 17 Jan.
- Aaron Halsey: 26 Jan.
Dan Aristide
Biology Major
Senior

My biggest accomplishment is introducing the sport of paintball to the campus through the paintball club, I’m the president, where we play paintball and try to address issues that affect the student body. Every spring semester, I speak on a HOSA panel at Cy-Creek High School, where I represent the UMA, and answer any questions from high-schoolers on a panel about being a pre-med student. My goal after college is to go to graduate school then attend medical school applying for residency in family medicine. The UMA has impacted me tremendously by introducing me to life-time friends and aligning me on the right path for medical school. And finally, Prairie View has given me the courage to go outside my comfort box at times to make me a better person and has taught me how to network with others to get things done.

Aubryane DeArmas
Biology
Senior

I was accepted into The Undergraduate Medical Academy as an Honor Admit in 2016. Since my arrival at Prairie View, the UMA has always been a source of encouragement, inspiration and a guide for directing me towards my goal of becoming a Dentist. I have been inspired by the UMA students and their undeniable scholarly potential and the amazing staff who continue to advance themselves and the students in order to provide better service. Attending events such as the Texas Legislator Black Caucus, medical conferences and visiting dental schools have all been opportunities provided by UMA. During my time at Prairie View, I have served on the UMA e-board and our Pre-dental committee e-board every year. I have also served as Vice President in the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. I have attended SHPEP summer program and have recently done research at MD Anderson under the Radiation Oncologist Dr. Clifton Fuller. I have also been a member of MAPS, Pre-dental club, PALS, and represented UMA as Mrs. UMA 2019. I am also very active in the UMA Pre-Dental Education Days.
Encouraging words

No one can go back in time to change what has happened. So work on your present to make yourself a wonderful future.

Happy New Year.