

NEWSLETTER

The Texas Undergraduate Medical Academy

Volume 4 Issue 2 | November/December 2022 | Erin Renfro & Tenley Sablatzky



Announcements

Hello, UMA students and staff! The semester has come to an end, and this will be the last newsletter of the Fall 2022 semester. The month of November held many opportunities for our UMA students. As you'll read in the student spotlights, our students have been traveling from coast to coast. Enjoy UMA student highlights, some encouraging words from our chaplain, and more in this month's issue!

~ Erin Renfro, Historian

“Life as taught me that adaptability and preparedness are paradoxically linked.”

Michelle Obama, *The Light We Carry*

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Medical School Visit



UMA Scholars visiting the Meharry Medical College

On 11/17/2022, eleven UMA scholars travelled to Nashville, Tennessee, to visit Meharry Medical College. They had the opportunity to tour the campus and meet with two UMA alumni, Taylor Jones, and Roderick Emanuel, who are currently medical students at Meharry Medical College.

*The peace of God,
which surpasses all
understanding,
will guard your hearts
and your minds in
Christ Jesus.*

- Philippians 4:7

As the semester comes to an end, I would like to remind everyone to fill their hearts with peace and gratitude over this winter break. We have persevered and triumphed through the difficulties of this semester. Even if we do not get the results we were hoping for, we must congratulate ourselves for our hard work and understand that the journey is not over yet. With an encouraged heart, we must use this break to enjoy time with our loved ones and partake in things that bring us peace and happiness. I wish all of you a joyous holiday season and a prosperous new year!

From your Chaplain,

Eryka Appiah-Amaning

Student Spotlight

This month the UMA newsletter is highlighting three outstanding UMA Scholars and their efforts in research and career development.



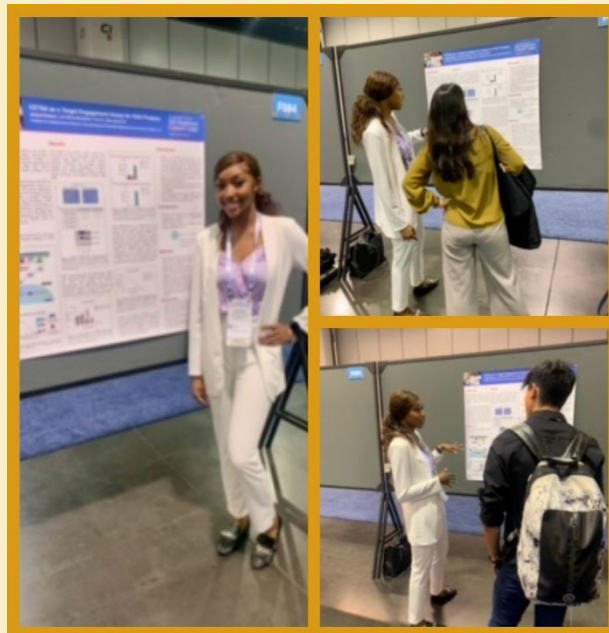
Text in the photo says: "Cyrai Young: Aspiring Forensic Pathologist, Rising Future Maker 2022. Cyrai Young is a freshman at an HBCU in Texas and a proud student of the Undergraduate Medical Academy. Inspired by her love of crime shows, she's pursuing a career as a forensic pathologist. She believes there are many ways to save lives and plans to do her part by giving grieving families the closure they need to heal. Outside of her studies, she is passionate about art and activism."

This past month Justyce Redeau had the opportunity to travel to California for a Research Conference.

"Over the summer I worked at IACS at the in-vitro pharmacology lab at MD Anderson. My research covered compound screening and assay development. This research allowed me to gain laboratory skills on how to conduct western blots, CETSA assay, and how to culture human embryonic cells and maintain them. This experience later gave me the opportunity to attend the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minoritized Scientists. I was able to network with many like-minded students and learn about more opportunities available for me at other schools."

UMA Jasper Scholar Cyrai Young was recently named one of AT&T's Rising Future Makers of 2022.

"AT&T Dream in Black Rising Future Makers honors 25 students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities who are making a positive impact in their communities and their campuses. To be considered, each student had to create a 60 second video explaining their future goals and how they are making an impact on the community and campus. Chosen winners receive a "Dream Package" consisting of a scholarship, AT&T product, and a mentorship through AT&T."





Making major strides towards her career goals Paige Wilson attended the Grand Round she was on Genetics.

“I had the extreme pleasure of being invited to visit the University of Pennsylvania Medical School and Genetic Counseling department in November 2022. I was able to tour the campus as well as sightsee in Philadelphia! I attended Genetic Grand Rounds with the first-year genetic counseling students, where guest speaker Dr. Shoumita Dasgupta talked about the past and future of genetics and urged her peers to recognize any bias they may have against patients of color. I was also able to attend classes with the genetic counseling students as they presented their final projects. There was a lot of valuable information shared, and I can’t wait to continue the process!”

Holiday Celebrations



Mrs. Campbell and the UMA Sophomores ended their semester Leadership and Ethics class with a group holiday party.



The UMA faculty and staff got together on December 9th for a special holiday breakfast. Joined by Dr. Daniels wife, Vernie Daniels.



Check out the links below for details!

[Xavier University of Louisiana's 16th Health Disparities Conference](#)

[Popular Culture Association Annual Conference](#)

[NAAAS & Affiliates Annual Conference](#)

Crochet Club



The UMA Crochet Club visited the Waller Pregnancy Center on Friday November 04, 2022. The group donated 60 crochet baby hats. While visiting, they toured the new facility and listened to the Center Director's talk about how the patients really appreciated the baby hats. The group reflected and had dinner at the Back Door Pizza restaurant in Hockley.



ANNOUNCEMENT!!

IN THE SPRING 2023 SEMESTER, SUTURING LAB WILL BE BACK IN ACTION EVERY OTHER WEEK. IT WILL ALTERNATE WITH CROCHET CLUB EVERY FRIDAY. ALL CROCHET CLUB MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!

CONTACT MRS. HUYNH FOR DETAILS

Practice MCAT and DAT Exam



The Texas Undergraduate Medical Academy hosted another practice MCAT/DAT session on November 12, 2022 for UMA students who are preparing for the MCAT/DAT this semester



UMA Scholars taking the practice MCAT/DAT exam



UMA Scholars taking the practice MCAT/DAT exam



UMA Scholars taking the practice MCAT/DAT exam



UMA Scholars taking the practice MCAT/DAT exam



Mrs. Sherylle Fuller meets American philosopher and social activist, Dr. Cornel West, during the Fall 2022 Commencement ceremony, where was which West was the invited commencement speaker. Dr. West is seen here signing an autograph for Dr. Daniels.

Community Service Activities



UMA Scholars Erin Jackson, Sana Ali, Genesis James, Alexis Richardson (pictured left), Kai Como, Britany Chukwu, Camryn Murray (pictured right), Jordan Shaw, and Hope Pointer volunteer at the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center event at PVAMU.

CERT



UMA Scholars Kahlil Johnson, Haile Allen, Maci Guy, Favor Louis, and Jacqueline McGill earned their CERT and First Aid/CPR/AED certifications this fall.

Check out the Spring 2023 CERT classes resume in January, on Wednesdays from 3-6 pm!



The UMA made two charitable donations this December:

The Bikes and Trikes Annual Donation is to benefit the children and families of Prairie View and Waller County, Texas. For the past 18 years, the UMA has partnered with Judge Elaine Jackson and Former Mayor Frank Jackson to identify a family who would benefit from this gift. The desire is to demonstrate to the students of the UMA the importance of giving back without the expectation of attention from television shows, newspapers, or other media outlets. Our motivation is altruism because it acknowledges an awareness of the importance of helping others as we have been helped.

Grandma and Grandpa’s Pantry was initiated in recognition of our parents and grandparents who were always willing to help provide a meal or other assistance to members of the community. We have been blessed and we want to be a blessing.

Upcoming Birthdays

<i>December</i>		<i>January</i>	
JACOB BOYD	12/25	CALAH BURROS	1/14
		KAHLIL JOHNSON	1/16
		TRINITY JAMES	1/23
		KAI COMO	1/26
		AMARYS ROYAL	1/31