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DEAR GSSA MEMBERS,

AS WE TRANSITIONED INTO A HYBRID PLATFORM OVER THE PAST YEAR, THE GLOBAL SURGERY STUDENT ALLIANCE HAS EMBRACED THE CHALLENGES PRESENTED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC TO CONTINUE ENGAGING WITH HEALTHCARE STUDENTS AND TRAINEES INTERESTED IN PURSUING GLOBAL SURGERY. WE ARE PROUD TO SAY THAT THE GLOBAL SURGERY STUDENT ALLIANCE CONTINUES TO LEAD EFFORTS TO EDUCATE, ADVOCATE FOR, AND EXPAND RESEARCH TO PREPARE THE NEXT GENERATION OF GLOBAL SURGEONS ACROSS SURGICAL SUBSPECIALTIES.

WE ARE EXTREMELY GRATEFUL TO HAVE HOSTED OUR FIRST IN-PERSON NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM IN APRIL 2023 AFTER A FEW YEARS OF VIRTUAL CONFERENCES. THE EVENT WAS HOSTED BY THE UNDERGRADUATE GSSA CHAPTER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, SERVING AS AN INSPIRING WEEKEND OF CONNECTING STUDENTS OF BUSINESS, ENGINEERING, AND MEDICAL BACKGROUNDS AROUND INNOVATION IN GLOBAL SURGERY. WE CONTINUE TO PRODUCE HIGH-QUALITY RESEARCH, AND RESOURCES FOR OUR STUDENTS TO BE CONNECTED TO SURGICAL RESIDENCIES WITH A FOCUS ON EQUITABLE GLOBAL HEALTH APPROACHES. WE ADDITIONALLY HAD OUR THIRD ITERATION OF THE GLOBAL SURGERY BOOTCAMP WITH HIGHER THAN EVER ATTENDANCE, CONNECTING NEW MEDICAL STUDENTS WITH THOSE ALL AROUND THE GLOBE WITH A PASSION FOR GLOBAL SURGERY. Finally, WE CONTINUE TO EXPAND OUR MEMBERSHIP BEYOND MEDICAL SCHOOL CHAPTERS. WE ARE PARTICULARLY EXCITED ABOUT OUR NEW DENTAL CHAPTERS, WHICH HAVE HELD SEVERAL EVENTS IN THE PAST YEAR, AND HAVE DEMONSTRATED A GROWING PASSION FOR ORAL MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY IN THE GLOBAL SETTING.

OUR EQUITY INITIATIVE HAS GROWN TO FOCUS ON DEVELOPING A SUSTAINABLE CURRICULUM FOR ALL NEW STUDENTS TO GAIN AN INTRODUCTION TO THE ETHICS, HEALTH EQUITY, AND TOPICS THAT FACE ALL ASPECTS OF SURGERY IN THE UNITED STATES AND ABROAD. WE HAD OUR FIRST DEDICATED NATIONAL TEAM MEMBER TO DEVELOP THIS CURRICULUM, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO DELIVERING THIS CURRICULUM TO YOU ALL IN THE UPCOMING YEAR. ADDITIONALLY, WE HAVE EXPANDED OUR NATIONAL TEAM TO BETTER SERVE THE ORGANIZATION THROUGH OUR VPS OF COMMUNICATION AND DEDICATED ADVOCACY TEAM. WE ARE EXCITED TO SEE THE GROWTH OF OUR TEAM AND LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING WHAT THEY ACCOMPLISH.

WE START 2024 WITH A RENEWED COMMITMENT TO ADVANCING GLOBAL SURGERY ADVOCACY, EDUCATION, AND RESEARCH WHILE CENTERING A FOCUS ON EQUITY AND JUSTICE ACROSS ALL OF OUR WORK. WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING BOTH OUR IN-PERSON SYMPOSIUM AND VIRTUAL EDUCATION AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL OUR MEMBERS. WE HOPE THAT THESE EFFORTS WILL POSITIVELY IMPACT NOT JUST THE STUDENTS AND TRAINEES WE SERVE, BUT ALSO OUR PATIENTS AND THE BROADER INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, WHO ARE QUICKLY BECOMING AN INTEGRAL PART OF OUR ORGANIZATION.

SHIVANI SUBHEDAR & LYDIA KERSH
2023 CO-CHAIRS, GLOBAL SURGERY STUDENT ALLIANCE
2023 NATIONAL TEAM MEMBERS

VPS OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS
LAUREN CARROLL
SHRAVYA KAKULAMARRI

VPS OF RESEARCH
CASSIE ANDERSON
PAUL SERRATO
RAFAT SOLAIMAN
VANITHA RAGUVEER

VPS OF EDUCATION
THUY-LINH NGUYEN
CHELLANDRA SAMUELS
RAMYA REDDY

VPS OF ADVOCACY
KAITLYN COX
YIFAN MAO
NATHAN SCHLOBIN
SUHASINI GUPTA

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES
CENTRAL-RACHEL WEBER
MID-ATLANTIC-HEATHER GROVES
NORtheast-JOSEPH ISKANDER
SOUTH- LINA NGUYEN
WEST-AVNEET BHULLAR
UNDERGRAD-CHAITRALI PATIL
DENTAL-NOAH BRADY & ABRAR SHAMIM

VPS OF FINANCE
YORDAN PENEV
TAMUIR HASSAN
DAVID POSAWATZ

VP OF EQUITY
DECORIA MCCAULEY
OUR CURRENT STATE
GSSA MEMBERSHIP IN 2023

70
TOTAL ACTIVE CHAPTERS

25+
CHAPTERS IN DEVELOPMENT

New chapters are in development across all of our regions!
Acute Care/Trauma: 23
Pediatric Surgery: 5
ENT: 4
Surgical Oncology: 2
Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery: 2
Other: 9

*Others include: Emergency Medicine, Oral Pathology, OMFS, Cardiac Surgery, AMR, Med-Peds, OB-GYN, Anesthesia, Anatomy
2023 CHAPTER EVENTS

100+
CHAPTER EVENTS

OTHER EVENTS INCLUDED:
MIS trainings, Mental Health Work in Global Health Laproscopy training events, and many more!
A YEAR IN REVIEW

GSSA HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2023

GSSA Undergraduate Hackathon - FEB

Rice University Journal Club - APR

IU Speaker Series: Dr. Reinou Groen - Global Surgery in ObGyn - APR
A YEAR IN REVIEW

GSSA HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2023

IMG Panel - MAY

Post Match Panel - MAY

2023 Hackathon - OCT

Global Perspectives in Medical Education - OCT
A YEAR IN REVIEW
GSSA HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2023

Penn Global Surgery Symposium - OCT

Monthly Journal Club - NOV
Bidirectionality in Global Surgery Research and Training

Annual GSSA Global Surgery Bootcamp - NOV
Global Surgical Innovation

Hosted by The University of Michigan

...surgery and technology experts, groundbreaking innovations and research, leaders and peers from around the globe, professional and clinical skills training, Global Surgery charity

Event Summary

300+ Attendees
70 Universities
40 Speakers
15 Workshops

ground breaking innovations
global surgery charity
clinical training
mentor matching
A YEAR IN REVIEW

NATIONAL TEAM UPDATES

RESEARCH
LED BY PAUL, RAFAT, BANI, HIBA, YASMIN, KATHY

- Developed two manuscripts investigating US-based medical student characteristics, experiences, perceptions, and career plans in global surgery
- Created Research Mentor Database survey to update database
- Hosted 3 Journal Clubs

EQUITY
LED BY WENDY MEMISHIAN

- Group was initiated in late 2023
- Equity curriculum videos are currently being developed

RESIDENTS
LED BY ZACHARY ELWELL

- GSSA Residency Database Survey 2023 is launched
- Launched the GSSA Website Forum
  - GOAL: to utilize as a novel communication platform to extend outreach to medical students and trainees.
- Developing database of material for GSSA website regarding funding, research, and industry partner networking opportunities.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS
LED BY LAUREN CARROLL AND SHRAVYA KAKULAMARRI

- Organized 2023 National Symposium with University of Michigan
- Organizing 2024 National Symposium with University of Miami

EDUCATION
LED BY CHELLANDRA SAMUELS

- Hosted Match Panel in May
- Hosted Annual Bootcamp
A YEAR IN REVIEW

REGIONAL TEAM UPDATES

CENTRAL
LED BY RACHEL WEBER

- UChicago hosted a screening of “The Checklist Effect”
- University of Minnesota hosted a Global Health Ethics workshop series

MID-ATLANTIC
LED BY HEATHER GROVES

- PCOM hosted a Philadelphia-wide surgical conference with skills sessions and career preparation seminars for medical students
- VTCSOM hosted a low-resource workshop with skin grafts, hand suction D&C, spinal anesthesia, and fasciotomies as skills sessions.
- UMD hosted a World Malaria Day Speaker Event
- UPenn hosted a session on Penn surgeons’ work in Ukraine
- Vanderbilt developed a guide to planning a global health trip for undergraduate students to help educate them about ethical global health work

NORTHEAST
LED BY JOSEPH ISKANDER

- Northeast region hosted a GSSA hackathon for all medical schools
- Yale hosted multiple skills sessions for ultrasound use, IV placement, and suturing

SOUTH
LED BY LINA NGUYEN

- University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences hosted a Global Cleft Lip/Palate speaker panel
- Tulane hosted a Trauma Surgery & Disaster Relief Management lecture
- UMiami hosted language workshops for medical Spanish and medical Creole

WEST
LED BY AVNEET BHULLAR

- Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine has organized three lectures on global surgery in partnership with an elective course that can be taken for credit
- UCSF has organized a Global Surgery and Health Equity Spring Lecture Series with speakers from all of the UC schools

DENTAL
LED BY NOAH BRADY AND ABRAR SHAMIM

- New chapters established (i.e. NYU)
- Harvard hosted journal clubs
- Columbia hosted a session on Global Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery: Sustainability, Ethics, & Relevant Discussions

UNDERGRADUATE
LED BY CHAITRALI PATIL

- Baylor University, Michigan State University, and GWU hosted suture workshops
- UMich hosted a case competition
- Wayne State University hosted volunteering events at World Medical Relief, a local nonprofit that sends surgical equipment to LMICs
CONTACT US

How to get involved

SOCIAL MEDIA

INSTAGRAM: @GSURGSTUDENTS
FACEBOOK: GSURGSTUDENTS
TWITTER: @GSURGSTUDENTS
YOUTUBE: GLOBALSURGERYSTUDENTALLIAN2314

WEBSITE: WWW.GLOBALSURGERYSTUDENTS.ORG
EMAIL: GLOBALSURGERYSTUDENTS@GMAIL.COM

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT HOW TO START A CHAPTER AT YOUR INSTITUTION, PLEASE CONTACT US AT GLOBALSURGERYSTUDENTS@GMAIL.COM