

MISSION AND VISION

We serve as the Dean's proponent for diversity and cultural competence among students, faculty and staff. Our Office accomplishes this mission through collaboration with all departments to develop model recruitment and retention strategies, and by developing appropriate curriculum and faculty development programs.



Rafael Ortega, MD ✉
Associate Dean, Professor,
Vice Chairman of Academic Affairs,
Department of Anesthesiology

Our vision is to lead all medical schools in the diversity of faculty, students and trainees by developing programs that educate, recruit, and retain a multicultural constituency. We foster an environment that demonstrates BUSM's belief that diversity adds value to intellectual development, academic discourse, patient care, and research. We believe that diversity is essential to the development of future leaders in healthcare and research to serve our community, nation and world.

ASSISTANT DEANS



Ali Guerhazi, MD, PhD ✉
Professor of Radiology
Director of the Quantitative Imaging Center
Chief of Musculoskeletal Imaging, BMC



David Henderson, MD ✉
Professor and Chair of Psychiatry
Chief of Psychiatry, BMC



Thea James, MD ✉
Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine
Vice President of Mission and Associate Chief
Medical Officer, BMC



Samantha Kaplan, MD, MPH ✉
Assistant Professor of Obstetrics & Gynecology
Director of the Early Medical School Selection
Program



Maria Ramirez, PhD ✉
Associate Professor of Medicine, Pathology
and Laboratory Medicine



Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs

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Boston University School of Medicine



DIVERSITY at BUSM

Boston University is a rich tapestry of multiculturalism. Many ethnic, social and cultural groups are represented amongst the ranks of our faculty, students, and staff.

We believe that diversity extends beyond race, ethnicity and gender, and includes diversity of life experiences. A diversity of perspectives leads to innovative approaches to finding solutions to challenges in research and patient care.

Open meetings are regularly held to discuss issues impacting the many groups and organizations that comprise our community.

MEDICAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

- American Medical Women's Association (AMWA) [↗](#)
- Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association (APAMSA) [↗](#)
- BU Medical Campus Pride [↗](#)
- Christian Medical Dental Association (CDMA) [↗](#)
- Iranian Health Care Students Association (IHCSA) [↗](#)
- Korean American Medical Student Association [↗](#)
- Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA) [↗](#)
- Maimonides Society [↗](#)
- Medical Gay and Lesbian Organization (MedGLO) [↗](#)
- Medical Students for Choice (MSFC) [↗](#)
- Physicians for Human Rights (PHR) [↗](#)
- Student National Medical Association (SNMA) [↗](#)

EMSSP

The Early Medical School Selection Program (EMSSP), a program designed to increase the number of underrepresented minorities, provides an early and decompressed transition into the medical school curriculum through provisional acceptance into the medical school at the completion of two years of undergraduate study.

Students accepted in the BUSM EMSSP remain at their undergraduate colleges through their junior year and pursue programs of study that will best prepare them to spend their senior year at BU. Students enroll in at least one six-week summer course at BU in each of the two summers prior to spending their senior year at BU.

MENTORSHIP

BUSM offers ample opportunities to find mentors with whom to develop meaningful and collegial relationships. An example of our commitment to mentoring is the Academics of Advisors, an innovative career development program that is designed to improve the advising of our students through ongoing guidance and support from experienced faculty members, educators and role models of professionalism.

Our programs emphasize developing intellectual skills while nurturing a sense of well-being and camaraderie. We strive to help our medical students lead a balanced and productive academic life in their quest to become exceptional physicians.

SPOTLIGHT ON DIVERSITY

"Spotlight on Diversity" is a video series produced by the BUSM Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs profiling faculty, students and staff on our Medical Campus with diversity-related interests.

These short interviews, filmed at the Godley Digital Media Studio, feature individuals sharing their personal stories, views and accomplishments, with a particular focus on diversity and its many implications. Enjoy this celebration of our diversity on campus!



Michael Paasche-Orlow
Professor of Medicine



Martine Randolph
Medical Student



Emelia Benjamin
Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine



Kermit Crawford
Associate Professor of Psychiatry