

THE COMMONWEALTH FUND  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
FELLOWSHIP IN MINORITY  
HEALTH POLICY

2011 ✱ 2012

THE  
COMMONWEALTH  
FUND





## PURPOSE

The Commonwealth Fund/Harvard University Fellowship in Minority Health Policy (CFHUF, est. 1996) is designed to prepare physicians for leadership roles in formulating and promoting health policies and practices that improve the access to high quality care at the national, state, and /or local levels for the minority, disadvantaged, and most vulnerable populations. Under the auspices of the Minority Faculty Development Program (MFDP) at Harvard Medical School (HMS), up to five one-year fellowships will be awarded per year. Fellows will complete academic work leading to a Master of Public Health (MPH) degree at the Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH), and, through additional program activities, gain exposure to, and understanding of, major health issues facing the most vulnerable groups in society, including low-income families, the uninsured, racial and ethnic minorities, the young and the aged, and people in poor health. CFHUF also offers a Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government (HKS) to physicians already possessing an MPH. It is expected that CFHUF will support the development of a cadre of physician leaders in health policy and practice who are well-trained academically and professionally in public health, health policy, health management, minority health and clinical medicine, as well as actively committed to careers in public service.

## BACKGROUND

Disparities in health care access and quality of care have been well documented. While differences in income, insurance status, or medical need play important roles, racial and ethnic disparities persist even after accounting for these factors. Minority Americans are more likely to report poor health status and experience higher mortality rates for many conditions, including heart disease and cancer. Access to health care is often impeded because many individuals are uninsured or underinsured, rely on public coverage, or live in communities with limited access to providers. If major national health issues are to be fully and equitably addressed, the perspectives and concerns of all racial and ethnic groups must be considered.

Addressing disparities in health and health care requires prepared physician leaders' participation in policy decisions. This level of participation requires a knowledge of government, management, and public health as well as clinical medicine. These leaders must also be culturally competent if they are to ensure that the health needs of minority, disadvantaged and vulnerable populations are met.

While physician education and training establish a firm foundation on which to build effective health leadership, CFHUF is unique in its dedication to training physicians for leadership roles in health policy.

## PROGRAM

The Commonwealth Fund/Harvard University Fellowship in Minority Health Policy is a one-year, full-time, academic degree-granting program designed to create physician-leaders who will pursue careers in health policy, public health practice, and academia. It is designed to incorporate the critical

skills taught in schools of public health, government, business, and medicine with leadership forums and seminar series conducted by Harvard senior faculty and nationally recognized leaders in minority health and public policy; supervised practicums and shadowing opportunities; site visits; conferences; and travel.

Each fellowship provides: \$50,000 stipend, full tuition, health insurance, books, travel, and related program expenses, including financial assistance for a practicum project.

CFHUF is designed to prepare physician-leaders who will, over time, improve the capacity of the health care system to promote policies and practices that improve minority, disadvantaged and vulnerable populations' access to high-quality care. To accomplish this, the program will:

- Provide strong academic training, including an MPH or MPA, for highly qualified physicians.
- Enhance the leadership ability of physicians, offering them substantive knowledge in health policy and management, while creating a network of physician-leaders capable of advancing successfully among the public, nonprofit, and academic sectors.
- Provide each fellow with mentoring by Harvard senior faculty and administrators as well as access to national leaders in health policy and public health practice.
- Bring together the faculty and resources of HMS, HSPH, and HKS to provide an enhanced curriculum addressing issues of public health, health policy and practice, and quality improvement, particularly as they relate to minority health issues.
- Utilize resources at HMS, including the Office for Diversity and Community Partnership (DCP) and MFDP, to enhance the networking, career development, and career advancement of fellows.
- Link to program activities co-sponsored with the HSPH Division of Policy Translation and Leadership Development.



## ADMINISTRATION

Direction and administration of the program is provided by the Minority Faculty Development Program at Harvard Medical School. MFDP was established in 1990 to serve as an umbrella organization for minority recruitment, development, and retention initiatives undertaken at HMS and affiliated hospitals. Joan Y. Reede, M.D., M.P.H., M.S., M.B.A., Dean for Diversity and Community Partnership; Director, MFDP; and Program Director of the Commonwealth Fund Harvard University Fellowship in Minority Health Policy, provides overall supervision and direction of program development, implementation, and evaluation.

Faculty from the Harvard Medical School, Harvard School of Public Health, Harvard Kennedy School, Graduate School of Education, Harvard Business School, Harvard School of Dental Medicine, and Graduate School of Arts and Sciences are involved in program development and implementation.

## ELIGIBILITY

- Physicians who have completed residency, either BE/BC in the U.S. Additional experience beyond residency, such as chief residency, is preferred.
- Experience or interest in addressing and improving the health needs of minority, disadvantaged and vulnerable populations.
- Strong evidence of leadership experience or potential, especially as related to community efforts, quality improvement, and/or health policy.
- Intention to pursue a career in policy, public health practice, or academia.
- U.S. citizenship.

## REVIEW CRITERIA AND SELECTION

Applications will be reviewed for academic and training qualifications; commitment to a multicultural perspective in program planning, program implementation, and policy analysis; experience in projects devoted to increasing quality care and access and improving the capacity of the health care system to address health needs of minority, disadvantaged and vulnerable populations; and evidence of leadership potential.

The Harvard Coordinating Committee, composed of distinguished faculty, administrators, and the program director, will review applications, interview candidates, and select the fellows.



## HOW TO APPLY

Candidates for the MPH degree must apply for entrance into HSPH, including application for financial aid at HSPH, when applying to CFHUF.

Candidates for the MPA degree must apply for entrance to HKS, including application for financial aid at HKS, when applying to CFHUF.

Acceptance to CFHUF is contingent on acceptance to HSPH or HKS. However, candidates not accepted to CFHUF are still eligible for admission to the schools.

Inquiries about CFHUF and requests for application materials should be addressed to:

**JOAN Y. REEDE, M.D., M.P.H., M.S., M.B.A.**

Director, CFHUF

Minority Faculty Development Program

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## DEADLINES

January 3, 2011

Deadline for applications

March 15, 2011

Selection of 2011-12 CFHUF Fellows

April 15, 2011

Notification of 2011-12 CFHUF Fellows

Please note: The deadline for the HSPH application is December 15, 2010.



## COMMONWEALTH FUND

The mission of The Commonwealth Fund is to promote a high performing health care system that achieves better access, improved quality, and greater efficiency, particularly for society's most vulnerable, including low-income people, the uninsured, minority Americans, young children, and elderly adults. The Fund carries out this mandate by supporting independent research on health care issues and making grants to improve health care practice and policy. An international program in health policy is designed to stimulate innovative policies and practices in the United States and other industrialized countries.

## 2010-2011 COMMONWEALTH FUND/ HARVARD UNIVERSITY FELLOWS IN MINORITY HEALTH POLICY



**DUSTYN BAKER, M.D.**  
*Internal Medicine Resident*  
*University of Chicago Medical Center*  
*Chicago, IL*

Dr. Baker received her medical degree from Duke University Medical School, Durham, NC in 2007. Her recent focus on public health policy is related to Chicago's ranking as one of the top two cities in the U.S. with regards to hospitalization and deaths of asthmatics, and on efforts to increase health literacy related to asthma and medical adherence for the largely black South Chicago population.



**MARY FLEMING, M.D.**  
*Post-Graduate Obstetrics and Gynecology  
 Administrative Chief Resident  
 Meharry Medical College  
 Nashville, TN*

Dr. Fleming received her medical degree from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, TN in 2006. She most recently served as Administrative Chief Resident in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, TN. Dr. Fleming's interest in women's health is strongly rooted in community, and she plans to pursue a career in public health with a focus on eliminating health disparities.



**KIMBERLY CAULEY NARAIN, M.D.**  
*Primary Care Internal Medicine Resident, University of California San Francisco,  
 San Francisco, CA*

Dr. Cauley Narain is the 2010-2011 California Endowment Scholar in Health Policy at Harvard University (CES).\* Dr. Cauley Narain received her medical degree from Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA in 2007, graduating summa cum laude, with honors in Community and Health Service. In 2007, she was honored with the Louis W. Sullivan Academic Achievement Award. Dr. Cauley Narain is interested in the structural and behavioral determinants of health and in translating health services research into policy.

\*CES is funded by the California Endowment.



**ALI THOMAS, M.D.**  
*Consultant in Internal Medicine  
 Group Health Permanente  
 Tacoma, WA*

Dr. Thomas received his medical degree from the University of Michigan in 2002, completed internships in medicine and pediatrics at Rush University Medical Center, in Chicago, IL, and graduated from the Internal Medicine Residency at Legacy Health Systems in Portland, Oregon in 2007. His career in medicine and public health, thus far, has focused on quality improvement, racial and ethnic health disparities, and health policy advocacy.



**ASHAUNTA TUMBLIN, M.D.**  
*Pediatric Resident  
 Baylor College of Medicine  
 Houston, TX*

Dr. Tumblin received her medical degree from Harvard Medical School in 2007, graduating cum laude. She is committed to clinical and research training that inform policy decisions in order to better meet the medical needs of minority populations. Her work with the Student National Medical Association has specifically focused on science and achievement programs for girls and "tweens," aged 8-10 years.



**ROY WADE, Jr., M.D.**  
*Pediatric Resident  
 University of Virginia  
 Charlottesville, VA*

Dr. Wade received his medical degree from Dartmouth Medical School, Hanover, NH in 2007, and earned a Ph.D. in Molecular Microbiology from Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA in 2002. His interests focus on health policy and preventive health, and he believes that effective policy can only be attained through the acquisition and interpretation of accurate data elucidating the true mechanisms leading to poor health outcomes.



**KAMILLAH WOOD, M.D.**  
*Chief Resident in Pediatrics  
 Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
 Philadelphia, PA*

Dr. Wood received her medical degree from George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences in 2006 where she was a member of Alpha Omega Alpha. Dr. Wood's efforts have focused on adolescent medicine as well as on the Reconciliation Bill and its implications on health care coverage for children. She is also committed to helping to create a diverse workforce that is reflective of the community to which it serves.

## HARVARD COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Members coordinate CFHUF within the Harvard University community, contributing to program development, practicum supervision; professional mentoring, and annual selection of fellows.

**MYRON ALLUKIAN, JR., D.D.S., M.P.H.**, Associate Clinical Professor, Oral Health Policy and Epidemiology, Harvard School of Dental Medicine; Oral Health Consultant, Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers

**ROBERT BLENDON, M.B.A., M.P.H., SC.D., M.A.**, Senior Associate Dean for Policy Translation and Leadership Development, Division of Policy Translation and Leadership Development, Harvard School of Public Health, Professor, Health Policy and Political Analysis, Harvard School of Public Health and Harvard Kennedy School

**TOM DELBANCO, M.D.**, Richard and Florence Koplow-James L. Tullis Professor, General Medicine and Primary Care, Harvard Medical School; Division of General Medicine and Primary Care, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

**CHESTER DOUGLASS, D.M.D., PH.D.**, Professor Emeritus, Oral Health Policy and Epidemiology, Harvard School of Dental Medicine

**KAREN EMMONS, Ph.D.**, Associate Dean for Research and Professor of Society, Human Development, and Health, Department of Society, Human Development and Health, Harvard School of Public Health; Deputy Director of the Center for Community-based Research, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

**ARNOLD M. EPSTEIN, M.D., M.A.**, John H. Foster Professor, Chair, Department of Health Policy and Management, Harvard School of Public Health; Professor, Medicine and Health Care Policy, Harvard Medical School

**LISA I. IEZZONI, MD, MSc**, Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School; Director, Mongan Institute for Health Policy, Massachusetts General Hospital

**BARBARA J. MCNEIL, M.D., PH.D.**, Ridley Watts Professor, Health Care Policy, Head, Department of Health Care Policy, Harvard Medical School; Professor, Radiology, Harvard Medical School and Brigham and Women's Hospital

**JOSEPH P. NEWHOUSE, PH.D.**, John D. MacArthur Professor of Health Policy and Management, Director, Interfaculty Initiative in Health Policy, faculties of Harvard Medical School, Harvard School of Public Health, Harvard Kennedy School, and Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences

**DAVID R. WILLIAMS, Ph.D., M.P.H.**, Florence Sprague Norman and Laura Smart Norman Professor of Public Health, Harvard School of Public Health; and Professor of African and African American Studies and Sociology, Harvard University

**PETER ZIMMERMAN, M.P.P.**, Lecturer in Public Policy, Senior Associate Dean for Strategic Program Development, Faculty Chair of the Senior Executive Fellows Program, Executive Education, Harvard Kennedy School



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