

# WINTER NEWSLETTER



*Charles Drew Pre-Medical Society: Your Pre-Med Lifeline!*

## President's Letter

Dear Charles Drew members and supporters,

Happy New Year! Wow, what an eventful fall semester it has been. We have been able to welcome countless new members into the Charles Drew family and plan many beneficial events for the pre-medical community at Columbia. One of the most important lessons I have learned here over the course of my pre-med journey is that solid support systems are key to both perseverance and success. With that being said, it has been great to build a system of pre-med support within the Charles Drew community and I sincerely hope that this network for all our members can continue to grow next semester and beyond. This past semester, in addition to our annual events, we were able to execute many new initiatives including hosting a successful blood drive before the holiday season and a highly attended and informative second general body meeting. Please read all of the articles written by the Executive Board within this newsletter to see all of our wonderful events from the past semester.

I would like to publicly thank our executive board, organizational committee, and general body members for your dedication and enthusiasm to our



“It has been great to build a system of pre-med support within the Charles Drew community and I sincerely hope that this network for all of our members can continue to grow next semester and beyond.”

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organization. Without each of you, Charles Drew would certainly not be as successful. Additionally, I would like to express my gratitude to each of the guests that Charles Drew hosted. Thank you first and foremost for your valuable time but also, for providing your wisdom and valuable input to our organization. Finally, I would like to thank our advisor and each of the organizations and offices we partnered with this past semester, including the Office of Pre-Professional Advising. It has been a pleasure to partner with each of you and your support is greatly appreciated.

Please look out for our upcoming events this semester, including a second medical school dean panel focused on curriculum and our annual medical school visit. As always, please do not hesitate to contact us with any feedback or event suggestions.

I wish each of our members an amazing spring semester. Additionally, good luck to all who are preparing for the MCAT, interviewing at medical schools, or organizing their medical school application for this upcoming cycle. I cannot wait to hear about upcoming medical school acceptances. We're all in this pre-med journey together!

See you at our events,

**Brianna Olamiju, CC'15**

## First General Body Meeting

By: Tolu Obikunle CC'16

The Charles Drew Premedical Society got off to a great start this year! The First General Body meeting was held in mid-September. We had a large turnout, with over 90 undergraduates in attendance. Students from all four years listened to a presentation given by our President and Vice-President introducing the executive board, detailing Charles Drew's mission, and giving a sneak peak of our events. While Charles Drew's events have always attracted a large crowd, I believe our success this past year was due in part to the enthusiasm at this first general body meeting. Charles Drew helps guide the academic and professional endeavors of our members by hosting events that provide multifaceted perspectives of the premed experience. This is essential for every prospective medical student, both those who have known that they want to doctors since age 5, and those who are merely considering the possibility. Charles Drew also provides opportunity to serve the greater New York community and our Columbia peers. The first general body meeting emphasized that Charles Drew is a place to go, not only for advice and mentorship, but also for growth. Whether a premedical student casually attends Charles Drew meetings, or gets involved as an Organizational Committee Member and then joins the Executive Board, Charles Drew helps foster a sense of premedical camaraderie within the Columbia student body.



*The President and Vice-President presenting*

“The first general body meeting emphasized that Charles Drew is a place to go, not only for advice and mentorship, but also for growth.”

## First Year Outreach!

By: Chelsea Griffin CC'16

Understandably excited to welcome an entire new class of premedical students to campus, Charles Drew members began outreach efforts as soon as the sea of fresh-faced, eager first-years arrived at Columbia. We all know how exciting the first few weeks of college are, and the Charles Drew Pre-medical Society started the semester off strong by recruiting new members throughout NSOP week, the pre-health fair, and the Activities Fair.

The NSOP pre-health fair is the first event of the year in which first-year students interested in health professions can learn about the abundance of pre-medical opportunities both on Columbia's

campus and in the greater New York City area. On August 28th, 2013, two information sessions were held, one in the morning and the other in the afternoon, so all interested first-years could attend. The Columbia pre-health advisors, Megan Rigney, Cindy Cogdill, and Niki Cunningham, compiled information about pre-med requirements, health-based organizations and clubs on campus, and volunteer opportunities for students, and distributed it in packet-form to first-year undergraduates. Charles Drew E-board members, Tolu, and myself, talked to students about Charles Drew's mission, our activities and programs, and how new members could get involved. It was fantastic to see how genuinely excited new students were to become a part of our organization. Recruitment continued at the annual Activities Fair held on September 9th, 2013.

Our presence during the first few weeks of school resulted in over **100 new members** to add to our community (and to our list-serv)! I can't imagine a better way to begin a new year of excellence!

“It was fantastic to see how genuinely excited new students were to become a part of our organization.”

## Navigating life as a Pre-Med, with Dean Niki Cunningham

By: Jibril Kedir CC'15

On Thursday, September 26th, Charles Drew welcomed one of the Deans of Pre-Professional Advising, Niki Cunningham, to speak with primarily first and second year students about some important information on being pre-med. Every seat was filled by aspiring physicians as everyone listened attentively to Dean Cunningham's invaluable guidance. The first half of the event began with a general overview of the requirements of pre-medical students, both academic and extracurricular. During which she also walked us through how to effectively study for difficult science courses and informed us of where to seek out help if we needed it. During the second half of the event, Dean Cunningham allowed every student with a question to write it down and give it to her to be answered. This was an extremely helpful strategy that allowed many students to get answers to very important questions, such as: What is a good GPA? Who should I ask for a recommendation? And, should I take



*Dean Cunningham*

a gap-year? Overall, this event provided the right type of setting and perfect opportunity for both upperclassmen and first-year students to learn how to navigate being pre-med. We learned a lot from this event and appreciated Dean Cunningham's valuable guidance as she made this event a definite success.

## A Study Break with Insomnia Cookies

By: Doreen Agboh CC'14

To kick off the beginning of the semester, the Charles Drew Pre-Medical Society held an Insomnia Cookies Study Break. To cater to everyone's sweet tooth, there was a plethora of the infamous Insomnia Cookies, along with assorted drinks for Charles Drew members to enjoy. Additionally, there were representatives from Stressbusters, who gave several students relaxing backrubs. The room was packed with students who were eager to relax and converse with their peers before heading back to their organic chemistry practice problems and biology workbooks. This event was a definite success for the Charles Drew Pre-Medical Society!



## Meet the Medical School Deans Panel

By: Karole Collier BC'15

When you're a pre-med student, it seems as if there's a mythical line delineating the have and the have-nots with medical school, and more often than not, many of us feel as if we are on the latter end of the equation. There is for some, a true confusion and misinformation circling campus about medical school. What is it that medical schools really want? What are they looking for? Do you have to be class president, feed children in Africa, and ace Mowshowitz all semester — just to even be considered? In the barrage of competition within the Columbia atmosphere, many of us have felt at one point or another that things just didn't add up. To start off the year right, the Charles Drew Pre-Medical Society teamed up with Deans and representatives from the following medical schools: Weill Cornell, Albert Einstein, Hofstra, and Mount Sinai to make sure we nipped the pre-medical blues in the bud!

Charles Drew's Meet the Medical School Deans Panel included: Dean Elizabeth Wilson-Anstey from Weill Cornell, Dean Valerie Parkas from Mount Sinai, Dean Jodi Langsfeld from Hofstra LIJ, and Dr. Michael Reichgott from Albert Einstein. While the conversation started with a very personable conversation regarding the medical school application, the Deans

maintained their belief in telling us all we could do it! While every panelist stressed grades, GPA, and the "oh-so-critical" MCAT score, they also shared insight about the compassion, empathy, and true care they have for every medical school applicant. It truly takes a full package, but one that is truly unique to you!

The well over excited crowd packed into a Hamilton classroom, hung at every word the Deans shared. From personal stories, to tips and tricks to make a good impression, to even some insight on the Deans' job as interviewers — all the deans made it clear: it was only their intention to encourage, to inform, and to get us all to our end goal. Dean Elizabeth Wilson-Anstey, from Weill Cornell Medical School, ended the discussion by sharing quite encouraging words, "Medical School is more about your everyday journey, how bad you want it, and your ability to show us you have it — and every one of you has it!" The Meet the Medical School Deans Panel proved to be an amazing opportunity for undergrads to learn about specific programs within schools, what each school specifically aims for, and ultimately to ease some of the pre-med blues!



## Rx Rescue

By: Kaleel Wainwright CC'16

On Tuesday, October 8th, Charles Drew co-hosted an event with the Columbia-Social Justice Medicine group titled *Rx Rescue: Combating Human Trafficking in the Clinical Context*, an event which addressed one of the often-overlooked aspects of being a physician. Usually, when envisioning a future as a physician, we think of making rounds, doing cutting edge work in our field, and solving the great medical mysteries of our time. However, being a good doctor requires more than simply being good at medicine. It also involves a dedication to one's community, and ensuring the safety of those who comprise it. One significant way that a physician can do this is by watching out for signs that imply a person is a victim of human trafficking.

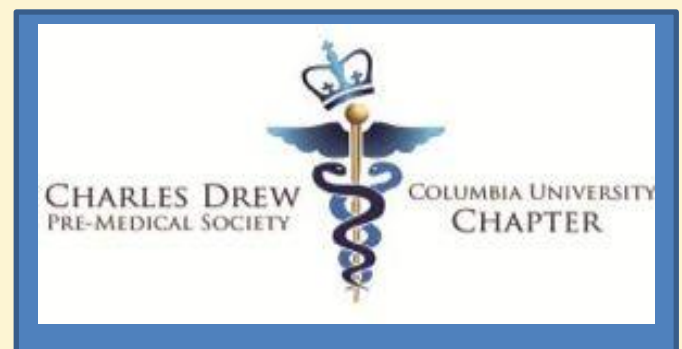
Our guest speaker at Rx Rescue was Dr. Jeffrey Barrows, a physician who runs a shelter in Ohio for adolescent girls who have been of the victims of commercial sexual exploitation and is an international figure in the fight against human trafficking. His presentation started by discussing some of the facts surrounding Human Trafficking both in the U.S. and internationally. Approximately 2.5 million people are trafficked worldwide, while nearly 20,000 are trafficked here in the United States and over 300,000 people are at risk for trafficking. Most of these victims are young women from poor socioeconomic backgrounds that are exploited by someone they trust. To help us understand the mindset of both victims of trafficking as well

as traffickers, Dr. Barrows played several videos and recordings of victims and traffickers alike.

After portraying the current state of trafficking in America as well as the mental manipulation that traffickers exercise over their victims, Dr. Barrows addressed the one question we all had about human trafficking upon entering the event: what can we do stop it? We learned about the signs of a trafficking situation, such as a scene where the same (oftentimes manipulative) person always seems to be in the hospital room when the victim is talking with a physician. Another giveaway could be a person's inability to give their home address, lack of identification, or health issues that have clearly been ignored for some time.

As physicians, we will come in contact with trafficking victims more often than nearly any other profession. Because of this, recognizing the signs of a potential victim is an important skill for any physician to have. Dr. Barrows' presentation made it clear just how much of a responsibility we will have, as physicians, to ensure that we give every patient we encounter our undivided attention and that we always keep our eyes open for irregularities. Doing so could save someone's life.

“Being a good doctor requires more than simply being good at medicine. It also involves dedication to one's community, and ensuring the safety of those who comprise it.”



## Demystifying the 2015 MCAT

By: Eliza Cricco-Lizza CC'16

On October 10, 2013, Charles Drew members gathered to hear about what was changing for the MCAT 2015 from a Kaplan representative. If you are intending to enter medical school in the fall of 2016 or later, this information could apply to you. The following are some key changes being made to the medical admissions test:

Some entirely new material will be tested, such as topics in biochemistry, introductory sociology, and introductory psychology. There will also be more integration of multiple subjects into single questions. The old MCAT contains 144 questions to be tested in 3 hours and 20 minutes; MCAT 2015 with cover 261 questions over 6 hours and 15 minutes. While the old MCAT focused on content and critical thinking only, the new MCAT will also test Research Design and Graphical Analysis & Data Interpretation. The new MCAT will introduce a general lens of biology and psychology to all sciences covered.

## The Flex Med Program

By: Daniel Wang CC'16

In order to help Columbia pre-medical students make astute application decisions, Charles Drew managed to secure Dean Valerie Parkas, Associate Dean for Admissions and Associate Professor for Medical Education and Infectious Diseases at Mount Sinai for an information session on the FlexMed program. The event was well-attended, and Dean Parkas' engaging and often hilarious persona made for both a rather fun and certainly informative night. Many questions were asked, many questions were answered, and everyone left knowing more about the medical school process, and perhaps feeling a little more confident, than they did when they first sat down. As an added bonus, two FlexMed students, one a Columbia senior and the other, a Stanford graduate currently pursuing his masters, offered their perspectives on the program and their individual reasons for applying.

This frame will demonstrate the medical application of all pre-requisite sciences for medical school. The Verbal Reasoning section is being adapted into a new section called the Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills section containing passages about the humanities and social sciences rather than ones about natural science.

At the end of the Info Session, there was a raffle for MCAT practice materials. All Charles Drew members receive a 10% discount on any Kaplan MCAT review course, so email [cucharlesdrew@gmail.com](mailto:cucharlesdrew@gmail.com) for more information and good luck studying!



For the attendees - of which I was one - even if we decide not to apply to the FlexMed program, it was an hour well-spent, partly because it put faces to the medical school admissions team, but more importantly, as was obvious during the discussion portion of the session, it reaffirmed our reasons and our drive to become medical professionals. Many thanks to Dean Parkas for being kind enough to come speak with us, and many thanks to all of you for showing up!



## Breast Cancer Walk!

By: Tolu Akinade SEAS '15

Every year, the Columbia University Charles Drew Pre-Medical Society takes part in the American Cancer Society's Breast Cancer Walk. This great event has been held throughout the United States since 1993. On October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013, a group of 23 Charles Drew members attended this wonderful event to support fighting breast cancer. Charles Drew members were encouraged to raise at least \$20 each to donate to the American Cancer society. Patrons were also able to donate money online in support of the 'Columbia University Charles Drew' team; this will also be our team name for upcoming years for those who would like to pledge their support on behalf of our Charles Drew chapter. The money raised at the event went towards *helping people stay well, helping people get well, and finding cures.*

The event was held in Central Park and this event attracted thousands of people walking to fight breast cancer. The atmosphere of the walk was uplifting, positive, and full of high spirits. It was great to see families and friends walking together to honor loved ones taken by breast cancer and also survivors who had triumphed over this disease. Members of the Charles Drew E-board and organizational committee came together to walk a 3, 4 or 5 mile path in Central Park. All participants were given 'Registered Walker' stickers and pink Making Strides bracelets to show solidarity in the event. In total, our chapter raised \$420 to donate to the Making Strides cause. First-time walkers were all in agreement that this was a really fun event and it was a positive, impactful way to spend their morning.



## Second General Body Meeting

By: Obinna Obineche CC'15

On Sunday November 10<sup>th</sup>, we successfully held our second installment of our new general body meeting initiative. The second meeting picked up right where the first left off, bringing together the whole Charles Drew community in fellowship to discuss new ideas for the group and concerns people may have wanted to bring forward. The main purpose of the general body meetings is to foster a sense of community and strengthen connections between the G-body and the E-board, both of which were on full display. Everyone seemed to be in good spirits and the informal structure of the event was a welcome departure from the typical structured approach of our more traditional meetings and panel discussions. As people walked in, all were greeted with entries into a raffle for free prizes such as complimentary movie tickets, Charles Drew gear and more. And, of course, free pizza was offered, contributing to the light, fun mood of the event.



More orders were also taken for our popular Charles Drew Apparel sale featuring group crewnecks and T-shirts. Once everyone got settled, we got into the business side of things discussing upcoming events such as our blood drive collaboration with the New York Blood Center and our annual Kaplan MCAT Class Auction. After we got through all of the administrative business, President Brianna Olamiju and Vice President Cesar Rodriguez fielded questions and feedback from members of the general body. Then, we announced our raffle winners and concluded our second successful general body meeting of the semester. Be on the lookout for more general body meetings in the spring semester.

## The very successful Blood Drive!

By: Cesar Rodriguez CC'15

On November 15<sup>th</sup>, Charles Drew, for the first time in our history hosted a blood drive that was co-sponsored with the New York Blood Center & Office of the President, Office of Government and Community Affairs. Working in conjunction with a representative from the NY Blood Center, Charles Drew used the ample space in the cafeteria of Uris Hall to set up and run a very successful blood drive. Setting up before Thanksgiving break, the holiday themed Blood Drive came at an opportune time as the chills of the holiday season makes this time of year one of the most in need for blood donations. The Drive saw many Columbia undergraduate and even graduate students sign up to donate blood, as the key location in Uris proved very convenient for students who may have normally not been able to donate. Ultimately the Drive proved to be a huge success, as we passed our goal of 50 units and finished with a total of 56 units donated. The great success of the Drive showed us that this is definitely an event we will continue doing as an organization and we hope to increase donations next year!





## Deserts and Discussion By: Carmen Xie BC '16

On November 21, 2013, Charles Drew hosted *Desserts & Discussion: A Night of Insight with 3 female physicians* with The Barnard Network of Pre-Medical Students at the Diana Center of Barnard College. This event was a panel in which three female physicians with diverse specialties and backgrounds spoke about their own unique experiences and careers in medicine. The three physicians were Dr. Julia Iwamasa, Dr. Camille Clare and Dr. Elena Reynoso. Dr. Iwamasa is an anesthesiologist at Paramus Surgical Ctr. Dr. Clare is a physician who specializes in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Metropolitan Hospital. Dr. Reynoso, recruited by Barnard's Network of Pre-Medical students, is a physician who is also passionate about research at Columbia University Medical Center. The panel began with two representatives, one from Charles Drew and one from Barnard's Network of Pre-Medical Students, introducing the panelists. After each panelist spoke about their own story, the panel was then opened up to the audience for questions. The panelists effectively responded to the questions and provided helpful advice about pursuing medicine as a career path.

This event was valuable, interactive, and informative. Although each of the physicians came from different backgrounds and took different paths to become doctors, they all overcame many challenges and made many sacrifices. These challenges are incomparable to their strong passion about medicine. From this event, it was clear that there is no "one typical path" to get into medical school. We are glad and thankful that Dr. Iwamasa, Dr. Clare, and Dr. Reynoso were able to take the time to come speak as panelists at our event, and to Barnard's Network of Pre-Medical students for co-hosting the event with us. We hope to collaborate more with the Network and other organizations/clubs, and to host more successful events like this in the future.



## Summer Opportunities Panel

### By: Mia McKinstry BC'15

Finding a good summer internship is a difficult task. We students want to have fun during this break from classes, but we still want to do something productive, engaging, and enlightening. We want to use our free time wisely; we want to spend our time doing something that will help us define our career paths and prepare us for our futures. That's why the Charles Drew Pre-Medical Society teamed up with Columbia's Office of Preprofessional Advising to create the Summer Opportunities Panel for Premedical Students. At this event, a panel of eight undergraduate students spoke about their different summer experiences, hoping to help other students in their search for the ideal summer internship: one that is both enjoyable and instructive.

Many of the panelists had internships involved in clinical care or patient interaction. This sort of an internship is great because it exposes premed students to a medical setting and helps us realize whether caring for patients is truly what we want to do with our lives. Our panelists spent their summers with Health Leads Summer Fellows, Camp Hope and Joy in the Dominican Republic, and the Center for Courageous Kids in Scottsville, Kentucky. All of the panelists discussed how rewarding and fulfilling it was to do their best in making a patient's stay at a hospital as comfortable as can be, or to help a patient deal with a particularly difficult illness. For example, at Camp Hope and Joy in the Dominican Republic panelist Cesar Rodriguez was a camp counselor for HIV positive children. He said that by the end of his time with them, the children were true friends of his and he was happy that he was able to bring some joy to their lives through fun activities such as a camp-wide soccer tournament. Cesar was so happy that he was able to provide an environment where the kids felt free and relaxed, able to express themselves unrestrained.

Other panelists had internships that were not focused on patient care. These included biological research under the Columbia University Amgen Scholars Program and the Lehigh Valley Research Scholar Program, hospital administrative work under the Columbia Experiences Overseas program with United Family Healthcare in Beijing, teaching as a science educator at the Da Vinci Science Center, and interning for the Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation. Though these internships are not clinical, they are still extremely valuable because they provide experiences with other aspects of the medical field. Maybe you love science and are interested in medicine, but the profession of being a physician isn't for you. Or even if it is for you, these sorts of internships still allow you to broaden your understanding of the medical world. For example, panelist Nonye Oduke got to see a whole different side of hospitals by interning for the Department of Patient Services at United Family Healthcare Hospital in Beijing. She was assigned several projects over the course of the summer and it was her responsibility to complete them through her own creative means. The projects were strictly administrative work, giving her an understanding of how hospitals run. This understanding is extremely valuable, considering how many physicians careers are dependant on employment in a hospital. Additionally, Nonye said that because the internship was so dependant on her own motivation, the program taught her skills such as how to focus and prioritize. Doctor or not, these skills are valuable anywhere.

So whether it is volunteering in a hospital, performing research at the lab bench, or teaching science to kids, Charles Drew and the Office of Preprofessional Advising wanted to show students how many types of great summer internships there are out there.



## Holiday Christmas Cards By: Cosmas Sibindi SEAS'17

One of the duties of the organizational committee is to plan community service and outreach events. The community service project for the winter was writing holiday cards to children who were spending the holiday season in the hospital. Seven organizational committee members signed up for the Christmas cards project. These individuals were Cosmas Sibindi, Danting Liu, Sid Perkins, Ashley Cunningham, Madison McCarthy, Chris George and Mukund Subramanian. We had a brainstorming meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> of November and resolved to make the cards during an Organizational Committee meeting on December 8<sup>th</sup>. We decided to reach out to St Luke's Pediatric Department, which houses approximately fifty children. To ensure that we would not encounter any problems with the administration at St Luke's, we sought out Kaithleen Dalton, from the volunteering services department, as our contact. We purchased card paper, stickers, some glue and the organizational committee members (OCMs) pledged to help out with markers and any other material they could come up with.

On December 8<sup>th</sup> the OCMs participated in an enriching and creative card making process, generating 58 unique cards from around 20 pairs of hands. The cards were then handed over to Ms. Dalton at St. Luke's hospital on Thursday the 12<sup>th</sup> of December at 2pm. She expressed her sincerest gratitude on behalf of the hospital to Columbia and Charles Drew in particular. It was indeed an overall self-rewarding and enlightening experience for everyone involved.



## P.U.M.P Update

By: John Cho CC'15

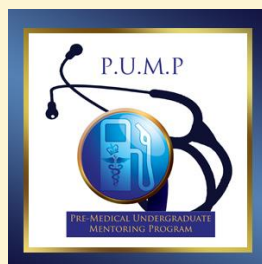
P.U.M.P, or the Pre-Medical Undergraduate Mentoring Program, of the Charles Drew Pre-Medical Society has gotten off to a great start this fall semester! Now in its fifth year, P.U.M.P is back on track to make sure underclassmen (freshmen and sophomores) mentees are given the support and help they need from upperclassmen (juniors and seniors) mentors. This year, we received 50 applications and after careful consideration, P.U.M.P now consists of twenty-two mentees and eleven mentors. The P.U.M.P co-chairs, taking into consideration the undergraduate school, interests, and needs of each applicant, worked hard to make sure that the most beneficial and productive mentee-mentor matchups were created.

Our first event, the Meet and Greet, took place on October 26, 2013 in the West Ramp Lounge of Lerner Hall. The pairing system of two mentees to one mentor from the same undergraduate school makes it so that mentees can have peers to look to for support as well as mentors can find comfort in that the pair of mentees can rely on each other. This also creates great chances for networking amongst pre-medical students, both under and upperclassmen, creating a system of help and support. Mentees and mentors were able to mingle with each other in a relaxing environment while learning more about the program and reflecting on the first half of the fall 2013 semester.

At our second event on December 8, we held a study break (with snacks and drinks of course!) as well as an informal panel of upperclassmen who talked about their experiences with summer research opportunities and internships. They gave advice on where to look for these opportunities (both online and on campus at Columbia) as well as tips to be a successful applicant for these programs. The upperclassmen also gave great tips and advice on how to navigate the challenging facets of pre-medical life at Columbia, such as choosing the right number of classes and extracurricular activities to get involved in.

We are very happy with how P.U.M.P is progressing for both mentors and mentees. Thank you to co-chair Jibril Kedir CC'15, the Charles Drew Pre-Medical Society, and most importantly, the mentees and mentors for their support in making P.U.M.P a constantly evolving program. We have more engaging, educational, and exciting events planned for the upcoming semester! Please email us at [pump.columbia@gmail.com](mailto:pump.columbia@gmail.com) if you have any suggestions or comments, want to become a mentee or mentor. We at P.U.M.P hope you are having a pleasant winter vacation.

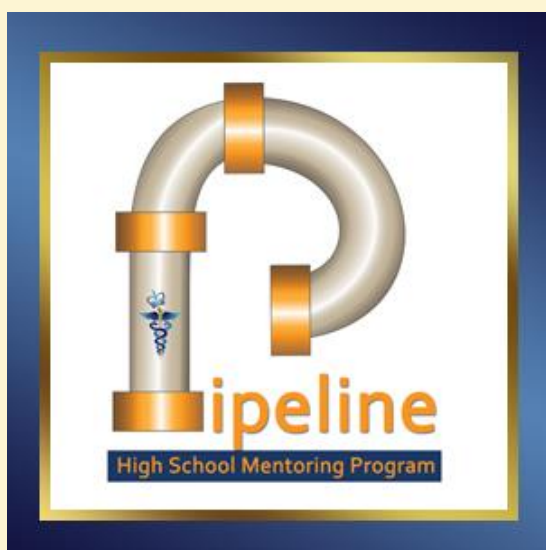
“Thank you to co-chair Jibril Kedir CC'15, the Charles Drew Pre-Medical Society, and most importantly, the mentees and mentors for their support in making P.U.M.P a constantly evolving program.”



## An Update from Pipeline By: Aury Garcia CC' 14

On December 7, 2013 the Charles Drew Pipeline Committee held its first event of the year: A Mentor and Mentee Meet and Greet. After a competitive application and screening process, 36 high school students and 20 Columbia University undergraduates were accepted to participate in the program. The high school students represented a diverse group of schools in New York City, including Aquinas High School, Bronx Early College Academy, St. Raymond High School, Preston High School, Mount Saint Michael Academy, and Fordham Preparatory High School amongst others. Some of these students were also recruited from the S-Prep Program via the College of Physicians and Surgeons. The event began with an introduction given by Daniel and Aury, the Pipeline Co-chairs. They emphasized the committee's goal to guide high school students, especially those from underserved communities, through the college application process.

Furthermore, the co-chairs discussed their hope to continuously encourage the high school students' interest in medicine. Subsequent to the introductory remarks, the mentors and mentees enjoyed pizza and soda and introduced themselves, their interests, and hopes as new Pipeline members. Then, the high school students were paired up with their mentors and had the opportunity to ask them questions ranging from "what college classes are you taking?" and "what classes do I need to take to fulfill the premed requirement?" to "What do you do in your free time?" The day ended with a collaborative brainstorm about possible events for next semester, which include a tour around campus, resume/personal statement tutorial, and a movie and/or ice skating trip. Both the high school and undergraduate students enjoyed meeting and talking to each other and seemed eager for future Pipeline events.



“Both the high school and undergraduate students enjoyed meeting and talking to each other and seemed eager for future Pipeline events.”

## Our Executive Board 2013-2014



President	Brianna Olamiju	2015
Vice-President	Cesar Rodriguez	2015
Secretary	Doreen Agboh	2014
Treasurer	Obinna Obineche	2015
OCM Director	Tolu Akinade	2015
Events Coordinator	Chelsea Griffin	2016
Outreach Coordinator	Kaleel Wainwright	2016
Barnard Liaison	Carmen Xie	2016
Publicity Manager	Eliza Cricco-Lizza	2016
Webmaster	Tolu Obikunle	2016
Community Service Chair	Karole Collier	2015
P.U.M.P Chairs	John Cho & Jibril Kedir	2015, 2015
Pipeline Program Chairs	Daniel Wang & Aury Garcia	2016, 2014

## Our Organizational Committee Members 2013-2014



Christie Corn CC '17	Ashley Cunningham CC '16	Diogenes Dipre CC '16
Wendy Feng CC '17	Ayesha Firdous BC '17	Kristina Flemming CC '16
Christopher George CC '17	Chris Lites CC '16	Danting Liu CC '17
David Lu CC '15	Kaavya Mahajan BC '16	Maria Mavrommatis CC '17
Madison McCarthy CC '17	Kimberly Mezam BC '17	Gonzalo Paz-Soldan CC '16
Sidney Perkins SEAS '17	Nina Sabharwal SEAS '17	Michael Sani CC '17
Cosmas Sibindi SEAS '17	Aryeh Strobel CC '16	Mukund Subramanian SEAS '17
Yves M. Tseng CC '17	Anthony Tucker CC '17	Xi Wang CC '16
Elle Wisnicki CC '17		

### History:

The Charles Drew Pre-Medical Society was originally established in 1973 by a small group of minority pre-meds from Columbia College and Barnard College who firmly believed that they had the duty to serve their fellow peers in order to establish a strong network of minority and non-minority pre-medical student population on Columbia's campus. Over these past couple of years, the Charles Drew Pre-Medical Society has been improved and revitalized through the efforts of several hardworking students, helping Charles Drew establish a strong presence on campus. As an executive board, we have taken greater lengths to provide the similar services we give our Columbia students beyond the gates of 116th street through community service, discussion panels, medical school visits, regional conferences, and various levels of mentoring. As an organization, we are dedicated to maintain the high and premier standard of Dr. Charles R. Drew and hopefully apply such standards within ourselves and for our future generations.

Contact Charles Drew!!

Website:

<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/charlesdrewsociety/>

E-Mail: [cucharlesdrew@gmail.com](mailto:cucharlesdrew@gmail.com)

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