



April 2024

Observances

04/01-04/30 | **National Arab American Heritage Month, National Minority Health Month, Autism Acceptance Month**

03/10-4/08 | **Ramadan** (An occasion to focus on faith through fasting and prayer, and is one of the most important Muslim holidays)

04/08 | **Solar Eclipse** (The sun's light will be blocked by the moon. It will begin at 2:14 and end at 4:37. Totality will occur at 3:26.)

04/9-10 | **Eid al-Fitr** (Eid al-Fitr means "break the fast", and is the last day of Ramadan, marking the end of a month of fasting)

04/13 | **Vaisakhi** (The Sikh new year festival that commemorates 1699, the year Sikhism was born)

04/22 | **Earth Day** (Planet vs. Plastics: What changes can you make to reduce plastic waste in your lab, clinic, or classroom?)

04/22-30 | **Pesach/Passover** (A week- long observance commemorating the freedom and exodus of the Israelites (Jewish slaves) from Egypt)

Awareness Months

A graphic for National Arab American Heritage Month. It features a dark green background on the left with white and yellow text. The right side shows a photograph of an ornate, dark metal doorway with intricate cutouts. The text 'NATIONAL Arab American HERITAGE MONTH' is overlaid on the image in a mix of white, yellow, and black fonts.

APRIL IS...
NATIONAL ARAB AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

"During the month of April, the Arab America Foundation formally recognizes the achievements of Arab Americans through the celebration of National Arab American Heritage Month (NAAHM). Across the country, cultural institutions, school districts, municipalities, state legislatures, public servants, and non-profit organizations issue proclamations and engage in special events that celebrate our community's rich heritage and numerous contributions to society.

Arab America and the Arab America Foundation launched the National Arab American Heritage Month initiative in 2017, with just a handful of states recognizing the initiative.

- Arab America Foundation

Learn More: <https://arabamericafoundation.org/national-arab-american-heritage-month/>

[Learn more about Arab American Heritage Month →](#)

A graphic for National Minority Health Month. It features a dark green background on the left with white and yellow text. The right side shows a photograph of a diverse group of young people smiling. The text 'NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH' is overlaid on the image in white and black fonts, with the FDA logo in the top right corner.

APRIL IS...
NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH

"This April, join the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Minority Health (OMH) in celebrating National Minority Health Month — a chance to highlight the importance of improving the health of racial and ethnic minority communities and reducing health disparities."

- US Food & Drug Administration

NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH
FDA

Learn More: <https://www.fda.gov/consumers/minority-health-and-health-equity/national-minority-health-month-2024>

[Learn More About National Minority Health Month →](#)

Events

04/01-04/07 | **National Public Health Week** – *Protecting, Connecting and Thriving: We Are All Public Health* – [See list of events here](#)

04/04 | **Teaching Academy IAMSE Webinar Series** – *Navigating the Hidden Curriculum in Health Professions Education* – Megan Brown, PhD – 12:00-1:00, Register at teachingacademy@med.uvm.edu

04/08 | **Solar Eclipse** – [See UVM's programming here](#)

04/10 | **Gender Equity Education Series** – Menopause in the Workplace – Claire Hardy, PhD – 12:00-1:00, [Join via Zoom](#)

ODEI Announcements

SAMoSA Hosts Holi Celebration



The Larner chapter of the **South Asian Medical Student Association (SAMoSA)** celebrated Holi on March 26 with an event on the Fleming Green. Celebrated on the full moon during the Hindu month of Phalguna, Holi is a celebration of color, life, and the beginning of spring. Students snacked on samosas, kurkure, boondi and threw colored powder, staining the snow—and each other—in vibrant hues.

Administrative Assistant Joins ODEI



Olive Gallmeyer has joined ODEI as an Administrative Assistant. They previously worked as a Cultural Advisor at the Student Center for Equity & Inclusion at the University of Richmond, where they also completed their undergraduate studies. They graduated from Brandeis University in 2023 with a Master of Arts in gender studies, where their scholarship focused on art as social change and marginalized identities in pop culture. Olive also has a significant background as a theatre practitioner, specializing in dramaturgy and theatre for social change and having co-developed productions related to HIV/AIDS activism, COVID-19, environmental justice, and the Black Lives Matter movement.

Announcements

LCOM Celebrates Match Day

On March 15th, 2024, the LCOM community gathered in the Grand Maple Ballroom of the Davis Center to celebrate the successes of the 4th year medical students in their placements at residency programs. The event began with a procession led by bagpiper, Radiation oncologist, and LCOM alum, H. James Wallace, followed by Dr. Moo and the class of 2024, observing the event's theme: 70's disco. The sparkle-laden, bell bottom-clad students gathered to hear encouraging speeches by Dean Richard Page, M.D. and class president, Elise Prehoda, '24. This was followed by a pun-filled skit in which faculty acted out students begging programs to "gimme, gimme, gimme a match after midnight". During the match ceremony, students opened envelopes to learn where they would be spending the next chapter of their medical careers and lives. Many chose to announce their matches to the audience and were met with cheering applause, and often tearful hugs. 117 students matched at 68 universities across 28 states.

[Read more →](#)

[Watch the Match Day video recap →](#)

Peipert Named UVM Chair of Obstetrics, Gynecology, & Reproductive Sciences



Following a national search, Jeffrey F. Peipert, M.D., Ph.D., Clarence E. Ehrlich Professor and chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Indiana University School of Medicine (IU) and Indiana University Health, has been appointed the next chair of the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences at the Robert Larner, M.D. College of Medicine at the University of Vermont (UVM) and the University of Vermont Health

Network, effective June 1, 2024. In this role, Dr. Peipert will lead a prominent department of physicians, midwives, scientists, educators, residents, fellows, and staff at the health system's locations across Vermont and northern New York.

[Read More →](#)

Registration Open for AAMC Minority Faculty Leadership Development Seminar

This three-day seminar in Chicago will be an opportunity for early career faculty who aspire to leadership positions to gain real-world guidance and tools for pursuing career advancement in academic medicine. These include skill building in grant writing, career path design, and organizational leadership, as well as opportunities for network expansion.

[Register here→](#)

Challenging Norms Conference Abstract Submission Open

The Institute for Equity and Justice in Health Sciences Education at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai is excited to announce their upcoming conference, *Challenging Norms: Uplifting Anti-Oppression Work to Transform the Landscape of Medical Education – 2nd Annual Conference*. This Conference will be a unique opportunity to present, discuss, and learn about addressing all forms of oppression as a means of transforming four areas of medical education: pre-medical preparation, undergraduate medical education, graduate medical education, and the interface between medical education and community. Challenging Norms is a non-traditional symposium that promotes community and coalition-building; skill development; presenting completed and preliminary research;

sharing personal, family, and community narratives; and discussions of success along with challenges.

[Read More →](#)

Join the Gender Equity Listserv

Want to keep up to date on Gender Equity events and initiatives? Join the [Gender Equity Listserv](#).



Become a Faculty Mentor to a Medical Student

The LCOM Mentors program pairs medical students who are members of groups underrepresented in medicine with faculty members and/or residents who have common interests and goals. This relationship can support the medical student (the mentee) to become familiar with institutional expectations, networks, and practices that are relevant to productivity and advancement at the Larner College of Medicine (LCOM).

For more information contact [Eileen CichoskiKelly](#) or to sign up, please [fill out this short form](#).

From the AAMC

AAMC statement on Health and Human Services funding in FY 2024 appropriations legislation

AAMC President and CEO David J. Skorton, MD, and Chief Public Policy Officer Danielle Turnipseed, JD, MHSA, MPP, issued a statement regarding passage of the second and final package of six fiscal year (FY) 2024 appropriations bills for the federal government. “The AAMC is pleased that the U.S. Congress has passed a FY 2024 spending package that preserves funding for critical health care programs and services that are integral to supporting the academic medicine community and the patients they serve.”

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AAMC Joint statement on improving health through DEI

Health care and medical associations across the country made a statement in support of diversity, equity, and inclusion policies in health care as a means to help improve the health of the nation. “We represent organizations and health care professionals in the United States, including physicians of varied specialties and backgrounds, who have

dedicated their entire careers to improving patient outcomes. For decades, we have strived to equip physicians with the best tools and evidence so our patients receive the highest quality care possible. Our efforts to promote DEI seek to address the long-standing and well-documented inequities in our health care system and its impact on the health of our patients and communities,” read the statement in part. The statement was released by the AAMC, the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education, the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, the American Board of Medical Specialties, the American Medical Association, the American Osteopathic Association, the Council of Medical Specialty Societies, the National Board of Medical Examiners, the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners, and the National Resident Matching Program®.

[Read More→](#)

AAMC joins amicus brief on EMTALA pre-emption

The AAMC joined the American Hospital Association (AHA) and America’s Essential Hospitals in a March 18 Supreme Court amicus brief asking the court to affirm the district court’s preliminary injunction in a case involving an Idaho statute that makes it a crime for health care providers to terminate a pregnancy without making an exception for stabilizing care, as the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA) requires. Providers seeking to comply with EMTALA could face felony charges and the loss of their professional licenses. The brief explains that the threat of criminal and professional sanctions interferes with the exercise of expert medical judgment and intrudes upon the relationship between a patient and their physician.

[Read More→](#)

AAMCNews: Why we know so little about women’s health

AAMCNews covered the long history of medical research underrepresenting women in clinical trials and other areas of research, leading to gaps in knowledge to this day regarding the effectiveness of many common drugs and medical devices for women. “Historical bias, policies designed to shield unborn children from exposure to drugs and treatments, and ongoing challenges to recruiting and retaining women in clinical trials and medical research limit the understanding of how women, and particularly women of color, experience disease and how best to treat them for many conditions,” reported AAMCNews.

[Read More →](#)

Applications Open for AAMC Grant Writers Coaching Group for NIH Awards

You can now submit applications to attend this year's AAMC's Grant Writers Coaching Group for NIH Awards, which supports faculty that are underrepresented in academic medicine in improving critical writing skills to strengthen their grant proposals. This intensive 1-day in-person workshop occurs on June 12 and is open to those actively working on both K or R grant proposals. Additional virtual online learning sessions and continued peer review will be available over 3-4 months after the conclusion of the in-person workshop to further strengthen grant proposals. The deadline for applications is April 8 but don't wait to secure your seat for this learning opportunity.

[Register Now →](#)

Register for IDEAS webinar series on disability representation and inclusion in academic medicine

Join the AAMC throughout April for a dynamic four-part webinar series where leaders in the disability community from across the medical education and research continuum will discuss approaches to increase the representation and inclusion of people with disabilities in academic medicine. Attendees will gain key information on utilizing their institution's disability resource office and come away with strategies to support equitable access and inclusion for students and faculty with disabilities across medicine and science. The first webinar will take place on April 2, and is part of the [AAMC IDEAS \(Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Anti-racism\)](#) Learning Series, which provides actionable information about diversity, equity, and inclusion strategies that members of the academic medicine community can put into practice.

[Register Now →](#)

IUSM LGBTQ+ Healthcare Conference Registration Open

Registration is now open and agenda is available for the 7th Indiana University School of Medicine LGBTQ+ Health Care Conference. This conference is a critically engaging experience that centers LGBTQ+ health care and informs healthcare providers and trainees about best and inclusive practices. It also serves as an opportunity to learn with and from patients, family members and loved ones, and community organizations that are doing amazing work every day. This year, we will embark on a journey to redefine the discourse surrounding LGBTQ+ health, fostering a space for innovation, inclusivity, and progress. The 2024 virtual conference will be held April 11-12, 2024.

[Register here →](#)

Reminder: Application opens for AAMC Integrated Behavioral Health Awards

The AAMC is seeking applications for its 2024 Integrated Behavioral Health (IBH) Awards as part of the association's continued efforts to support the work of AAMC-member institutions to expand and enhance access to mental and behavioral health care. The awards will recognize excellence and innovation in existing IBH clinical care models and training programs. The deadline to submit applications is April 12.

[Apply Here →](#)

Articles of Interest

The Unbearable Vagueness of Medical ‘Professionalism’

By Rachel E. Gross

“...By the standards of his own school, Mr. Bervell said, his social media activism could be seen as unprofessional. But, he added, he saw challenging health care’s gaping racial disparities is part of his role in changing medicine — and, maybe, giving doctors something better than “Grey’s Anatomy” as a model for how to be a professional.”

[Read More →](#)

A Biased Test Kept Thousands of Black People From Getting a Kidney Transplant. It’s Finally Changing.

By Lauran Neergaard

“Jazmin Evans had been waiting for a new kidney for four years when her hospital revealed shocking news: She should have been put on the transplant list in 2015 instead of 2019 — and a racially biased organ test was to blame. As upsetting as that notification was, it also was part of an unprecedented move to mitigate the racial inequity. Evans is among more than 14,000 Black kidney transplant candidates so far given credit for lost waiting time, moving them up the priority list for their transplant.”

[Read More →](#)

How Do You Fix Healthcare’s Medical Waste Problem?

By Hope Ngo

“When Claire Teves landed in Singapore from the Philippines for a six-month fellowship, she knew it would some time to adjust. One of the biggest surprises was the culture shock

of how the new hospital used plastics. In the operating theater, devices such as plastic retractors were used once per patient and then thrown away. In her hospital in the Philippines, the same device would be painstakingly sterilized and reused until it was worn out beyond repair.”

[Read More →](#)

Giving and Receiving: Gendered Service Work In Academia

By Margaretha Järvinen and Nanna Mik-Meyer

“A central finding in the literature on academic service is that women undertake more service functions than men. Studies show that women are asked to conduct more service tasks and that they are more inclined to accept service requests once asked. Our study extends this research. We develop the perspective of relational work, not previously used in studies of academia, in an analysis of the processes leading to an unequal service load among men and women faculty. In our study, ‘relational work’ refers to the balancing of individual against collective interests when faculty take on, or do not take on, service tasks.”

[Read More \(UVM Login Required for Access\) →](#)