

Pre-Health Professions Report 2019

The Charles E. Schmidt College of Science of Florida Atlantic University has completed the 2019 annual “*Pre-Health Professions Graduate Week.*” The week consisted of health related admission representatives, graduate programs and student organizations at FAU joining together to host various activities throughout the week for FAU students. On pre-health day, the College of Science and Pre-Health Professions Team hosted 54 graduate and health professions programs. The admission representatives represented programs including: Medical, Dental, Pharmacy, Physician Assistant, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Podiatry, Chiropractic, Veterinary Medicine, Optometry and more...

For a detailed list of schools and activities please visit

<http://www.science.fau.edu/prehealthday>

Day 1: Hands On Health Workshops:

The Hands-On Health Workshop was an interactive session hosted by HOSA: Future Health Professionals and Blood Pressure Screening Association. During this activity, students were taught how to take a patient history and take blood pressure. This session introduces students to the basics of medicine necessary in any healthcare practitioner's daily routine. The purpose of this session was to give Florida Atlantic University students an overview of patient care. In addition, students were given the opportunity to learn more about other FAU student organizations and network with similar-minded students. **Number of students in attendance 100**

Day 2: Medical School Student Panel:

The medical student panel presentation highlights FAU newly admitted students and alumni who are now in health professions programs such as medical, dental, PA, pharmacy, and veterinary medicine. The student panel discuss their undergraduate experience and the application process, interview process and first year experience. Pre-health students were able to ask relatable questions from members of the panel. This year's student panel consist of 14 medical students from different programs and universities. **Number of students in attendance 120**

Student Panelist:

Sabah Ali – FAU Neuroscience and Behavior (6 Acceptances)

Dr. Sanaz Dovel- Ph.D. Chemistry (3 Acceptances)

Jonathan Freeman- Bio/ 1st Year Medical Student at FAUCOM

Tanya Latortue - Neuroscience and Behavior (4 Acceptances)

Lauren Ramesar - Neuroscience and Behavior (2 Acceptances)

Dervins Germinal - Biological Sciences- NOVA DO

William Trevino – Master of Science in Bioengineering (3 Acceptances)

Margaret Marino - Biological Sciences (5 Acceptances)

Jonathan Rivera- Biological Sciences (UF Dental)

Rainya Heath- 4th year Medical Student at UM

Ashleigh Alfonso- FAU- Biological Sciences (Accepted at UF VET)

Darren Turner-4th year Medical Student at UM

Sarah Chapman- FAU- Biological Sciences (Accepted at UF VET)

Sara Sherman-Bio - 2nd year Medical Student at FIU COM

Day 3: Physician & Health Professionals Panel

During the Physician & Health Professionals Panel, 16 professionals from a wide variety of careers, including medical, dental, veterinary, nursing, and physician assistant, spoke to students from Florida Atlantic University about their experiences in healthcare. The panelists not only spoke about their diverse upbringings and the obstacles in their lives leading up to their professional careers, but also gave advice to students on how to overcome adversity and how to be a good healthcare professional. "Never give up" was a common theme throughout the panel, which ultimately encouraged students to pursue their career of choice to its greatest extent. After the question and answer session, the panel was opened to questions from the audience, where students were able to ask more detailed and personalized questions. **Number of students in attendance 150**

Our Panelist consisted of the following Health Care Professionals:

Ms. Angela Kutanjac, PharmD

Dr. Maya Georges Assi, DMD

Dr. Chako Mathews, MD

Dr. Michael Radu, DDS, MS

Dr. Darin Trelka, MD

Nurse Rachel Huerta, ARNP

Dr. Dennis Sierra, DMD

Dr. Richard Pellegrino, DC

Dr. Glenn Gillard, VMD

Dr. Simone Saddler, MD

Dr. Gregg Keuhnel, DVM

Dr. Tarek Assi, DMD

Dr. Gregory Boco, DPM

CDR Irrigoen, NC

Ms. Lianne Hahn, PA-C

Day 4: Pre-Health Professions Day:

Pre-Health Professions and Graduate Day Fair takes place annually in the spring semester at Florida Atlantic University for students considering a health professions career. This year's Pre-Health Professions Day Graduate School Fair consisted of 54 admission representatives from health related graduate programs such as medical, dental, veterinary, pharmacy, etc. the representatives were able to meet with students and share valuable information and FAU students were able to network and ask valuable questions. **Number of students in attendance 300-400**

In the afternoon, from 4:00 to 6:00 PM, students were given the opportunity to meet and discuss in-depth the requirements for each school at the informational sessions. We had representations from the following schools: Midwestern University, Nova Southeastern University, and the University of Kentucky. **Number of students in attendance 50**

Day 5: Health Professions Workshops and Presentations

The morning from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, we continued with the informational sessions. Students were able to network and make connections with many health professions programs. **Number of students in attendance 30-40**

The final day of Pre-Health Professions week concluded of numerous activities coordinated by the student organizations with three awesome guest speakers from Women in Distress and two of our very own physicians from the College of Medicine here at FAU. The workshops highlighted the domestic violence and the Opioids crisis facing South Florida and how this will affect future health care professionals.

The evening concluded with a Candlelight Vigil Ceremony led Mary Gorora, one of the founding members of AMSA, an FAU student organization. The candlelight vigil was in remembrance of those who have lost their lives or dealing with addiction and domestic violence.

Guest Speakers:



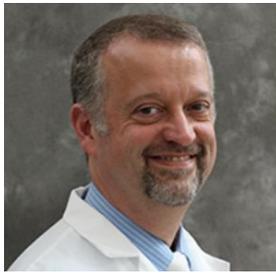
Dr. Darin P. Trelka, M.D., Ph. D

Dr. Trelka is currently an Assistant Professor of Integrated Medical Science as well as the Director of Anatomical Programs here at the FAU College of Medicine. Through this position, he teaches the anatomical sciences to the Medical Students here at FAU, which consists of both gross and microscopic anatomy as well as he assists in the pathology lab curriculum of the medical school. He is board certified in both Anatomic and Forensic pathology, as well as he has been a medical examiner and coroner in Virginia, Ohio and Florida. Throughout his career, Dr. Trelka served as the Deputy Chief and Interim Chief Medical Examiner of Broward County, Florida, and is the former director of the Forensic Pathology fellowship training program at the office of the Broward County Medical Examiner and Trauma Services. Lastly, Dr. Trelka serves on the FAU Medical Admissions Committee and is a strong advocate for students.



Sandra Halaby-Soyer, M.B.A, B.S.W.

Sandra Halaby-Soyer is the Education and Prevention Manager at Women In Distress of Broward County, Inc., which is the only nationally accredited, state-certified, full-service domestic violence center that serves all of Broward County. Sandra has over 18 years of experience in the social services arena with highly developed skills in training, child development, group processing and case management. She started at Women In Distress as the Economic Justice Advocate where she was responsible for the successful implementation of the VOCA Funded Economic Empowerment Program by providing direct services to survivors seeking economic sustainability. She then became the Education and Prevention Manager where she now oversees community education, prevention education and all professional training initiatives at Women In Distress.



Dr. Mario Jacomino, M.D., M.P.H.

Dr. Mario Jacomino is a pediatrician with a public health background. He completed his medical degree at Ponce School of Medicine in Ponce, Puerto Rico and a residency in Pediatrics at the University of FL Jacksonville. He worked with the Palm Beach County Health Department for 15 years becoming the medical director of the Delray Beach Health Clinic. More recently, Dr. Jacomino functions as an Associate Professor at the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine at FAU where he trains the medical students learning clinical skills, interpersonal communication with patients and clinical reasoning. He is involved in supervising the Standardized Patient program at FAU College of Medicine. The interaction with the pre-med and medical students has been very rewarding and fulfilling in his career.