



CEDARS-SINAI MEDICAL CENTER.

**NEWS**

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## Photos Available

### **CEDARS-SINAI MEDICAL CENTER PROMOTES CULTURAL DIVERSITY AS PART OF RECRUITMENT EFFORTS**

**LOS ANGELES, CA** (September 5, 2003) – On Thursday, September 4, Cedars-Sinai held its annual Cultural Diversity Reception for nearly 30 medical school students from UCLA, USC, Loma Linda University and Charles R. Drew University of Medicine & Science. The event provided attendees from several different cultures the opportunity to meet with current residents, faculty and administrators, as well as learn more about academic programs and training opportunities at the Medical Center.

While the majority of students in medical school are identified as white/Caucasian, minorities made up 33.2% of all medical school students in the United States in 1998. Further, statistics demonstrate that minority medical students prefer training and ultimately practice in states with large minority populations, such as California, New York and Texas.

Many hospitals, like Cedars-Sinai, have undertaken efforts to promote cultural diversity, including implementing programs to promote cultural competency and diversity in providing quality patient care. For the past few years, the Medical Center has worked to recruit underrepresented minority applicants for the Medical Center's resident and fellow training programs.

“Cultural diversity is important to me as a medical student and future resident” said Dana Scott, a third-year medical student from Charles Drew University. “As an African American woman growing up in Long Beach, I never saw any minority physicians. I think that it's important that physicians reflect the diversity of the community, especially for me because I'm looking to serve medically under-served populations.”

“At Cedars-Sinai, we work hard to ensure that the people who work and train here represent all ethnic backgrounds and reflect the large diverse community we serve,” said Arthur I. Johnson, MD, chairman of Cedars-Sinai's Cultural Diversity Committee. “We strongly encourage minority medical students to attend the reception to learn more about our exceptional clinical graduate education programs.”

(more)

Cedars-Sinai Medical Center is the largest nonprofit academic medical centers in the Western United States. For the fifth straight two-year period, Cedars-Sinai has been named Southern California's gold standard in health care in an independent survey. Cedars-Sinai is internationally renowned for its diagnostic and treatment capabilities and its broad spectrum of programs and services, as well as breakthroughs in biomedical research and superlative medical education. Named one of the 100 "Most Wired" hospitals in health care in 2001, the Medical Center ranks among the top 10 non-university hospitals in the nation for its research activities. For more information on Cedars-Sinai's medical education opportunities, please visit [www.csmc.edu/gme](http://www.csmc.edu/gme) or call (310) 423-4611.

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