

CEDARS-SINAI MEDICAL CENTER PROMOTES CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN ITS RECRUITMENT EFFORTS

LOS ANGELES, CA (September 6, 2002) – As part of Cedars-Sinai Medical Center’s ongoing efforts to promote cultural diversity, the Medical Center has undertaken several programs to promote cultural competency and diversity in providing quality patient care. One approach is to recruit underrepresented minority applicants for the Medical Center’s resident and fellow training programs. 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.

On September 19, Cedars-Sinai is hosting a Cultural Diversity Reception for approximately 100 medical school students from UCLA, USC, Loma Linda University and Charles R. Drew University of Medicine & Science. The reception will be held on Thursday, September 19 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., and attendees will meet with current residents and faculty and learn more about academic programs and training opportunities at the Medical Center.

“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.”

Dr. Johnson said that medical students who attend the informal reception will have an opportunity to hear a brief presentation about the Medical Center featuring a videotape detailing Cedars-Sinai’s commitment to cultural diversity. In addition, students will have a chance to meet with current residents, take a tour of the Medical Center and interact with key members of Cedars-Sinai’s leadership, including board of directors and other senior executives.

According to Shlomo Melmed, M.D., senior vice-president of academic affairs, “Cedars-Sinai pursues diversity in all areas of the medical center. We pride ourselves in attracting and recruiting some of the most outstanding and committed young men and women in medicine today.”

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 or call (310) 423-4611.

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