

Association of Native American Medical Students (ANAMS)



Background

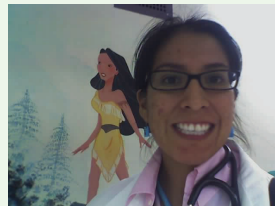
Founded in 1975, the Association of Native American Students (ANAMS) is a student organization representing Native American graduate health professions students throughout the US and Canada. ANAMS is comprised of Native American students enrolled in medical school or in the allied health professions of Dentistry, Veterinary, Optometry, Podiatry, and Pharmacy. Presently, the membership consists of approximately 100 students.

The goals of ANAMS include providing support for all Native Americans currently enrolled in various allied health professions schools. ANAMS strives to increase the number of Native American students in medicine and other health professions. Exposure and recognition on a national level throughout the medical community is what we continue to promote.

Our organization is primarily supported by the Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP). On our pathway into the health professions we hope to provide Native students a resource network.



Alexander Robert Red Eagle
2007-2008 ANAMS president



Naomi Young
President-elect for 2008-2009

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Affiliate Associations:

- Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP)
- Marshall Foundation
- Native Health Initiative (NHI)

2007-2008 AAIP Executive Board Members

President

Dr. Gerald Ignace, MD

President-elect

Gerald Hill, MD

Immediate past president

Dr. Susan Sloan, MD

Treasurer

Shanda Hohse, MD

Secretary

Lisa Alexander, MD

Members-At-Large

Melvina McCabe, MD

Lyle Ignace, MD

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The Annual AAIP Conference

ANAMS Business Meeting

Friday 5-7pm: VIP Room – Sweet Grass Restaurant
Coeur d'Alene Casino Hotel

Julymish Pow Wow Grand Entry

Saturday 3pm: Greyhound Park
Post Falls, Idaho

AAIP is honored to invited all members of ANAMS to participate in the Grand Entry of the Pow Wow (traditional attire is option)

ANAMS Business Meeting

Sunday 7:30-8:20am: TBA for location

ANAMS Business Meeting

Monday 5-6pm: VIP Room – Sweet Grass Restaurant

ANAMS Executive Council Meeting (for the new Executive Board)

Tuesday 2-4pm: VIP Room – Sweet Grass or Golf Pavilion

Important discussions for the Conference

1. Silent Auction

Throughout the conference the executive board members will be holding a silent auction to help raise funds for the organization. Among the items will be a little trees, a Navajo rug, and more.

2. Transfer of President Responsibilities to President-elect

The current president, Alexander Red Eagle, will be handing over the responsibilities to our new president-elect, Naomi Young. Some of her responsibilities will include continuing the 4th year scholarship for those applying to residencies, overlooking a mentor program, partnering with other outreach organizations, and constitutional changes.

3. Elections for Executive Board for ANAMS

There will be an announcement during the initial ANAMS Business meeting on Friday to start thinking about nominating members onto the up-coming 2008-2009 executive board. The executive board includes the following,

President- who will be Naomi Young

President-elect- who learns to take on responsibilities of the president when the president is unavailable.

Treasure- primarily keeps track of the club funds.

Secretary- main responsibility is to keep track of the minutes for meetings.

Member-coordinator- keeps track of ANAMS members.

2 Members-at-large- Are able to take on and lead projects proposed at executive meetings

4. Discuss possible goals for the up-coming year

There are several goals that are currently in the works but still have not been definitively initiated. One is the mentor program that will require major collaborations and commitment by any members willing to participate. Our hopes are to encourage and be available to students interested in medicine as a career. Other goals include coordinating a few scholarships to members applying for residencies and also working with outreach organizations involved with Native health awareness.

Tips for Starting a Local Chapter (Quick-and-Dirty)

Read the National ANAMS constitution

The constitution will give you the general mission of ANAMS and eligibility to be a member at the National level. You can find the active constitution at the ANAMS website.

Local Club Recognition

Contact your local student government at your school to try and receive club recognition

Usually you will need to appoint the following:

- Club President
- Club Treasurer
- Faculty Advisor

Club Leadership

The national group has 7 executive members. However, depending on the goals of your local members, there can include subcommittees or positions (such as social coordinator or outreach coordinator) at your school.

Meetings

Study in medical school is very time consuming. Therefore organization and timing is important. Traditionally the president of the club will come up with the agenda for the meetings, minutes are taken by the secretary, and keeping track of funds with the treasurer. Discussions should be constructive and keeping everyone on the same page.

Last suggestion

Know your local leaders. Creativity is important when trying to get people you want to cover a presentation topic. For example, you may want to have a speaker to present on the topic of diabetes affecting Natives and you know a cardiologist not affiliated with your school. You may want to talk with the cardiologist department at your school to see if they can host a cardiology colleague to gain a perspective on diabetes affecting Natives. Be creative and organized so you can still study but be involved.

NOTE: Each university has their own club recognition guidelines, but not officially overlooked by National ANAMS.

Mentoring Program

One primary goal of ANAMS is to increase the number of Native American health professions. The mentoring program is a way to connect with students interested in medicine. In the future, we hope to include other professions. Our current hopes are to encourage and guide students on this complex path towards medicine. Mentors may try and answering simple questions about how to approach a professor or complex questions like, "why do I want to become a physician?"

The framework, interested, is to randomly connect interested members with students already

interested in the program. If members have any questions, such as getting in contact with other members at a specific school, we would be able to provide the information. In addition, if there are any questions or concerns regarding member to student relationships, they would be addressed to the executive board.

It has been a long time coming but we hope the program will be beneficial to both members and students interested in medicine. If there are any other questions regarding the set-up or ideas for the program, please address them at the AAIP Annual conference.

Projected Outreach Collaborations

Anticipated participation with programs such as:

- AAIP
- NHI
- AISES
- SACNAS
- INMED
- NIH Academy

The idea behind anticipated collaborations with other programs is to provide more sources for students to learn more about health professions. It may also provide information to medical students at a local level when working on projects about awareness on Native health. There are many Native issues that seem to be overlooked and working with other groups helps to strengthen awareness.

General Contacts

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Executive Board 2007-2008:

President

Alexander Red Eagle, MSIV/PhD candidate
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President-Elect

Naomi Young, MS IV
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Treasurer

Amanda Bighorse, MS II
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Secretary

Donovan Williams, MS III, PSF
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Membership- Coordinator

Stephanie Augustine, MS IV
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Member-at-large

Joel Chisolm, MD
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Member-at-large

Micheal Clarke, MS IV
clark652@umn.edu



Naomi Young and Stephanie Augustine
President-elect and Membership-Coordinator, respectively



AAIP.org

Reminder to Members

Membership status documentation

- If your status is “associate member” and you need to submit documentation to become a “full member,” please bring them to Stephanie Augustine at the AAIP annual conference.

Grand entry

- AAIP is inviting all members to participate in the Grand entry for the Pow-wow (regalia optional).

Bring your thoughts about nominating members to the executive board.

Bring your thoughts about:

- How to keeping in touch with the executive board
- Ideas on fundraising
- Keeping in mind any national programs you know to creating a data base for high school, college, and graduate students interested in medicine (e.g., summer programs, internships, etc.).