

Program:

Welcome: Archana Chatterjee, MD, PhD, Dean of CMS Introduction: Mildred MG Olivier, MD '88, Assistant Dean of Diversity and Inclusion

Celebration of Student Matches Guest Speaker: Monica S. Branch, MD '17



Dr. Monica Branch is a Chief Resident (PGY-4) in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R) at Schwab Rehabilitation/University of Chicago Hospital and Care Network residency program. Schwab's mission is to develop outstanding rehabilitation physicians with a social awareness; who embrace and embody diversity, and practice with a social conscience; and believes in social justice and advocacy. Dr. Branch was instrumental in delivering coordinated care to Schwab's post-COVID recovery rehabilitation unit during the initial peak of the COVID-19 pandemic. During this time, Schwab was one of the first rehabilitation centers to provide post-COVID rehabilitation — specifically to individuals who were underinsured, undocumented, and to residents of a federal penitentiary.

As a rehabilitation physician, Dr. Branch's mission is to deliver high quality cost-conscious care to poor and underserved communities. This mission is significant because it recognizes the need to combat urgent health disparities that plague underserved communities. Her goal is to: educate patients, families, and communities on sensible ways to manage and/or improve their

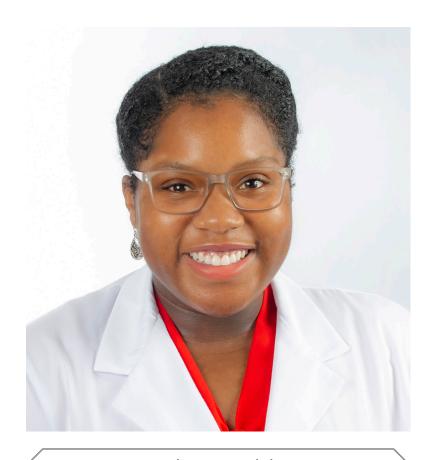
health; participate in community advocacy endeavors to bring services to underserved communities; provided education and leadership to current and future health professionals; and encourage and advocate for individuals from underserved groups to pursue a career in medicine.

Dr. Branch is a native of Milwaukee. Wisconsin. She majored in Kinesiology at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee where she earned a Bachelor and Master of Science degree. She also earned a Master of Science degree in Biomedical Sciences and a certificate in Women's Health from Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science. She earned her medical degree from the Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science. As a medical student, she was active in multiple service and leadership roles, including: SNMA CMS Chapter President; RFUMS Franklin Fellow; CMS LCME Diversity and Inclusion Committee Member: Co-Chair of the RFUMS Ambassador Program; and Graduate Assistant in the RFUMS Department of Enrollment and Strategic Management, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, and the Community Care Coach mobile clinic. She is also a National Medical Fellowships Alum and former GE-Primary Care Leadership Program Scholar. Prior to matriculating into medical school, Monica was a Sales Training Manager for a major medical device company, specializing in the use of spinal implants for Orthopedic and Neurosurgical spine procedures. She is also a Veteran of the United States Air Force.

Dr. Branch completed a preliminary internship in Internal Medicine at the University of Illinois-Chicago/Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn, IL. Upon completion of residency, Dr. Branch will join the faculty at Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, GA as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine. In this role, Dr. Branch will work primarily at Grady Memorial Hospital where she will be responsible for developing the outpatient clinic infrastructure and increasing patient volumes to clinics in Stroke, Traumatic Brain Injury, Spinal Cord Injury, and General PM&R follow-up. She will also support and grow the inpatient consult service at Grady. Additionally, she will serve as faculty and mentor to medical students, residents, and fellows.







Leah M. Bolden Internal Medicine University of Minnesota Medical School

I am thankful to my family and friends who supported and encouraged me along this journey. I would also like to thank all of my mentors who invested in me and helped me get this far.



Tapera Albert Chiwocha Jr.

My medical school journey has been an experience that has had many successes, challenges, and invaluable experiences. I believe my success has been driven by my passion for medicine and to become someone that can make a difference. None of my success would be possible without my mentors, Rosalind Franklin Diversity and Inclusion staff, and my classmates. Thank you.



lan Clapp Orthopaedic Surgery University of Utah Health



Scott DeVogelear

Emergency Medicine Cook County Health and Hospital System, IL



Kenneth Austin Furlough Orthopaedic Surgery University of Missouri-KC Programs

I am a product of generational sacrifices. With amazing family support and love I am becoming the manifestation of my ancestors dreams as I continue on in this journey to transform my community.



Tamar Garcia Family Medicine Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, CA



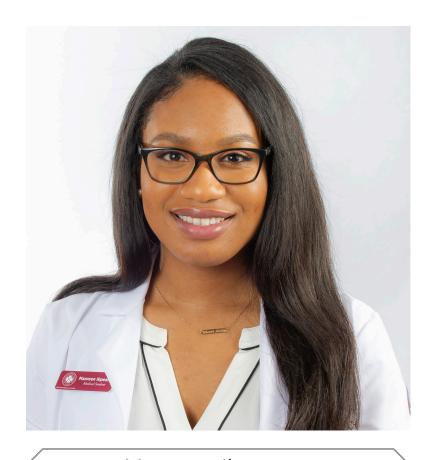
Christopher Justin Gideon

Psychiatry
Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services, MI

I am so grateful to have made it this far in my medical training. I owe a tremendous amount to my mentors that have helped me at every step of this journey and would like to thank them for being there to help me guide me and find the strength to persevere.



Matthew Hill Family Medicine MacNeal Hospital, IL



Maureen Ikpeama

Psychiatry Med Coll Wisconsin Affil Hosps/Milwaukee

Witnessing similar disparities and lack of accessible healthcare in marginalized communities, such as the ones I witnessed in my birth country of Nigeria motivated me to pursue medicine in order to bridge these gaps. As a first generation immigrant, I am dedicated to providing healthcare to our most vulnerable populations, especially as I pursue the field of Psychiatry!



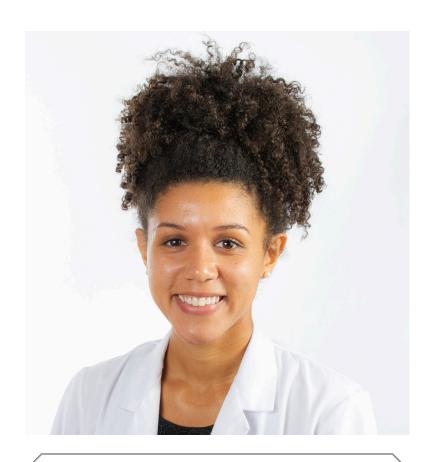
Edwin Llamas

My medical school journey would not have been possible without the support of my family, fiance and friends. These individuals were instrumental in keeping me motivated as well keeping my spirits high during times of much stress. This accomplishment is dedicated to them.



Stephanie Nicole Puga-Bernaldo Psychiatry Boston University Medical Center, MA

I could not have made it this far without the support of my family, husband, friends, mentors and community.



Natalie Shovlin-Bankole Obstetrics-Gynecology UPMC Medical Education, PA



Shayna Waldbaum Family Medicine

Family Medicine Oregon Health & Science University



Drew Weinstein

Emergency Medicine UC San Diego Medical Center, CA



Raven Wright

Anesthesiology University of Chicago Medical Center, IL

I came to CMS through the Pre-Matriculation Program (PMP) and I am so grateful for PMP and Dr. Richardson for believing in me and helping me get started on this wild journey through medical school. Can't believe I'll soon be matching and graduating but so excited for the future and the next phases of my life and career!

Presented by the Academic Learning Environment Office of Excellence in Diversity and Inclusion

Mildred M.G. Olivier, MD
Assistant Dean for Diversity and Inclusion
Carl Lawson, PhD, MPH, MA
Interim Director of Learning Environment Diversity
Hector Rasgado-Flores, PhD
Director of Diversity, Outreach, and Success

About Diversity at Chicago Medical School

Chicago Medical School (CMS) is committed to helping to create a well-trained, diverse workforce of physicians and other healthcare professionals who will be committed to working with underserved and disadvantaged populations to reduce health disparities. In keeping with this mission, CMS has programming to provide additional support and resources to medical students from groups historically underrepresented in medicine (URM). The URM program is designed to provide students with tools to better establish and manage a life balance during their student years and beyond, provide holistic support and the best learning environment for success, and increase students' opportunity to fully achieve their personal and professional potential.

