Alumni Feedback

“As a Clinical Scholar, I was able to step back and ask more important policy questions, as opposed to getting stuck in the weeds...This suddenly made my work more policy relevant.”
— Nirav Shah, M.D., M.P.H., commissioner of health, New York State

“During my time with the Clinical Scholars program, I have developed the skills to design and conduct health services research and the contact network to translate this information to the decision-makers in state and federal government. There is no other program like the RWJF Clinical Scholars program for physician leaders who want to change America’s health care system.”
— Comilla Sasson, M.D., M.S., assistant professor of emergency medicine at University of Colorado

“Community-based work had a formative effect on my development. It’s something I’ve always been committed to, and it’s actually one of the reasons I chose to apply for the [Clinical Scholars] program.”
— Nathan Irvin, M.D., instructor in emergency medicine at Johns Hopkins

“[It’s the only program that offers such unique training, it’s one-stop shopping—research, clinical work, leadership and advocacy skills—] it’s all in the [Clinical Scholars] program.”
— Matthew O’Brien, M.D., M.Sc., medical director and founder of South Philadelphia health center Puentes de Salud and Assistant Professor of Public Health at Temple University

Recent Scholar Publications

Gordon Sun (Michigan CSP 11-13, VA Scholar) and Matthew M. Davis (Chicago CSP 98-00). “The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010: Impact on Otolaryngology Practice and Research.” Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery. 26 January 2012


Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars
National Program Office
Phone: 919-843-1351
Email: rwjcsp_admin@med.unc.edu
Web: http://rwjcsp.unc.edu

A national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

A national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation administered by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Our Mission

We seek to develop physician leaders who will create change while preserving a commitment to service and patients. The program offers university-based post-residency training at four participating universities:

University of California, at Los Angeles
Robert H. Brook, M.D., Sc.D.
director
Carol M. Mangione, M.D., M.S.P.H.
co-director
Kenneth C. Wells, M.D., M.P.H.
co-director
e-mail: csp@mednet.ucla.edu
http://hsr.semed.ucla.edu/csp

University of Pennsylvania
David A Asch, M.D., M.B.A.
director
e-mail: rwjscp@mail.med.upenn.edu
http://www.med.upenn.edu/rwjscp

Yale University
Leslie Curry, Ph.D.
director
Harlan M. Krumholz, M.D.
co-director
Gary Gross, MD
co-director
e-mail: rwjchsyl.arale
http://www.med.yale.edu
http://www.med.yale.edu/rwjscp

University of Michigan
Rodney A. Hayward, M.D.
director
Matthew Davis, M.D., MAPP
codirector
Michele Henler, M.D., M.PA.
codirector
“Theodore ”Jack” Iwashyna, M.D., Ph.D.
codirector

About the Program

For more than four decades the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Clinical Scholars program has led the transformation of health and health care in the United States. Graduates take positions in U.S. health and academic medicine, public health and other leadership roles as physician leaders. Scholars will conduct innovative research and work with communities, organizations, practitioners and policy-makers on issues important to the health and health care of all Americans.

Twenty Scholars will be selected. The Foundation is funding 10 positions and the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) will support another 10 positions through VA Medical Centers affiliated with the participating universities. The program provides an unmatched opportunity to pursue two years of master’s degree graduate level of study with generous funding and ample protected time for research and scholarship. The first year RWJF scholar stipend is $69,500 with an increase the second year. The VA stipend in some cases will be higher.

Scholars graduate with skills in health policy, leadership, and health services and community-based participatory research methods.

Program Graduates have gone on to become:

- Leaders of major federal, state and local health entities (including David Satcher, M.D., Ph.D., FAAP, FACPM, FACD, director; Satcher Health Leadership Institute, director), Center of Excellence on Health Disparities, Poussaint-Satcher-Cosby Chair in Mental Health Morehouse School of Medicine, and 16th Surgeon General of the United States, Mitchell H Katz, M.D., Director of Los Angeles County Health Services, Nirav R. Shah, M.D., M.P.H., New York State Commissioner of Health, and Nicole Lurie, M.D., M.S.P.H., Assistant Secretary for Preparedness, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services).

- Foundation and hospital CEOs and presidents (including Gary Gottlieb, M.D., M.B.A., president and CEO, Partners HealthCare, Mark Smith, M.D., M.B.A., president and CEO, California HealthCare Foundation and Robert Ross, M.D., president and CEO, California Endowment).

- Leaders in the fields of health services research and health economics (including Marie McCormick, M.D., Sc.D., Sumner and Esther Feldberg Professor of Maternal and Child Health, Harvard School of Public Health, Barbara Vickrey, M.D., M.P.H., vice chair, Academic Affairs, Neurology Department and Professor, Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior, University of California at Los Angeles/VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System and Robert Dittus, M.D., M.P.H., director, Center for Health Services Research, Albert and Bernard Werthan Professor of Medicine, and professor of medicine at Vanderbilt University).

The RWJF Clinical Scholars program has a national advisory committee (NAC) that is involved in a wide range of activities including program design, scholar selection, training site selection and training site oversight. Committee members are national leaders in health and health care who have been selected not only because of their prestige but their commitment to the goals of this program and its Scholars.

The RWJF Clinical Scholars national program office (NPO) provides overall direction, technical assistance and development of core curriculum for the Clinical Scholars program. The NPO is located at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in the Department of Social Medicine. The program director is Desmond Runyan, M.D., Dr.P.H.

What Scholars Do

Scholars are brought together annually for a national meeting to forge lasting relationships while fostering networking, discussing research and seeking to change the health care system. In addition, Scholars are supported to attend professional meetings to present their research and cultivate relationships with colleagues engaged in similar research.

Mentorship

Each Scholar is assigned a NAC mentor by Scholar preference who will discuss career development. The NAC mentor will meet with the Scholar at the program's annual meeting and will be available throughout the year.

How to Apply

Apply to the RWJF Clinical Scholars program and join the best and the brightest physicians from every corner of the nation for an unmatched opportunity to make an impact on health care in this country. We will select 20 Scholars in 2014 for appointments beginning July 1, 2015.

Physicians who meet the eligibility requirements may apply online through the website at http://rwjscp.unc.edu or contact the national program office at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill:

Kristin Siebenaler, M.P.A., deputy director
Phone: (919) 843-1351
e-mail: rwjscp_admin@med.unc.edu

Deadline: February 28, 2014

RWJF President and CEO

Risa Lavizzo-Mourey, M.D., M.B.A., president and CEO of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Clinical Scholars alumna, believes that the Clinical Scholars program helped catapult her career by allowing her to do policy work in an academic medical setting.

“As a Clinical Scholar, I was encouraged to ‘analyze’ the health care system in a new and innovative way – one that allowed me to describe health care beyond the clinical realm.”

She also praises the program for providing a “network of mentors and an environment of true collaboration. It was exceptional. For anyone who wants to be a catalyst for change in the health and health care of our country, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars program is an excellent opportunity to do so.”