

# MD+ PLUS PROGRAM

## ANNUAL REPORT ACADEMIC YEAR 2018-19



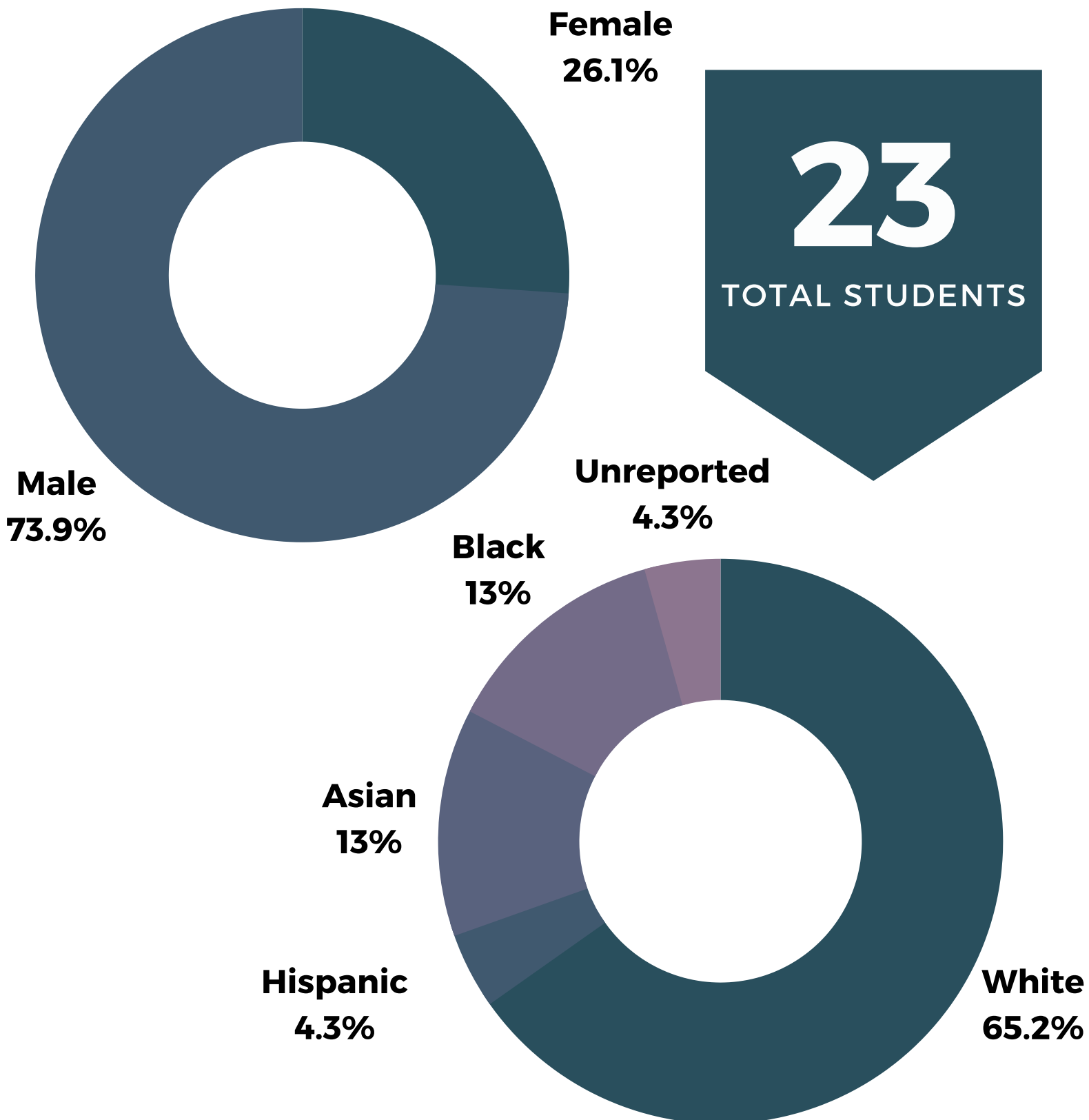
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
College of Medicine

# INTRODUCTION

The MD Plus Program is a dual degree program through which Texas A&M medical students can earn a masters degree in one of several disciplines, including Medical Sciences (MS), Business (MBA), Public Health (MPH), Engineering (ME), and Education (MS) in conjunction with their Medical Degree (MD). This is accomplished by developing partnerships with graduate programs to deliver curriculum that is specifically designed for the medical student. All MD Plus students also participate in activities that are delivered through the program office that includes seminars and workshops to enhance their career development. Additionally, each class develops and executes a project for the academic year. This brings students of diverse interests and capabilities working together to a common goal. This exercise demonstrates that together, with input from individuals of different knowledge base and personalities, a quality goal is achievable. This is the ethos of the MD Plus Program which aims to provide students with the skill set necessary for them to be the future leaders of medicine.



# STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS



# 2018-19 ACTIVITIES

## PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

The MD Plus Program provides regularly scheduled networking and professional development programming entitled “MD Power Hour.” During the 2018-19 academic year, eight MD Power Hour meetings were held. This was in direct response to previous year students who suggested more frequent meetings. Speakers were invited to discuss a multitude of seminar topics, including tips for residency interviews, clinical rotations advice, etc. A strategy was developed to increase visibility of the MD Plus Program to prospective student populations. As a class, the students developed a recruiting strategy. Part of this strategy included presentations to undergraduate groups at Texas A&M and a webinar aimed at prospective students.

## STUDENT ACTIVITIES

This represents the initial report for activities, honors and publications for the MD Plus Program. Students enter the masters degree portion of the MD Plus Program at various times of their academic career, thus a listing of their activities will be a mix of medical school/masters accomplishments. Student activities, honors and awards are listed within this report.

## **STUDENT AWARDS/HONORS**

**Azimuddin, Ahad** - Texas Business Hall of Fame Class of 2019 Inductee Class of 2019; Brazos Valley Economic Development Corporation Award Winner; Texas A&M New Ventures Competition Elevator Pitch Second Prize; Aggie Pitch 2019 Champion; MBA Venture Challenge First Place; Raymond Ideas Challenge First Place; Texas Engineering Extension Service Product Development Center Award

**Davis, James** - Bala Shetty MBA Scholar Award - 4.0 GPA

**Dowlearn, Thomas** - Featured in Article: <https://vitalrecord.tamhsc.edu/becoming-fluent-using-language-to-change-medicine/>; Featured in Podcast: <https://maysmastercast.podbean.com/e/stopping-time-the-value-of-nature-and-the-truth-about-vaping-w-thomas-dowlearn/>

**Howell, Sasha** - Carolina Johnson Class of '88 Scholarship-TAMCOM; Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society

**Jimenez, Yajaira** - Honors in Radiology Clerkship

**Johnson, Bevan** - Gold Humanism Honor Society Inductee

**Oscar, Laura** - AOA Medical Honor Society, Junior Inductee nominee

**Wazir, Farah** - McFerrin Center of Entrepreneurship Venture Challenge Semifinalist

## **STUDENT PUBLICATIONS**

**Azimuddin, Ahad** - Co-Author: Azimuddin, Ahad M. A Novel Laryngoscope Sensor to Prevent Dental Damage During Laryngoscopy and Intubation. TACC - Trends in Anesthesia and Critical Care (Journal of EAMS). 2019; Publication Release Pending

**Dowlearn, Thomas** - Dowlearn T. "The Race to Cure Alzheimer's Disease: Are Pericytes the Answer?" Proceedings of the Texas A&M Medical Student Grand Rounds. 2018. <https://jmsgsr.tamhsc.edu/the-race-to-cure-alzheimers-disease-are-pericytes-the-answer/>

## **STUDENT PUBLICATIONS (CONT.)**

**Howell, Sasha** - Howell, S.G, Lyon, K., Fonkem, E., Intracranial Ewing Sarcoma with Drop Metastases - What is the optimal management? Submitted to Journal of Neuropathology and Experimental Neurology.

## **STUDENT PRESENTATIONS**

**Azimuddin, Ahad** - Abstract Presentation: A Novel Laryngoscope Sensor to Prevent Dental Damage During Laryngoscopy and Intubation. World Airway Management Meeting. 2019. Amsterdam, Netherlands; TEDx Speaker: Why Innovation Spreads. TEDxUH at the University of Houston. 2019. Houston, Texas; Smart Medical Devices Innovation Capstone, Smart Medical Devices

**Davis, James** - Mays MBA Venture Challenge presentation: KuploK Plate, MBA capstone presentation - Improving Patient Flow Efficiency in Urgent Care: A Consulting Project for CapRock Health System

**Dowlearn, Thomas** - Texas A&M Admissions Interview Day Panelist; Rice University Pre-Medical Society Meeting Panelist - Medical Student Dual Degree Programs Panel;

Dowlearn, T., Butler, R., Laney, J. Innovations in Medical Education: Novel Simulation and Modeling Programs. The SHIFT Case Competition: Inspiring Medical Students to Meet Healthcare Challenges in Texas through Problem Solving, Innovation and Collaboration . Southern Group on Educational Affairs (SGEA) Conference. Orlando, FL. March 27-30, 2019.

Dowlearn T. "The Race to Cure Alzheimer's Disease: Are Pericytes the Answer?" Texas A&M Medical Student Grand Rounds. 2018.

**Heimdal, Tyler** - Heimdal, T.R., Rajan, L.G., Vickery, J.W., Dhanani, U.M., Harris, J.D., Moreno, M.R., Huston, D.P., McCulloch, P.C., Lambert, B.S.. Acute and Chronic Effects of an Elevation Training Mask on Aerobic Capacity, Anaerobic Endurance, and Pulmonary Function. Clinical Science & Translational Research Grand Rounds; Bryan, TX. 05/07/2019. Podium

# STUDENT PRESENTATIONS (CONT.)

**Heimdal, Tyler (cont.)** – Cain, M.T., Heimdal, T.R., Harris, J.D., Petak, S.M., Lambert, B.S., McCulloch, P.C.. Physiologic Bone Health Parameters Among Elite Ballet Dancers. Mid-America Orthopaedic Association 2019 Annual Meeting; Miramar Beach, FL. 04/13/2019. Podium. \*Presented by first author

Cain, M.T., Heimdal, T.R., Harris, J.D., Petak, S.M., Lambert, B.S., McCulloch, P.C.. Physiologic Bone Health Parameters Among Elite Ballet Dancers. 3rd Annual Hugh S. Tullos, MD Resident & Fellow Research Symposium; Houston, TX. 06/21/2018. Podium. \*Presented by first author

Heimdal, T.R., Rajan, L.G., Vickery, J.W., Dhanani, U.M., Harris, J.D., Moreno, M.R., Huston, D.P., McCulloch, P.C., Lambert, B.S.. Chronic Effects of an Elevation Training Mask on Aerobic Capacity, Anaerobic Endurance, and Pulmonary Function. American Physician Scientist Association – South Regional Meeting; Houston, TX. 09/29/2018 Poster. \*Presented by third author

Cain, M.T., Heimdal, T.R., Harris, J.D., Petak, S.M., Lambert, B.S., McCulloch, P.C.. Physiologic Bone Health Parameters Among Elite Ballet Dancers. American Physician Scientist Association – South Regional Meeting; Houston, TX. 09/27/2018. Poster

**Howell, Sasha** – Howell, S.G, Toussaint, L.G, Earnest, D. Investigating chronotherapy as a future avenue for glioblastoma multiforme treatment. Poster presentation at American Association of Neurological Surgeons annual conference. April 13, 2019. San Diego, CA

**Johnson, Bevan** – Bevan E Johnson MS-III, Daniel A Hale MD, Yair Levy MD, John Krause MD, Edward Pearson MD. Acute Myelogenous Leukemia Camouflaged As Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia. 2019 Annual BUMC Scholarly Day Research Symposium.

**Oscar, Laura** – Oscar, L., Gonzales, N., Miles, B., “Radical Robotic Assisted Laparoscopic Prostatectomy (RALP) in the presence of SpaceOAR Hydrogel.” Department of Urology, The Methodist Hospital, Houston, TX. Under review. AUA South Central Section. March 2019

## **STUDENT PRESENTATIONS (CONT.)**

**Oscar, Laura (cont.)** - Oscar, L., McDowell, Z., Tallman, C., Flores, N., Starke, N., Satkunasivam, R., "Simultaneous Approach to Robotic Assisted Radical Cystectomy and en bloc Urethrectomy for Urothelial Cancer." Department of Urology, The Methodist Hospital, Houston, TX. Under review. Videourology, Journal of Endourology. Aug 2019

**Wazir, Farah** - Mays MBA Capstone presentation - CapRock consulting; FTI Consulting Case Competition

## **OTHER STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

**Azimuddin, Ahad** - Sling Health (Texas A&M Student Run Medical Device Incubator): Co-Founder and Medical Student Liaison

**Dowlearn, Thomas** - SHIFT Case Competition Founder (hosted 2nd annual event); Texas A&M COM Admissions Committee Member Migration & Health Conference Attendee; American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) member; Family Medicine Interest Group - Houston Campus Representative; American Medical Association (AMA), member; Texas Medical Association (TMA) member

**Heimdal, Tyler** - Annual Peru Medical Mission Trip - Team Leader

**Howell, Sasha** - President of AANS student chapter; American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) TAMCOM Chapter; Physician Supervisor for Disaster Day Simulation-TAMCOM; College Ministry Mentor

**Jimenez, Yajaira** - Class of 2021 Historian for the Houston campus; Mentor for Big Owl/Little Owl Program at Rice University; Mentor for Minority Association of Pre-Health and Pre-Medical Students Hold 'em for heroes volunteer at Houston, Texas

**Johnson, Bevan** - Campus Executive Officer Class of 2020 - Dallas; SHIFT Case Competition at Texas A&M COM - TAMU Team Member; George & Hesta Mulloy Scholarship



## **OTHER STUDENT ACTIVITIES (CONT.)**

**Martin, William Christian** - Chief Executive Officer, Houston Campus, Class of 2021; Mentor, Minority Association of Pre-Health and Pre-Medical (MAPS); Student Executive Committee, TAMHSC, Member Student Ambassadors, TAMHSC, Member; Student Welcoming Committee, TAMHSC; Diversity Student Subcommittee, TAMHSC, Member; Student Wellness, Academic Affairs - TAMHSC, Member; Med Pride, Member; PsychSIGN - psychiatry interest group, Member; Pediatric Interest Group (PIG), Member

**Wazir, Farah** - Aggie Women MBA Treasurer; Mays MBA Student Ambassador

# 2018-19 GRADUATES

## MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Ahad Azimuddin  
James Davis  
Clyde Fomunung  
Farah Wazir

## DOCTOR OF MEDICINE

Clayton Kruger  
MBA received 2015  
Residency: Family Medicine/John Peter  
Smith Hospital

Justin Samorajski  
MS in Medical Science expected 2020  
Residency: Neurology/Houston Methodist  
Hospital

David Szyrkarski  
MBA received 2018  
Internship: Medicine-Preliminary/Baylor  
College of Medicine  
Residency: Ophthalmology/The University of  
Texas Medical Hospitals/Methodist Hospital

Matthew Thigpen (MD + EDHP)  
Residency: Family Medicine/Texas Tech  
University Affiliate



# 2019 ADMISSIONS

7 applications  
7 offers made  
6 matriculants

Characteristics of matriculants:  
3 Female / 3 Male  
3.72 Ave GPA

## **RECRUITMENT ACTIVITIES**

2018 MD Plus Webinar

MD Plus presentation at weekly MD interviews

Presentations to undergraduate groups at Texas A&M (American Medical Student Association, Minority Association of Pre-health Students, Biochemistry & Genetics Society)

2019 New M1 Welcome Event

2019 New Student Orientation

