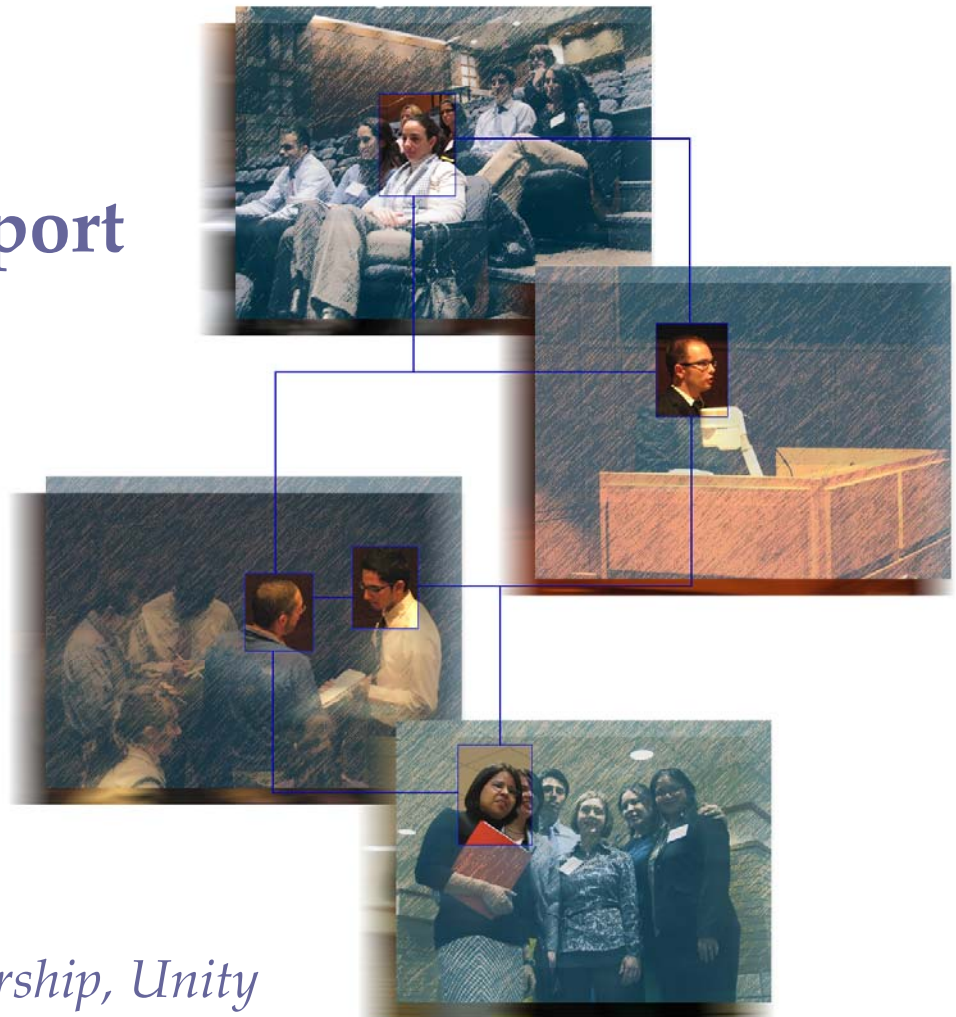


# NNLAMS

National Network of Latin American Medical Students

## Annual Report 2008-09



*Service, Leadership, Unity*



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# Nuestra Unidad

## National Coordinator's Message

April 1, 2009

¡Bienvenidos!



It is with great pleasure that I present you the National Network of Latin American Medical Students (NNLAMS) Annual Report 2008-09. This year brought about new developments, fresh perspectives, and fundamental changes to the organization. Group efforts by the national officers and board members provided the energy to blossom new ideas and expand our roots. Through regional collaboration, the network was able to make the next step in order to better serve the five regions. Through service, leadership, and unity, NNLAMS strives to empower the students of today and tomorrow to become strong patient advocates and give back to their communities at various capacities.

The concept of NNLAMS, now in its 22<sup>nd</sup> year of existence, continues to harvest up and coming medical students determined to make a positive impact. This year the national officers and board members of NNLAMS held the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Garcia Leadership Advocacy Seminar (GLAS) with our western region, the Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA). GLAS 2009 took place in San Diego, California in conjunction with the LMSA Leadership Conference in order to share ideas and develop new strategies regarding national unity. The seminar once again received support from Mark S. Pecker, M.D., Vice Chairman of Administrative Affairs, Associate Program Director, and Professor of Clinical Medicine, Weill Cornell Medical College – Department of Medicine. Support from Dr. Pecker has been paramount in making this face to face meeting of our executive board possible and we thank him for his continued dedication, support, and commitment.

In addition to GLAS, NNLAMS held its 4<sup>th</sup> Annual national conference in conjunction with the National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA) 13<sup>th</sup> Annual conference in Brooklyn, New York. Our students had the opportunity to speak with the NHMA Board on issues facing our members and discuss ways to enhance the student experience through the concept of direct NHMA representation within NNLAMS and vice versa as a possibility. The support from Elena V. Rios, MD, MSPH CEO and President of NHMA has been instrumental in the network's success in holding the national conference bringing students from across the country to meet NHMA physicians and learn about health issue facing Latinos nationally.

Changing focus from national to regional highlights, the Midwest region held their conference at the Medical College of Wisconsin, January 17, 2009, the National Boriqua Latino Health Organization (NBLHO) held its regional conference at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, February 20-21, 2009, and the southwest region plans to hold its conference this summer. The Southeast region held its first regional conference in sunny Tampa, Florida, February 27, 2009 at the University of South Florida, College of Medicine bringing in student representatives from 8 medical schools within the region and included speakers with vast amounts of experience in primary care and public health. The region continues to advance its structure through collaboration with other regions, such as LMSA, who held their 25<sup>th</sup> Annual conference in Los Angeles California, March 27-28, 2009.

This year's LMSA conference, "The power of 25: The Healing Legacy Continues" was a landmark event for LMSA, now a quarter century in existence. The conference was also venue to a critical event in the development of NNLAMS. During our national conference, the regional and national leadership of the

network agreed on a proposal to further unify the regions through a national name change proposal (details on page 6). At the LMSA conference, the region approved the proposal voted on at national conference in order to bring about a new unified national front not seen before. The student assembly of the National Boriqua Latino Health Organization has yet to vote on the proposal which will be discussed at their House of Delegates meeting this fall. On July 1, 2009 the regions will begin this profound transition.

Unity is the special bond that has turned the concept of NNLAMS into a common denominator for all Latino(a) medical students nationwide. Now, after formal incorporation in 2003, 501(c)(3) non-profit status acquisition in 2004, and four national conferences, we look to the future with a new sense of national unity to promote the recruitment and education of Latinos and Latinas into medicine among the 5 regions. With this vision, we move forward to equip our student leaders with the right materials to make a positive impact on society and provide a voice for Latino(a) medical students nationwide.

It has been a privilege to serve you,

Ruben Font, Jr.

National Coordinator, NNLAMS 2008-09

MD Candidate, University of Kansas School of Medicine, Class of 2009

# Acknowledgements

## Supporting the network

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The organization is funded through the generosity of our sponsors who have supported our programs, products, and events, which include the National Conference, G.L.A.S., NNLAMS newsletter, web site, and the 2009 Residency Guide.

### National Conference Support

National Hispanic Medical Association  
Kaiser Permanente  
Committee of Interns and Residents  
Dansko

### Garcia Leadership and Advocacy Seminar

Mark S. Pecker, M.D. Vice Chairman of Educational Affairs, Program Director and Professor of Clinical Medicine (New York Presbyterian Hospital / Weill Cornell Medical Center, Dept. of Internal Medicine)

### Residency Guide 2009 Support

American Academy of Family Physicians  
American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry  
American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
Army  
Colorado Association of Family Medicine  
Committee of Interns and Residents  
Dr. Flowers MCAT Program  
Emergency Medicine Resident's Association  
Lawrence Family Medicine Residency  
Kaiser Permanente  
National Institute of Health  
Massachusetts General Hospital Multicultural Affairs  
University of California San Francisco  
University of Chicago at Illinois, Family Medicine Residency  
University of Michigan Medical School: Diversity & Career Development

### Newsletter Sponsors

Dr. Flowers MCAT Program  
Hispanic Business Magazine  
University of Colorado, Denver – School of Medicine, Dept. of Pharmacology  
University of Colorado, Boulder – Institute of Behavioral Genetics

# Our Leadership

## Executive Board 2008-09

### National Officers

<u>National Coordinator:</u>	Ruben Font, Jr.	University of Kansas SOM
<u>Nat'l Coordinator Elect:</u>	Julia Bregand-White	University of Illinois Chicago COM
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Gabe Hernandez	University of Michigan SOM
<u>Secretary:</u>	Juan Vega	Medical College of Wisconsin
<u>Parliamentarian:</u>	John Franco	University of Illinois Chicago COM
<u>Nat'l Conference Chair:</u>	Christina Chavez	University of Illinois Chicago COM
<u>Membership Chair:</u>	Ray Morales	University of Illinois Urbana COM
<u>Regional Development Chair:</u>	Victoria Rodriguez	University of Chicago Pritzker SOM
<u>Fundraising Chair:</u>	Elizabeth Homan-Sandoval	University of Illinois Chicago COM
<u>AMA-CMSO Liaison:</u>	Mike Lopez	Baylor COM
<u>Publication Chair:</u>	Christina Gamboa	University of Illinois Chicago COM
<u>Webmaster:</u>	Jorge Ramallo	Ross University SOM

### Regional Board Members

<u>Midwest:</u>	Matthew Carazo Daisy Cortes	University of Kansas SOM University of Illinois Chicago COM
<u>Northeast (NBLHO):</u>	Raj Sawh-Martinez Gezzer Ortega	Yale University SOM Howard University COM
<u>Southeast:</u>	Jason Castellanos Irving Zamora	Vanderbilt University SOM University of Florida COM
<u>Southwest:</u>	David Alonzo Nirma Bustamante	Baylor COM UT Southwestern SOM
<u>West (LMSA):</u>	Alvaro Galvis Mario Teran	University of California Irvine SOM University of Arizona SOM

# Our Leadership

## Executive Board 2009-10

### National Officers

<u>National Coordinator:</u>	Julia Bregand-White	University of Illinois Chicago COM
<u>Nat'l Coordinator Elect:</u>	Alvaro Galvis	University of California Irvine SOM
<u>Treasurer:</u>	John Franco	University of Illinois Chicago COM
<u>Secretary:</u>	Jimena Alvarez	University of Illinois Urbana COM
<u>Parliamentarian:</u>	Marcelino Rivera	University of Illinois Chicago COM
<u>Nat'l Conference Chair:</u>	Mike Lopez	Baylor COM
<u>Membership Co-Chairs:</u>	Marlene Garcia Vanessa Cardenas	UT Southwestern SOM University of Michigan SOM
<u>Regional Development Chair:</u>	N. Anton Borjas	A.T. Stills University - SOMA
<u>Fundraising Chair:</u>	Jose Delgado	Ohio State University COM
<u>AMA-CMSO Liaison:</u>	Jason Alvarado	University of Illinois Urbana COM
<u>Publication Co-Chairs:</u>	Christina Gamboa Alejandro Miranda	University of Illinois Chicago COM Indiana University SOM
<u>Webmaster:</u>	Emma B. Olivera	University of Illinois Chicago COM
<u>Cesar Chavez Coordinator:</u>	Carlos Murillo	University of Illinois Urbana COM

### Regional Board Members

<u>Midwest:</u>	Elizabeth Homan-Sandoval Ray Morales	University of Illinois Chicago COM University of Illinois Urbana COM
<u>Northeast (NBLHO):</u>	Felicia Rosario Frank Quintero	Columbia University COPS New York College of Osteopathic Medicine
<u>Southeast:</u>	Aisha Rivera Annellys Hernandez	University of Virginia SOM University of South Florida COM
<u>Southwest:</u>	David Alonzo Nirma Bustamante	Baylor COM UT Southwestern SOM
<u>West (LMSA):</u>	Alvaro Galvis Manny Mendoza	University of California Irvine SOM OHSU

# History

## Mission of the Network

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### NNLAMS Mission

1. To unify all Latino medical students into one organization
2. To provide a voice for underrepresented medical students
3. To actively promote recruitment and retention of Latino students at all levels
4. To educate medical students on Latino health issues
5. To advocate for the rights of Latinos in health care
6. To provide leadership opportunities for Latinos
7. To promote volunteerism in the Latino community



### Historical Summary

The network was created through collaboration between regional Latino medical student groups and the need for a central national core for unified targeted efforts. Finally, in 1987, the union formalized into the concept of NNLAMS. As the regions became more developed, the complexity of the network demanded further sophistication. Thus, national officer and board member positions were created. The national officers are responsible for the operation and direction of NNLAMS. They provide the arena for the regional board members to make decisions and promote the vision of unified efforts among Latino medical students nationwide.

In 2000 the Garcia Leadership Development Workshop was designed to cultivate and develop the leadership, organizational, and advocacy skills of recognized Latino medical student leaders from across the United States. This seminar formally addresses the lack of leadership diversity in the health care workforce by investing early in the career of Latino physician leaders. After several name changes came about what is known today as the Garcia Leadership Advocacy Seminar (G.L.A.S.).

In 2003, all five regional organizations were incorporated under one umbrella organization and subsequently received 501(c)(3) status establishing a unified, non-profit, tax exempt organization. The midwest, southeast, and southwest organizations changed their names to NNLAMS while NBLHO (northeast) and LMSA (West) maintained their names.

2006 was a landmark year for NNLAMS as the organization held its first national conference in conjunction with the National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA). Thanks to the efforts of the national officers, board members, executive advisory counsel and support from Dr. Elena Rios (President & CEO of NHMA) the national conference was possible. The event brought in students from all over the country and set a venue to reflect upon the years work, network with other students and health professionals, and set the pace for the future operations and vision of NNLAMS.

**NNLAMS operations and vision.**

The affairs of NNLAMS is managed and directed by an Executive Board, composed of ten members, two from each of the five NNLAMS Regional Sections. The board is the voting entity of NNLAMS and coordinate to achieve national unified efforts among the regions.

The central operating core of NNLAMS consists of 12 officers who are responsible for maintaining a functional platform and organizational vision for the board members to make decisions and collaborate.

NNLAMS' executive director is Phil DeChavez MD, MPH. Dr. DeChavez provides guidance and support to the board and officers throughout the course of their yearly positions.

**10 Board Members**

MW: 2 board members  
NE (NBLHO): 2 board members  
SE: 2 board members  
SW: 2 board members  
W (LMSA): 2 board members

**13 National Officers**

National Coordinator  
National Coordinator-Elect  
Treasurer  
Secretary  
Parliamentarian  
Membership Co-Chairs  
Fundraising Chair  
Regional Development Chair  
AMA-CMSO Liaison  
Publications Co-Chairs  
Webmaster

**National Conference Chair:** This position works directly with the board and officers of NNLAMS and spearheads the National Conference Committee. The Annual NNLAMS conference is the culmination of the year's work and provides a moment to reflect upon our current goals and future endeavors.

# Events

## G.L.A.S. 08 & National Conference

### *Garcia Leadership & Advocacy Seminar (G.L.A.S.) 2008: August 1-3, 2008*

University of California, San Diego – School of Medicine

Thanks to all officers and board members, LMSA, and the University of California, San Diego - School of Medicine for their support in hosting G.L.A.S. 2008. Additionally, we thank Mark S. Pecker, MD from Cornell Weill Medical College, Dept. of Medicine for his continued support. The seminar was a success, bringing together the NNLAMS leadership to discuss our yearly projections.

GLAS consisted of keynote addresses, leadership presentations, skill building, and advocacy workshops through the LMSA Leadership Conference. This year we proudly integrate our seminar with the LMSA to continue the tradition of unity among the Latino medical student leaders. The seminar was design to equip our board members and officers with the proper tools to have a successful year with NNLAMS and beyond. It also provided a venue to establish our plans and goals for the 2008-09 academic year.

### *4<sup>th</sup> Annual NNLAMS National Conference: March 19-22, 2009*

In conjunction with the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual NHMA Confernece – Brooklyn, NY

NNLAMS held its 4th Annual NNLAMS National Conference in partnership with the National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA) 13th Annual Conference. We thank Dr. Rios and the NHMA Board for their continued support and commitment to our students!

Our mission was to bring together medical students actively involved within the regional and national infrastructure of the network and new medical students to the NHMA conference to network with physicians and other medical students. Thanks to the support of the NHMA, students learned from the various sessions available at the professional level and were exposed to real life applications to current issues facing health care in our country.

Our agenda emphasized the involvement of students to attend the NHMA plenary sessions and specific NNLAMS items geared for our business meetings, officer elections, and guest speakers. Additionally, our students met with the NHMA Board through the NHMA-NNLAMS Committee that was formed in 2008 to directly address initiatives to help students transition to the next level as NHMA physicians.

Among topics discussed were:

- Creation of a Memorandum of Understanding to specifically define roles and provide guidelines for both organizations to collaborate effectively.
- The concept of a formal mentorship program was warmly greeted by students and physicians. This area will be further investigated in the year to follow.
- The concept of direct representation of NHMA within the NNLAMS advisory committee and NNLAMS student representation within the NHMA was discussed.

# The Next Phase

## National Name Change Proposal

*From the March 22, 2009 Unity Meeting:*

Leaders from LMSA, NBLHO, and>NNLAMS (regional board members and national officers) discussed the proposal regarding national name change to bring about a new unified front not seen before in the history of the Latino medical student groups. The following was proposal was approved by the regions:

Upon approval of the Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA) leadership, that will meet in Los Angeles, California for their 25<sup>th</sup> annual regional conference March 27-28, 2009, to release their name to the other regions and change their name to LMSA – West the other 4 regions and national core will agree to:

- I. Change the name of “National Network of Latin American Medical Students” (>NNLAMS) to “Latino Medical Student Association” (LMSA).
  - a. Change the name “National Boriqua Health Organization” (NBLHO) to “LMSA – Northeast.”
  - b. Change the name “>NNLAMS – Midwest” to “LMSA – Midwest.”
  - c. Change the name “>NNLAMS – Southeast” to “LMSA – Southeast.”
  - d. Change the name “>NNLAMS – Southwest” to “LMSA – Southwest.”
- II. Adopt the LMSA logo as the national logo and also allow the five regions to use their regional logos along with the national logo for their regional events, publications, and operations.
- III. Transfer <http://www.lmsa.net> to>NNLAMS and overhead of the website is to be covered by national funds.
  - a. Incorporate the regional websites into lmsa.net at no cost to them. LMSA National would have their section on the website as well. Each region will have independent access to their web pages to make changes when they need it.
- IV. The official name change will take effect on **July 1, 2009**.
- V. NBLHO (Northeast region) has yet to have their House of Delegates meeting which will occur in the fall of 2009. Until their delegates meet and officially vote on the National Name Change Proposal, the status of the Northeast region will remain pending. If the NBLHO voting assembly approves for the name change to LMSA – Northeast, they adopt the items on this proposal.

*LMSA 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Conference – March 27-28, 2009:*

On March 28, 2009 the LMSA voting assembly approved the national name change proposal created by>NNLAMS thus agreeing to change their name to LMSA – West and releasing their name to the national core along with the details described in the proposal.

**This event marks a new era in the network and provides evidence that the students are ready for the next phase of unification to create a stronger national presence.**

# Finances

## 2007, 2008 Tax Years

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### *Financial information for the 2007 Tax year*

Starting Balance	As of 01/01/07	\$ 7,169.54
Total Contributions/Revenue	As of 12/31/07	\$ 22,073.01
Travel Reimbursements	As of 12/31/07	(\$ 12,125.24)
Professional Fees		(\$ 3,343.38)
Printing, publications, postage, and shipping		(\$ 235.92)
Total Expenses	As of 12/31/07	(\$ 15,704.54)
Excess or (deficit) for the year	As of 12/31/07	\$6,368.47
Ending Balance	As of 12/31/07	\$ 13,523.21

### *Financial information for the 2008 Tax year*

Starting Balance	As of 01/01/08	\$ 13,523.21
Total Contributions/Revenue	As of 12/31/08	\$ 9,850.00
Travel Reimbursements	As of 12/31/08	(\$ 6,472.21)
Professional Fees		(\$ 355.40)
Printing, publications, postage, and shipping		(\$ 1,380.03)
Total Expenses	As of 12/31/08	(\$ 8,207.64)
Excess or (deficit) for the year	As of 12/31/08	\$1,642.36
Ending Balance	As of 12/31/08	\$ 15,165.57

# Thank you

## For making a difference

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NNLAMS is grateful for the commitment of all our members, chapter leaders, national executive board and our executive director Phil DeChavez, MD, MPH.

In addition, we appreciate the support of the many individuals, schools, businesses, and organizations. Particularly, we would like to thank them for their financial contributions.

We thank all the officers, board members, and regional leadership who contributed to the name change committee and the successful passing of the national name change proposal.

Together, we will strengthen the organization, meet our mission, and change the face of medicine for a better and healthier America and world.

*I would like to thank all the national officers and board members that sacrificed many hours into making a fundamental difference in the organization, allowing the network to move forward into a new era of unity and productiveness.*

*To Julia and Alvaro – The following years to come will be crucial to the network, the students it currently serves, and the students of tomorrow. You will face many things that will shake and reassure your foundation but always approach it with a sense of humility and purpose to leave a positive mark on the network, your peers, and future patients.*

*To Cynthia, Jacob, and Isabel – For being my home away from home no matter where we go, for all the laughs and back rides, for giving me the inspiration to be a better person. Thanks to my parent's guidance and sacrifice in helping me reach my goals.*

RF