

MSUCOM OsteoCHAMPS 2012

July 8 – 20, 2012



Audience: The MSUCOM OsteoCHAMPS program targets entering high school juniors and seniors from underrepresented populations and/or disadvantaged backgrounds. It immerses them in an intensive two-week pre-college curriculum that simulates pre-medical studies and features college preparation resources.

In 2012, OsteoCHAMPS enrolled a total of 63 participants:

- Gender: 17 male/46 female
- Ethnicity: 46 African-American, 4 Asian, 4 Hispanic, 13 Caucasian
- Underrepresented/disadvantaged: 56 of 63 total

Funding: To defray or cover the cost of tuition for participants unable to self-pay, OsteoCHAMPS gratefully recognizes the financial support totaling \$76,000.00 received from our generous partners:

- *Detroit Medical Center*
- *DTE Energy*
- *McLaren-Oakland Hospital*
- *Metro Health Hospital Board*
- *Metro Health Hospital Medical Staff*
- *Michigan Area Health Education Center*
- *Michigan Center for Rural Health*
- *MSUCOM OsteoCHAMPS Program*
- *MSU Office of Admissions*
- *Muskegon 4-H Extension Service*
- *Osteopathic Foundation of West Michigan*
- *Riley Foundation*

Objectives: OsteoCHAMPS seeks to increase the number of disadvantaged high school students in Michigan who select Osteopathic Medicine as their profession of choice, and assist in the pre-professional preparation of those interested in the health sciences, specifically by striving to:

- Enhance health career interests of participants
- Increase academic competitiveness of participants
- Provide innovative, challenging and supportive academic and non-academic enrichment activities
- Create and sustain a network of supportive partnerships with schools, philanthropic organizations, and private/public agencies
- Collaborate with MSU Extension to foster MSU's "Land Grant" philosophy
- Foster the pathways to Osteopathic Medicine and other health fields

Description: Participants were instructed in an intensive two-week curriculum in Anatomy/Physiology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics, Writing, and ACT Prep. Outside

the classroom, numerous enrichment and development sessions were presented. The Osteopathic philosophy of practice was introduced through instruction in hands-on physical and structural examination skills, including practice with basic medical instruments. High-powered outside speakers addressed a variety of pre-college topics aimed at higher education preparedness, particularly for those at risk or who are first generation college-bound. Intentional contact time during the full program totaled 77 hours of planned educational and enhancement activities.

Paid employees of OsteoCHAMPS 2012 included 13 in-residence staff, seven contracted instructor and two undergraduate research assistants. Volunteer strength came from 20 MSU faculty, staff and students, plus the faculty program director and coordinator.

Outcomes: Evaluations of the program were resoundingly full of praise. More than 98% of participants assessed the OsteoCHAMPS program as a valuable experience, and an identical percentage reported they now have a more clear idea about their health care career choices. Individual comments included, "This program was very beneficial to my future and very informative," "Anatomy class made me very curious which made me want to learn more." "I saw how Osteopathic physicians interact with and treat their patients. This has helped me decide to attend an Osteopathic medical school." "I saw people just like me ready to accept the challenge and go into medicine." Evaluations by instructors and in-residence employees confirmed the findings of the participants, that OsteoCHAMPS was a very productive investment of time that opened minds to medicine and established support networks to build successful futures.

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