



The Workup

News from the halls of academic medicine & health sciences

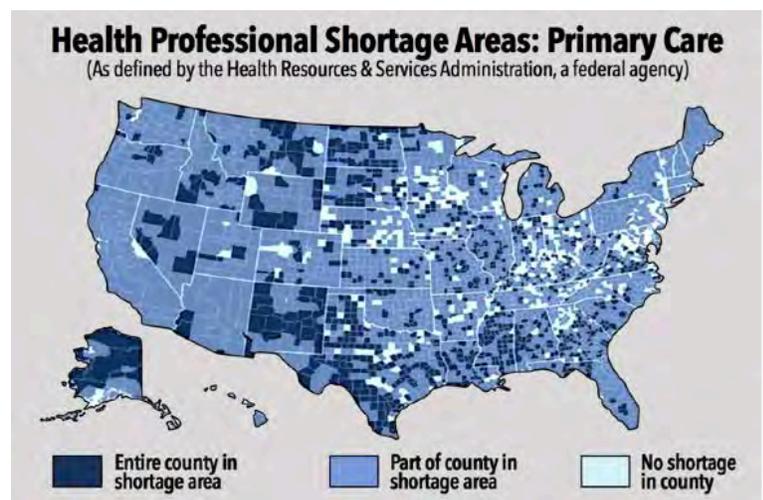
January 2020

Headlines

Rural America remains underrepresented in U.S. medical programs

Fewer students from rural America are gaining admission to the nation's medical schools. A study published earlier this month in the journal *Health Affairs* found that just 4.3 percent of the students who entered U.S. medical schools in 2017 hailed from rural areas — down a whopping 28 percent from 15 years earlier. Given that physicians tend to practice where they grew up, the numbers suggest that a chronic shortage of medical services in rural communities is likely to worsen. “To date, medical schools’ efforts to recognize and value a rural background have been insufficient to stem the decline in the number of rural medical students,” wrote the study’s authors, researchers at the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC). “Policymakers and other stakeholders should recognize the exacerbated risk to rural access created by this trend. Efforts to reinforce the rural pipeline into medicine warrant further investment and ongoing evaluation.”

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Morgan State University

Morgan State President David Wilson, EdD, says a medical school would be a good fit for his campus. "This is a unique opportunity not only to further the progress happening at Morgan but to do so in a way that could also reap huge benefits for the city of Baltimore, the State and the nation," he says.

Morgan State seeks to become first HBCU with a for-profit med school

Morgan State University's governing board has signed a letter of intent to work with a private company that wants to open a for-profit medical school on the university's Baltimore, Maryland, campus — perhaps as soon as 2023. The proposed College of Osteopathic Medicine would be the first new medical school at a historically black institution in nearly 45 years and the first-ever osteopathic medical school at an HBCU, university officials said, adding that the school would help address a nationwide shortage of physicians, especially black physicians. The company, Salud Education, would cover the school's startup costs, estimated to be \$120 million to \$130 million, Morgan State spokesperson Larry Jones told *Education Dive*. Salud also would develop the curriculum, hire the dean and faculty, and then operate the school. If built, the school would have to navigate a lengthy accreditation process. One key step would be gaining approval from the Maryland Higher Education Commission — no slam dunk given that Baltimore already has two well-regarded medical schools: the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and the University of Maryland School of Medicine. Both are nonprofit. [READ MORE](#)

University of Illinois med students will pay less, starting next fall

Bucking a national trend, the University of Illinois College of Medicine will reduce tuition for all students. Starting with the 2020-21 academic year, tuition rates will decrease by 2.1 percent for in-state students and 16 percent for out-of-state students. "As we considered the rising debts faced by medical students both here and across the country, we felt it was critical to take this measure," said the college's executive dean, Mark Rosenblatt, MD, PhD, MBA. "The decision to reduce tuition is not something we commonly see from institutions of higher education. However, this move will help ensure that our College of Medicine continues to attract and educate the brightest and most diverse students." Under the fee schedule approved earlier this month by the University of Illinois board of trustees, an out-of-state medical student would save more than \$60,000 over four years. [READ MORE](#)



The Harvard-led study was not designed to examine why patients were less satisfied with the care they received at merged hospitals. The researchers, however, found that the decline in patient-experience scores was most pronounced at hospitals acquired by hospitals that already had poor reputations. The correlation led the researchers to a rather unsettling conclusion: "Acquisitions facilitate the spread of low-quality care but not of high-quality care."

Spate of hospital consolidations failed to improve quality of care, Harvard-led analysis suggests

A recent wave of hospital consolidations failed to deliver the patient-care improvements predicted by merger proponents, a new study suggests. Researchers at Harvard University found that the overall of care at U.S. hospitals acquired between 2009 and 2013 deteriorated or stayed the same. "Our findings call into question claims that hospital mergers are good for patients," said the study's senior author, J. Michael McWilliams, MD, PhD, the Warren Alpert Foundation Professor of Health Care Policy in the Blavatnik Institute at Harvard Medical School (HMS). The findings were published earlier this month in the *New England Journal of Medicine*. To gauge the impact of hospital mergers on quality of care, researchers from HMS and the Harvard Business School examined patient



J. Michael McWilliams

outcomes from 246 hospital mergers that took place during the four years covered by the study. Using data collected by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, they analyzed variables such as mortality and 30-day readmission rates among patients discharged from the hospital, as well as several clinical measures, including the timely antibiotic treatment of patients with bacterial pneumonia. The researchers also factored in patient experiences — determined by their responses on post-discharge satisfaction surveys. Those results were then compared with the data for hospitals that didn't undergo mergers. The verdict? Consolidation did not improve hospital performance, and patient-experience scores deteriorated somewhat after the mergers. "Since our study estimated the average effects of mergers, we can't rule out the possibility that some mergers are good for patient care," said study co-author Nancy Beaulieu, PhD, research associate in health care policy at HMS. "But this evidence should give us pause when considering arguments for hospitals mergers." [READ MORE](#)

Des Moines makes mental-health training a requirement

Des Moines University (DMU), the nation's second-oldest osteopathic medical school, will be the first U.S. medical program to require all of its students to complete a provider education program developed by the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). "All medical schools train students how to diagnose mental illness," officials from the 122-year-old institution said in a news release, "but DMU takes that further by requiring its DO students to recognize mental illness among their patients and then treat them or refer them to appropriate caregivers." DMU initially offered the coursework in 2018 as an elective. As part of the instruction, students hear directly from an individual who's recovering from mental illness, from someone with a relative or close friend who's battling mental illness, and from a healthcare provider who's experienced in the treatment of mental illness. The goal is to reduce the stigma surrounding mental illness. "I find it vital for future caregivers to be better informed of the personal and familial aspects of these conditions," said DMU President Angela Walker Franklin, PhD, a clinical psychologist. "Through this course and partnership with NAMI, we set a standard that all patients, regardless of their presenting conditions, will be treated with the same level of respect and understanding." [READ MORE](#)



University of South Florida

Dignitaries celebrate the opening of USF Health's Morsani College of Medicine and Heart Institute in Tampa.

USF Health opens \$173 million medical tower in downtown Tampa

The University of South Florida's new medical "campus" — a 13-story, 395,000-square-foot tower in downtown Tampa — welcomed students earlier this month. The USF Health Morsani College of Medicine and Heart Institute, which cost \$173 million to build, bears the name of philanthropists Carol and Frank Morsani, who donated \$20 million for the facility. "It is our bold vision to be national leaders in collaboration and innovation, training the next generation of physicians and pioneering world-changing discoveries," Charles J. Lockwood, MD, dean of the college and senior vice president for USF Health, said at a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The tower will anchor Tampa Bay's Water Street District, a \$3 billion redevelopment project spearheaded by billionaire investor Jeff Vinik, owner of the NHL's Tampa Bay Lightning. [READ MORE](#)

“How to deliver expanded research opportunities at medical institutions”



Jeffrey Joyce, PhD

Senior associate dean for research and graduate programs at Florida State University



RECENT INNOVATORS PODCASTS

- “Tearing down walls – one relationship at a time,” featuring Raquel Tamez, JD, CEO of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers [LISTEN](#)
- “The role of the land-grant university,” featuring Susan Fritz, PhD, executive vice president and provost of the University of Nebraska [LISTEN](#)
- “Beware of the weakest link: Global food security depends on a sound supply chain,” featuring Eleftherios Iakovou, PhD, director of manufacturing and logistics innovation initiatives at Texas A&M’s Engineering Experiment Station [LISTEN](#)
- “One Health: the *other* universal healthcare,” featuring Michael D. Lairmore, DVM, PhD, dean of the University of California-Davis School of Veterinary Medicine [LISTEN](#)
- “Attracting international students to U.S. engineering programs,” featuring Leo Kempel, PhD, dean of the College of Engineering at Michigan State University [LISTEN](#)
- “The importance of partnerships in academia and healthcare,” featuring Charles Taylor, PharmD, provost and executive vice president of academic affairs at the University of North Texas [LISTEN](#)
- “Artificial intelligence and precision medicine,” featuring Douglas Miller, MD, MBA, founder and CEO of Cognitive Diagnosis [LISTEN](#)

In Transition



Tracy Arnold, DNP, RN, has been appointed dean of the Hunt School of Nursing at North Carolina's Gardner-Webb University. Arnold succeeds Nicole Waters, DNP, RN, who will continue to serve the university as associate provost of the College of Health Sciences. Arnold joined Gardner-Webb's faculty in 2010 after spending eight years at an area medical center.



Dori Borjesson, DVM, PhD, chair of the Department of Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology at the University of California-Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, has been named dean of the Washington State University College of Veterinary Medicine, effective July 20. Borjesson succeeds Bryan Slinker, DVM, PhD, who's currently serving as Washington State's interim provost.



Ronald S. Brookmeyer, PhD, a professor of biostatistics and interim dean of UCLA's Fielding School of Public Health since November 2018, has been named to the post permanently. Prior to joining UCLA's faculty in 2010, Brookmeyer spent 29 years at the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health, where he was a professor of biostatistics and epidemiology.



Nicoleta Bugnariu, PhD, MBA, vice provost for community engagement and service at the University of North Texas Health Science Center in Fort Worth, has been named founding dean of the School of Health Sciences at University of the Pacific. She will start June 1. The school, located in Sacramento, California, will offer accelerated master's degrees in clinical nutrition, nursing, and social work.



Laurie Carbo-Porter, PhD, RN, has been named dean of nursing at Maria College in Albany, New York. Carbo-Porter has been a registered nurse for more than 30 years and a higher-education administrator for more than 20 years. Before joining Maria College, she held leadership positions at several postsecondary institutions, including Excelsior College and at SUNY Empire State College.



Wei Chao, MD, PhD, the Dean's Endowed Professor in Anesthesiology and vice chair for translational research at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, has been named co-director of the school's Shock, Trauma and Anesthesiology Research (STAR) Center. Chao had been an associate director. He was recruited from Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School in 2016.



Alan I. Faden, MD, the David S. Brown Professor in Trauma at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, has given up the directorship of the school's Shock, Trauma and Anesthesiology Research (STAR) Center. Faden, who had led the center since its founding 10 years ago, will expand his role as associate dean for trans-campus research advancement.



Forrest Faison III, MD, former surgeon general of the U.S. Navy, has been named senior vice president for research and innovation and chief healthcare strategy officer at Cleveland State University. Faison, a board-certified pediatrician who concluded his four-decade Navy career as a vice admiral, will start his new job on March 1.



Diana M. Fernández-Santos, EdD, has been named interim dean of the Universidad Central del Caribe School of Medicine in Bayamón, Puerto Rico. Besides holding positions as a researcher, epidemiologist, and curriculum specialist, Fernández-Santos is principal investigator for the Data Management and Statistical Research Support Unit. She succeeds Jose Ginel Rodriguez, MD, dean since 2003.



Adrian Gardner, MD, has been named associate dean for global health at the Indiana University School of Medicine, effective February 1. Gardner joined the school in 2012 as executive field director of the AMPATH Consortium, which provides comprehensive healthcare to 8 million people in western Kenya. In his new position, Gardner also will serve as director of the IU Center for Global Health.



M. Daniel Givens, DVM, PhD, has been appointed dean of the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine, effective in June. Givens is currently associate dean for academic affairs and professor of pathobiology at the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine. He is also a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Microbiologists and the American College of Theriogenologists.



Lionel Green-Thompson, MBChB, PhD, has been appointed dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences at South Africa's University of Cape Town, effective March 15. Green-Thompson is currently dean of the Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University in Gauteng, South Africa. He previously held several posts in the School of Medicine at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa.



Jay Harmon, PhD, has been named associate dean for extension and outreach programs and director of agriculture and natural resources extension in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Iowa State University. A faculty member since 1993, had been serving in an interim capacity since April 2017, when John Lawrence, PhD, became interim vice president extension and outreach.



Kenneth Harwood, PhD, director of the Health Care Quality Program in Clinical Research and Leadership and research director of the Department of Health, Human Function, and Rehabilitation Sciences at George Washington University, has been named dean of the Malek School of Health Professions at Virginia's Marymount University. He will assume his new responsibilities on July 6.



Robbie Henson, PhD, the Lawrence C. and Marion V. Harris Chair in the College of Nursing at Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee, has been named dean of the program. Henson had been serving in an interim capacity since August. Before joining the academy in 1991, she practiced professionally with healthcare agencies in Oklahoma and Texas.



George M. Hopper, PhD, dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the College of Forest Resources at Mississippi State University, has announced plans to retire by June 30. Hopper, who joined the university in 2005, also leads MSU's Forest and Wildlife Research Center and the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station.



Lara Jehi, MD, has been appointed the inaugural chief research information officer at Cleveland Clinic. Jehi will “establish and oversee a robust research informatics environment to advance biomedical research,” according to a news release. The epilepsy specialist, who joined Cleveland Clinic in 2006, is also a professor of neurology at the Clinic's Lerner College of Medicine.



Marc J. Kahn, MD, MBA, senior associate dean at the Tulane University School of Medicine in New Orleans, will become dean of the UNLV medical school on April 1. Kahn, a hematologist and medical oncologist by training, will succeed John Fildes, MD, a noted trauma surgeon who has been serving in an interim capacity since the school's founding dean, Barbara Atkinson, MD, stepped down in September.



Yoon Kang, MD, director of the Margaret and Ian Smith Clinical Skills Center and an associate professor of medical education at Weill Cornell Medicine, has been named senior associate dean for education. In her new role, Kang will lead the school's Office of Medical Education. She succeeds Barbara Hempstead, MD, PhD, who last year became dean of the Weill Cornell Graduate School of Medical Sciences.



Jessica Kerr, PharmD, has been named associate dean of professional and student affairs at the School of Pharmacy at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. Kerr had been serving in an interim capacity since September 2018. During that time, she established the school's “Rxcellence” program, which encourages high-school students to consider a career in pharmacy.



Rosemary A. Kozar, MD, PhD, professor of surgery and director of translational research at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, has been named co-director of the school's Shock, Trauma and Anesthesiology Research (STAR) Center. Kozar had been an associate director of the center since 2015. She formerly taught at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston.



Sally Lewis, PhD, has been named dean of the college of Health Sciences and Human Services at Tarleton State University, part of the Texas A&M University System. Lewis had been serving in an interim capacity since summer 2018. During Lewis' 13-year tenure as its director, Tarleton's Department of Medical Lab Services and Public Health grew from one program to six.



Chen Liu, MD, PhD, has been named chair of the Department of Pathology at Yale School of Medicine, effective March 1. Liu is currently professor and chair of pathology, immunology, and laboratory medicine at New Jersey Medical School and Robert Wood Johnson Medical School at Rutgers University and chair of the Center for Dermatology at Robert Wood Johnson.



Ellen Lowery, DVM, PhD, MBA, a veterinarian on the faculty of Kansas State University, has been appointed director of Purdue University's Veterinary Teaching Hospital, effective February 1. Before joining Kansas State's faculty, Lowery spent 23 years at Hill's Pet Nutrition, where she held a number of leadership positions, including director of U.S. professional and veterinary affairs.



Thomas J. Lynch Jr., MD, will become president and director of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle. Over a three-decade career in academic medicine, Lynch held leadership posts at the Massachusetts General Physicians Organization, Yale Cancer Center, and Yale's Smilow Cancer Hospital. He was a professor of medicine at Yale and Harvard.



Rae Matsumoto, PhD, dean of the Touro University California College of Pharmacy in Vallejo since 2014. has been named dean of the Thomas J. Long School of Pharmacy at University of the Pacific. She will start July 1. Before joining Touro, Matsumoto was associate dean for research and graduate programs in the School of Pharmacy at West Virginia University.



Mary D. Nettleman, MD, dean of the University of South Dakota's Sanford School of Medicine and the university's vice president for health affairs, has announced plans to step down in July. Before accepting the deanship at South Dakota in 2012, Nettleman taught in the medical schools at Michigan State University, Virginia Commonwealth University, and the University of Iowa.



Ruby L. Perry, DVM, dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine at Tuskegee University, is serving as acting president of the university while President Lily McNair, PhD, is on medical leave. University officials said McNair is expected to be away most of the spring semester. Perry, who earned two degrees at Tuskegee, joined the university's faculty in 2007.



Paul Phillips, MD, has been appointed chair of the Department of Ophthalmology in the College of Medicine and director of the Harvey & Bernice Jones Eye Institute at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. Phillips, who joined the school's faculty in 1997, succeeds Christopher Westfall, who stepped down as chair of the department in August 2018 to become dean of the College of Medicine.



Mikhail Pletnikov, MD, PhD, a professor of psychiatry, neuroscience, and molecular and comparative pathobiology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, has been named professor and chair of the Department of Physiology and Biophysics in the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at the University at Buffalo. He will start on July 1.



William A. Prescott, Jr., PharmD, has been appointed chair of the Department of Pharmacy Practice in the University at Buffalo School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. Prescott, who joined the school's faculty in 2004 and earned a promotion to clinical professor in 2018, had been serving as the department's interim chair since 2017.



Vicki Rosen, PhD, a professor and chair of developmental biology at Harvard University's School of Dental Medicine, has been named the school's interim dean. Rosen joined Harvard's faculty in 2001 after serving as a scientist at the biotech company Genetics Institute. Besides serving as a department chair, she co-leads the school's PhD program in biological sciences.



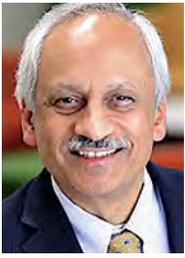
Taya Jackson Scott, EdD, former chief administrative officer and chief of staff at the Morehouse School of Medicine, has been named vice dean of the Gillings School of Global Public Health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She succeeds Todd Nicolet, PhD, who last spring became the university's vice provost for digital and lifelong learning.



Mark Schweitzer, MD, chair of the Department of Radiology at New York's Stony Brook University School of Medicine, has been named dean of the Wayne State University School of Medicine and vice president of health affairs. Schweitzer assumes his new role on April 27, succeeding Jack Sobel, MD, who announced last year that he'd relinquish the deanship to focus on research and patient care.



Debra A. Schwinn, MD, a professor of anesthesia, pharmacology, and biochemistry and former dean of the Carver College of Medicine at the University of Iowa, where she was also associate vice president for medical affairs, has been named the ninth president of Florida's Palm Beach Atlantic University. She succeeds William M.B. Fleming Jr., PhD, who is retiring in June.



Anantha Shekhar, MD, PhD, executive associate dean for research affairs at the Indiana University School of Medicine, has been named senior vice chancellor for the health sciences and dean of the School of Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh. Shekhar will start in June. He succeeds Arthur S. Levine, MD, who has led Pitt's medical program for more than two decades.



Riyi Shi, MD, PhD, professor of neuroscience in Purdue University's Department of Basic Medical Sciences, has been named director of the Center for Paralysis Research in Purdue's College of Veterinary Medicine. The appointment took effect last month. Shi, a member of Purdue's faculty for more than 20 years, initially trained to be an orthopedic surgeon specializing in spinal cord injuries.



Misty M. Stutz, PharmD, has been named dean of the Sullivan University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences in Louisville, Kentucky. Since joining Sullivan in 2008, Stutz has held several positions, including chair of clinical and administrative sciences. She succeeds Cindy D. Stowe, PharmD, who left Sullivan to become dean of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences College of Pharmacy.



Daniel Thomson, DVM, PhD, the Jones Professor of Production Medicine and Epidemiology at Kansas State University's College of Veterinary Medicine and founder of the school's Beef Cattle Institute, has been named chair of the Department of Animal Science at Iowa State University. Thomson will start on April 6. He succeeds Donald Beermann, PhD, who retired earlier this month.



Marilyn J. Wells, PhD, has been named chancellor of Penn State Brandywine. Before assuming the role this month, the health educator was provost and senior vice president for academic affairs at Minnesota State University, Mankato. At Penn State Brandywine, she succeeds Kirstin Woolever, PhD, who retired in July. Cynthia Lightfoot, PhD, director of academic affairs, had been serving as interim chancellor.



Aaron Yancoskie, DDS, has been appointed assistant dean for academic affairs at the Touro College of Dental Medicine in Hawthorne, New York. In that role, he will oversee pre-clinical education. Yancoskie has been a member of Touro's faculty since the school's inception in 2016, serving as associate professor of dental medicine and as director of oral and maxillofacial pathology.



John Yoo, MD, will become dean of Western's University's Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry in London, Ontario, on May 1. Yoo, a member of Western's faculty since 1997, succeeds Michael Strong, MD, who left Schulich in October 2018 to become president of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Davy Cheng, MD, has been acting dean of the medical school since Strong's departure.

Our headlines

University at Buffalo enlists Harris Search Associates to guide the search for the director of the school's Institute for Computational Data Sciences

Harris Search Associates recruits North Carolina Central University's Mildred A. Pointer, PhD, as chair of the Department of Biology at Howard University

University of North Texas Health Science Center turns to Harris Search Associates to find its next associate dean for academic affairs

Harris Search Associates recruits Michael Markiewicz, DDS, MD, as chair of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the University at Buffalo

Harris Search Associates recruits Ernest Minton, PhD, as dean of agriculture and director of research and extension at Kansas State University

Harris Search Associates recruits William A. Prescott Jr., PharmD, as chair of the Department of Pharmacy Practice at the University at Buffalo



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Last word



Of course you want to be the best football player. You want to be the best doctor. But to be able to combine both, at the highest level — I think *that's* my biggest accomplishment."

— **Laurent Duvernay-Tardif**, 6-foot-5, 320-pound offensive lineman for the NFL's Kansas City Chiefs and the first medical doctor to play in the Super Bowl, telling *People* magazine about his seemingly incompatible dual careers



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