COLLEGE OF MEDICINE ORGANIZATIONS

American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)
The American Academy of Family Physicians is a national professional organization which offers student membership to medical students and residents interested in family practice. The AAFP seeks to keep students informed of developments in the profession through national meetings and through its publications. Its Nebraska chapter investigates problems and answers specific questions for family practice students in the state. Membership applications can be obtained from the Department of Family Practice, Dr. Paul Paulman.

Alpha Omega Alpha, Alpha of Nebraska
To be “Worthy to serve the suffering” Alpha Omega Alpha, “AOA,” is a non-secret national honor medical society in which membership is based upon scholarship and moral qualities. The University Of Nebraska College Of Medicine Chapter was organized November 2, 1914, and has grown to more than 800 members. The aim of the society is to recognize qualities of scholastic excellence, integrity, leadership, compassion and fairness. Nominations are limited to College of Medicine students who rank scholastically in the upper one-fourth of their class, but the number of new members may not exceed one-sixth of the class. Elections are held in the fall, with initiation in the spring. As a major campus organization, AOA sponsors at least one annual convocation by a prominent visiting lecturer and participates in various other programs.

American Medical Student Association (AMSA)
Over half of the students enrolled in the College of Medicine belong to the Nebraska Chapter of the American Medical Student Association. AMSA addresses itself to the special needs of medical students and to the general goal of improving health care in the United States. AMSA provides the student with an excellent opportunity to broaden the scope of his/her medical education. The organization provides members with group health and life insurance options as well as its informative publication, The New Physician. The MECO (Medical Education and Community Orientation) project is a nation-wide service sponsored by AMSA which places pre-clinical medical students with physicians and hospitals in communities throughout the state. There is a one-time membership fee of $60.00.

American Medical Women’s Association (AMWA)
The American Medical Women’s Association (AMWA) is a national forum for women physicians and medical students. The UNMC student chapter’s role is to bring together medical students and physicians, to promote their training and education, and to encourage women to practice and study medicine. Activities include peer support sessions, guest speakers, discussion groups, social gatherings and educational outreach programs.

Internal Medicine Interest Group
This organization is designed to inform medical students about career opportunities in the field of Internal Medicine, including the many subspecialty options that currently exist. Students are invited to attend monthly lunch meetings with guest speakers from the various specialty areas. The residency selection process may also be discussed.

Luikart Society
Luikart Society is designed for medical students and residents who are interested in the field of OB-GYN, as well as women’s health. Opportunities include monthly meetings, local community service projects, and attending regional/national conferences. Meetings include procedure nights, speakers, and preparing for the residency process. Combined meetings and community service projects are held with the Creighton Medical School interest group as well. The Luikart Society is a wonderful chance to connect with fellow students, as well as UNMC residents and faculty to help further one’s interest in the field, in order to possibly decide on a future in women’s health.

Organization of Student Representatives (OSR)
The OSR, established by action of the Assembly of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), provides a mechanism for making student opinion known to the AAMC. Students have two votes on the AAMC Executive Council and are recommended to Standing Committees. An elected representative from the University Of Nebraska College Of Medicine attends the AAMC Annual Meeting and the annual regional meeting of the Group on Student Affairs.

Phi Chi
Phi Chi Medical Fraternity is the oldest and largest medical fraternity in the nation. Chartered November 6, 1916, Upsilon Nu chapter at UNMC has a rich professional and social tradition. The official objectives of Phi Chi are the promotion of the art and science of medicine and the development of a kindred feeling among those in the profession. The chapter house, located at 3708 Dewey, is the old and elegant Metz mansion and will house 30 members comfortably. Membership is open to all medical students at UNMC and out-of-house membership is encouraged and rewarding. Phi Chi will consider requests of other UNMC organizations to use the house for special functions.

Phi Rho Sigma Medical Society
Phi Rho Sigma Medical Society is an international coeducational social fraternity for medical students. We are a community of alumni and students committed to academic excellence, community service, and strong social bonds. The Iota chapter at UNMC is one of the largest chapters in the entire nation. There is no chapter house to upkeep so all member proceeds go towards the social and philanthropic functions of the medical society.

Plastic Surgery Interest Group
The Plastic Surgery Interest Group seeks to promote interest in the field of plastic surgery and to increase education related to plastic surgery. For those students interested in plastic surgery, effort is made to make students competitive applicants for residency. This is done by establishing working relationships with plastic surgery faculty, increasing student surgical exposure, and promoting research and publications. The plastic surgery interest group also strives to promote camaraderie among the students involved in the group.

Primary Care Progress (PCP)
Primary Care Progress is a chapter of the national nonprofit comprised of a network of medical providers, health professional trainees, policy pundits, advocates, and educators united by a new vision for revitalizing the primary care workforce pipeline through interprofessional collaboration and strategic local advocacy that promotes primary care and transforms care delivery and training in academic settings. UNMC’s chapter is special because it is truly interprofessional, with student leaders from multiple sectors of the healthcare field.

Psychiatry Interest Group
Psychiatry Interest Group is an organization for those medical students interested in the field of psychiatry. The organization holds monthly lunch meetings that feature speakers on various topics related to psychiatry and mental health. The group helps students explore career opportunities and encourages student-faculty relationships by hosting an annual mentorship dinner with the psychiatry faculty and providing information related to local and national scholarships and programs. The group also provides supplemental opportunities for psychiatric clinical care through its collaboration with the SHARING Clinic to have psychiatry available at the Clinic one week per month.

Psychiatry Club
The purpose of this organization is to:

1. Establish and maintain a multi-disciplinary support group
2. Act as a vehicle for exploring career opportunities in the field of psychiatry
3. Obtain and make available reference materials for medical students and future psychiatry residents
4. Provide additional opportunities in exploring psychiatry other than those offered in the medical school curriculum

Residency Roundtable
Residency Roundtable is an organization that aims to introduce and inform medical students about career opportunities in a variety of medical specialties. This group hosts monthly lunch meetings with residents from a variety of fields, especially those that do not have interest groups of their own. Residents discuss their path toward choosing a specialty and their experience as a current resident at UNMC.

Shadow a Medical Student Program
The Shadow a Medical Student Program, started in 2011, gives approximately 50 undergraduate students around the state of Nebraska the opportunity to shadow first-year medical students at UNMC. Undergraduate students are paired with a medical student for the academic year, and shadow during lectures, anatomy labs, PBL small groups, and ICE sessions. This program is designed to give undergraduate students the opportunity to obtain a first-hand experience of what medical school is like and to ask questions to obtain more detailed information.

Student Chapter of the Nebraska Medical Association
The student chapter of the Nebraska Medical Association was organized during the 1971-72 academic year. Students are eligible to serve on state-wide committees and to participate in various aspects of organized medicine in Nebraska. In addition, students are able to elect two voting delegates to the semi-annual business sessions of the Association. Annual dues are $15. Each member receives the Nebraska Medical Journal and the regular mailings of the Association.

Student Delegates
Student Delegates is a grassroots advocacy program comprised of a network of people interested in receiving state and federal legislative updates, and willing to advocate on issues of importance to UNMC. We exist to empower students to support and strengthen UNMC’s academic programs and research by influencing public policy through effective communication to Nebraska’s federal and state delegations in regards to issues that affect UNMC. On a limited basis, the Delegates will be called upon to contact Nebraska state legislators and U.S. congressmen concerning urgent and important issues.

Students can stay updated through us on Twitter @UNMCStuDelegate or visit our webpage http://www.unmc.edu/govtrelations/unmcedelegates.htm.

Student National Medical Association (SNMA)
Patterned after the national organization, the UNMC Chapter of the Student National Medical Association (SNMA) is dedicated to the concerns of ethnic minority health care professionals. It seeks to nurture a general social awareness of these concerns and to develop leadership capabilities and standards of excellence for minority physicians. During the past few years, UNMC members of SNMA have had a strong voice in SNMA policy-making by attending national and regional meetings and hosting the 1989 Region II Convention. The UNMC chapter has shown its commitment to community service by involvement in such programs as the Health Fair of the Midlands, American Red Cross and Omaha Boys Club. Membership in this organization is open to any student interested in issues confronting ethnic minorities in the medical profession.

Surgery Interest Group
SIG is an organization designed for medical students interested in practicing surgery and wanting to learn a wide variety of surgical practices and professions. Medical students involved with SIG are invited to attend lunch meetings one to two times per month, which showcase presentations from a practicing surgeon. Each meeting has a different surgeon presenting to the members of SIG, thus exposing medical students to the many different surgical subspecialties including: cardiac thoracic, orthopedic, pediatric surgery, plastic surgery, and more. Some presentations are strategically planned to correlate with what students are learning in class at the time of the SIG meeting, thus giving students a real-life application to helping patients in a surgical manner. SIG provides this fantastic opportunity to give insight to many different surgical practices and also helps students interested in surgery become prepared for summer rural surgical rotation. SIG hosts a suturing workshop to teach medical students to become experts in the art of suturing so they are fully prepared for their surgery summer block. Lunch meetings are also designated to educate medical students on preparing to be the best applicants possible when applying for residency.

The Catholic Medical Association Student Section (CMA-SS)
The Catholic Medical Association Student Section seeks to support and empower students of medicine and other health professions in their formation as Catholic health care providers. As an integral part of the Catholic Medical Association, students have the opportunity to work with members of the CMA, both on local and national levels, who can provide guidance and mentoring for students through the challenges of being a Catholic and living out this calling.

The Pathology Interest Group
The Pathology Interest Group hosts meetings and lectures about all aspects of the practice of pathology. Previous topics have included the clinical diagnosis of indolent disease, forensic science, and laboratory-based methodologies of characterization and diagnosis of cancer, and procedure practices are hosted as well. Additionally, we help administer the High School Alliance anatomy and basic science courses. Pathology residents and practicing physicians give the lectures and regularly attend meetings.

UNMC Musical Society
UNMC Musical Society is open to anyone affiliated with UNMC, which includes students, faculty, and staff. Our purpose is to provide members with an opportunity to take a break from their stressful lives and make some music, as well as to provide music for UNMC events. The organization includes an instrumental, as well as a vocal group, both
of which meet Monday evenings for rehearsal. We have performed at multiple UNMC events, including Spirit Week, Culture Fest, and the Anatomical Gift Memorial Service, and we also hold concerts in the winter and the spring. Membership requires an annual payment of $10.00, which goes toward the purchase of music and other necessities.

Wilderness Medical Society
The purpose of this organization is to offer medical students and faculty information about the practice of Wilderness Medicine, which is a subspecialty of Emergency Medicine. Monthly meetings include guest lectures, slide shows, and video presentations.