



SHARING DISCOVERIES THAT MAKE
DOCTORS AND PATIENTS EVERYWHERE BETTER

MEDICAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Supporting the next generation of physicians

While students who choose UC Davis School of Medicine bring a rich diversity in backgrounds, experiences and educational interests, all share one common denominator: a passion for advancing health in the community and around the globe.

UC Davis recruits the best and brightest students with the drive and commitment to become exceptional clinicians, innovative scientists and leaders in their fields of study. The school's superior curriculum prepares them to develop independent, critical thinking and patient-care expertise that will help them face tomorrow's health-care challenges head-on.

However, the first challenge confronting medical students today is not a health-care issue, but a colossal financial burden. Declining federal and state education funding – which contributes to tuition hikes – poses enormous obstacles to medical schools and their students. To help alleviate the high debt medical students face upon graduation, UC Davis School of Medicine has embarked on an effort to establish a substantial scholarship endowment that will provide students with much-needed monetary support.

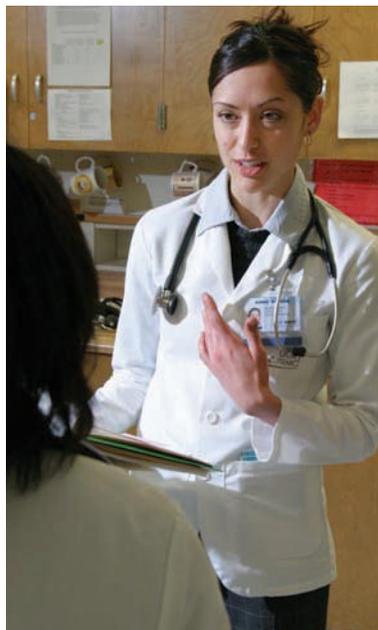
Scholarships and other tuition assistance can be critical recruitment tools for universities as students often are attracted to schools that have the capacity to provide financial support. Older medical

schools with established endowments have the means to offer scholarships that younger institutions like UC Davis struggle to provide. This is a particular challenge for UC Davis since nearly a quarter of its medical students come from backgrounds in which financial resources are extremely limited. Add an average post-graduation student loan debt of nearly \$80,000 and it becomes clear that scholarships are a crucial part of the School of Medicine's efforts to recruit and retain the very best students.

Scholarships can play an important role in the improved quality of life in Northern California, as many UC Davis graduates give back by practicing in underserved communi-

ties or in the public sector. Some bring their expertise to rural areas such as California's Central Valley, where advanced, specialized medical care is less accessible. Others serve in the military, providing top-notch medical care to veterans and those on active duty. A number will become leaders in research, possibly developing a life-saving vaccine, finding a cure for cancer or unraveling the mysteries of autism.

Please join UC Davis in supporting its students by making a philanthropic contribution to its scholarship initiative. It is only through private support that the school can build a sizeable scholarship endowment for the next generation of medical students.



Medical Student

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



TANISHA SILAS

Second-year medical student

Raised by her single father in a socio-economically disadvantaged neighborhood in Northern California, Tanisha saw firsthand the results of limited health-care access. She decided at a young age to dedicate her life to caring for the medically underserved. Tanisha received a partial undergraduate track scholarship from UC Davis and excelled in the sport at the national level. After graduating with honors with a degree in physiology, she sought a medical education at the UC Davis School of Medicine. The financial reality of such a pursuit quickly set in when tuition increased 125 percent during her first two years as a medical student. “Most of my classmates may graduate with over \$100,000 in debt,” she says. “It has always been my goal to graduate with half of this figure due to my career plans – working in an underserved area.” Tanisha received a partial medical scholarship from a UC Davis advisory group that will put her on the path toward meeting that goal. She believes the scholarship will make her less likely to feel pressure to pursue “more lucrative, less altruistic and less rewarding” specialties.



RAYMOND BERNAL

Third-year medical student

Ray was raised abroad and is the first member of his family to enter medical school. While an undergraduate at UCLA, he spent much of his time volunteering at community clinics and enrolling the working poor into a healthy families program. He also supported

indigent communities as a volunteer for the Flying Samaritans, which operates free medical clinics in Baja California, Mexico. As a UC Davis School of Medicine student, Ray has continued his volunteer service at the student-run Paul Hom Asian Clinic. A scholarship is helping him graduate with less debt. “With the rising cost of tuition, I am fortunate to have received scholarship support,” he says. “It came at a time when I needed it most – when I was interviewing all over the country in hopes of securing a residency in urology.” Ray plans to devote a significant amount of his career to service abroad and locally underserved areas. The scholarship also has inspired him to one day give back to medical students in financial straits.



**LAETITIA POISSON
DE SOUZY**

Third-year medical student

A French immigrant who, along with her mother, escaped an abusive father when she was just 8 years old, Laetitia never imagined that she would one day be fortunate enough to attend college, let alone medical school. After earning an undergraduate degree at UC Santa Cruz, she worked for Planned Parenthood and the California Prevention and Education Center, where she provided safer sex education and STD/HIV testing to young women. Laetitia entered the UC Davis School of Medicine to pursue her distinct passion for advocating for women’s health. Though small, a \$700 scholarship bolstered her commitment to her studies and gave her renewed energy to continue her pursuits. “It is a symbol of hope. Encouragements of my advocacy work are priceless,” she says. “I will certainly give back to young people when I am able.”



ADAM POMERLEAU

Second-year medical student

Raised and educated in Sweden much of his life, California-born Adam had wanted to be a doctor for as long as he could remember. It was a ninth-grade internship in a Stockholm hospital's orthopaedic ward that solidified

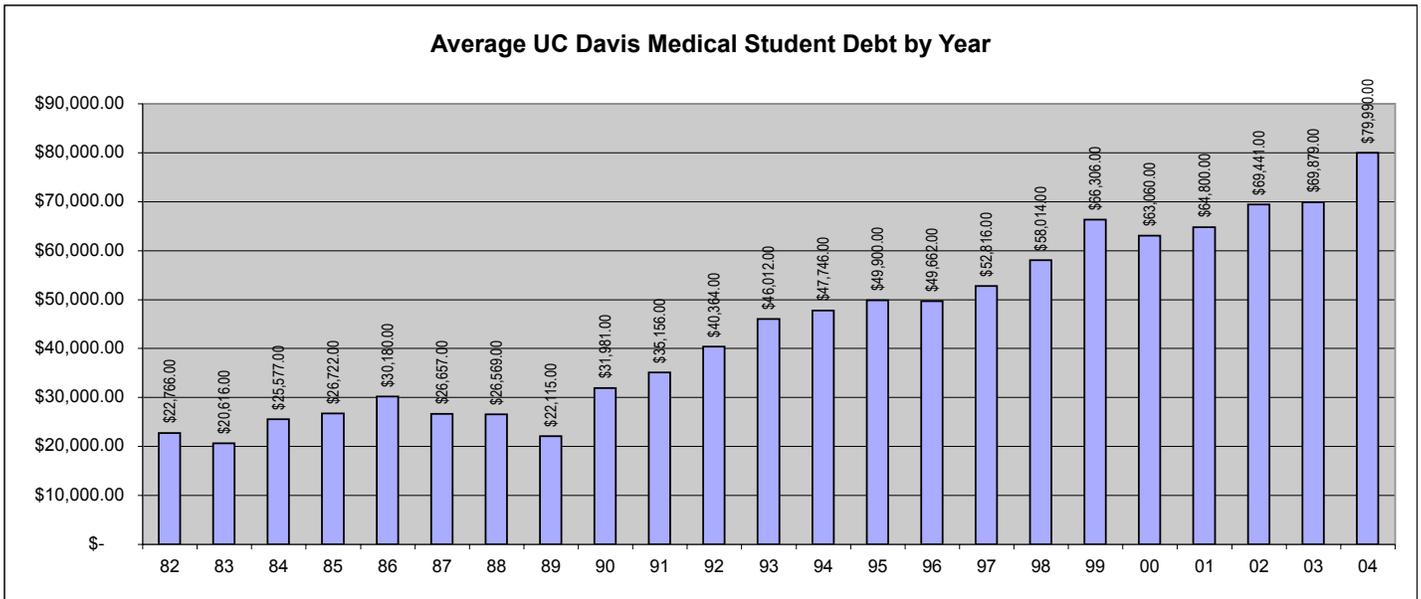
his decision to study medicine. A \$5,000 Alumni Scholarship has helped him to do so. "It eliminated all of the unsubsidized loans that I had borrowed for the first year of medical school – making the award even more valuable than its face value by the amount of interest that would have accrued on the loans," Adam says. Moreover,

the scholarship was the impetus for Adam to apply for other support. "My confidence was boosted. I felt I could measure up against other applicants," he says. Adam plans to practice medicine in developing countries, starting in Nicaragua through UC Davis' Medical Intercultural Opportunities for Students project, which gives students firsthand exposure to foreign culture, language and medical practice.

PUTTING IT INTO PERSPECTIVE

The Long-Term Cost of Medical Education

- A UC Davis medical education currently costs \$162,566 for four years
- Students pay an average of \$40,642 per year
- Out-of-state students pay an additional \$12,245 per academic year



HELPING MEDICAL STUDENTS REACH THEIR POTENTIAL

Vision and Needs

To help defray or even eliminate debt from medical education, UC Davis School of Medicine seeks \$20 million for scholarship endowments. What kind of impact would this level of support have on its students?

By example, a \$20 million scholarship endowment generating \$1 million interest income (based on 5 percent annual return on investment) would enable the School of Medicine to offer a range of options.

It can provide:

- A full year of tuition for 25 students
- Four years of tuition for six students
- \$2,500 in support for each of the school's medical students

A gift to fund the UC Davis medical student scholarship endowment will have an enduring impact, since annual income from the principal investment will provide financial support in perpetuity. That means future generations of medical students will benefit from philanthropic support given today.