

May 2017

# SGA Rounds

Executive Board Student Government Association

Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine

## Letter from the Editor in Chief

By OMS-II Vikisha Hazariwala, Executive SGA Administrator of Public Affairs



ACTIVELY INVOLVED STUDENTS and faculty members are often recognized for their work and awarded for their leadership positions. Election season for the small clubs to the large organizations is coming to an end, and with every transition comes a new team of faces that represents the students' respective communities.

I would like to begin by acknowledging every student in the Steele and Morris auditoriums who works harder every day to become a good doctor—the main reason we are all here today. On that note, I would like to congratulate the fourth-year students on their match into residency. You have helped make NSU-COM what it is today through your dedication over the past four years and continue to serve as inspiration for your junior classmates.

When I look around the classroom, the library, or anywhere where there is a chair and a table, I see my classmates reading, sometimes reading and eating (perfecting the art of multitasking), while never setting their eyes an inch above their computer screens. We study with focus and resilience. We learn with intention. But, we are also human, and we tire, we age, and we need the love and support from our family and friends. We then, simultaneously, face the dilemma of how do we perform well in school while maintaining our own wellness?

Wellness comes in all forms. It is the conversation we have with our parents; it is the late night ice-cream trip; it is a workout at the gym; and it is a supportive or funny text sent to your friend.

I have been reflecting over the past two years at NSU-COM, which has become my second home. I have studied for every exam with two of my closest friends, and we are stronger, smarter, and more equipped with the skill to work together as a team.

My experiences throughout these preclinical years would not have been as rewarding without a supportive network of classmates, faculty members, and friends. To my NSU-COM family, I hope you have also found your network, because we cannot do this alone. To our faculty members, on behalf of my class, thank you for your knowledge, inspiration, and mentorship.

Through this platform, I wish to present to you the perspective of our dean, of students from each class, and of club members who find their balance between medicine and their personal lives. I encourage you to find a mentor, perhaps someone featured in this edition of *SGA Rounds*, with whom you connect and reach out to him or her.

Before I conclude, I would like to thank a few critical people who have helped shape my medical career thus far. To Dr. Traci-lyn Eisenberg, Scott Colton, and Debra Gibbs—thank you for your support and time over the past year in helping bring this newsletter to life. I am forever grateful for your warm hugs and mentorship.

I would also like to recognize the Student Government Association board—Bhavik Gupta, Natalie Negron, Alixandria Fiore, Zach Snow, and Ahmed Salim—for allowing each student to make his or her voice heard, for presenting each student with immense opportunity, and for their humor to lighten the weight on our shoulders.

Without our team, along with each class executive board, we could not have won the 2017 SGA of the Year accolade at the recent NSU STUEY Awards. Most importantly, I would like to thank my family members for their guidance and undying love.

And to everyone who takes the time to read this newsletter, thank you. I look forward to being your editor for another year. Until then, I hope everyone has a wonderful summer.

# Student Government Association Endeavors

## D.O. Day on the Hill

On April 4–5, about 25 first- and second-year medical students marched on Capitol Hill and spoke with their district’s representative and senator to lobby for renewal of graduate medical education and changes in health care.



## National Osteopathic Medicine Week

The current and incoming SGA boards helped celebrate National Osteopathic Medicine week from April 17–21 by hosting a series of events every day. We started the week with a kickoff breakfast and continued with the highly anticipated OMM Hour delivered by the OPP fellows, a “Finding your Balance” wellness talk, and a residency panel “Nuts and Bolts” session. The week ended with a lunch celebration outside Morris Auditorium.



## 2017–2018 SGA Officers Elected

Congratulations to the newly elected officers of the college’s Student Government Association. They will begin their official duties on July 1, 2017.

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# SGA Rounds

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# A Lesson in Humility

By Elaine Wallace, D.O., M.S., M.S., M.S.  
Dean, NSU College of Osteopathic Medicine



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*Proverbs 22:4: The reward for humility and fear of the LORD is riches and honor and life.*

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It is not until you are well into your studies as a medical student that you realize medical school is not solely about learning medicine. It is also about inventing yourself as a physician—putting away the persona of college student and layperson and taking on the cloak of healer.

When you realize this as a student (somewhere around your second or third year), you look around yourself, you consider the traits and attributes of your teachers and administrators, and you make a list of the qualities you want your patients to see in you—the enthusiasm of a Dr. Boesler, the kindness of a Dr. Pandya, the political savvy of a Dr. Howell, the passion of a Dr. Johnson. Each of us selects the mantle of “physician” that

we will wear, tweaking it occasionally throughout our life encounters, but creating a persona that represents you, Dr. NSU-COM graduate.

I have always held honesty and humility as two of the most important traits in my persona, and I have spent a lifetime trying to be a servant to both. Like many, I learned the value of honesty from my parents, and it is a quality that I have found to be vital in patient care. All of my patients have wanted the truth, no matter how difficult that truth was.

One of the truly underemphasized qualities of a doctor is the ability to help your patient understand and live with the truth. This seems to be such a simple task to achieve, but recognize that your patients come to see you because they do not know the truth about their health. They seek your knowledge in helping them understand what the matter is. In some cases, that truth is joyous, but in many cases it is difficult, and sometimes it is devastating.

No matter how hard we attempt to prepare you in medical school for the vicissitudes of patient care, each of you will be moved and changed the first time you tell a patient that he/she is going to die and the first time you sit with a patient during that process. This is an event that will never become second nature throughout your career. You will learn that truth and kindness are the only things that most patients want as they make that last journey from this life.

Humility is a harder quality to develop for many. It is a quality that is easy to lose sight of in our careers, as we are respected by our colleagues in the hospitals and sometimes revered by our patients. The money that our profession affords us, and the social stature that we gain as a result of our jobs, make humility a harder quality to embrace and follow.

I, however, count myself blessed to this day, as I learned humility from the very first patient I ever saw on my third-year rotations. The lesson this patient taught me has been an underpinning of how I have interacted with my profession and my patients until this day. Let me take you there.

On my very first day as a third-year student, I arrived nervous and excited to finally be seeing patients—real patients. I had on my new crisp white coat, my new stethoscope, and shoved into my pocket, my new *Washington Manual*—the Bible of medicine wherein we looked up any answer that eluded us during our hospital shifts before the advent of electronic informational devices.

I was excited when I received my first assignment. I was to do a history and physical on an elderly woman who was in the hospital for dehydration. Then I read the chart and terror set in. This was not just any elderly woman—this patient was an elderly osteopathic physician who I will call Dr. Chapel. I realized that I had no room for error and could not get away with a substandard examination.

I walked into Dr. Chapel’s room, new doctor’s bag in hand, and introduced myself. “Hello, I am student doctor Wallace, and I am here to

examine you, if that's okay with you." From across the room, a diminutive woman sat up with a big smile and said, "Of course, please come in," and it began. I started my history.

I attained the chief complaint, got a thorough history of the complaint, took a detailed family and social history, and then I began the review of systems and focused on her responses. Cardiac: "no problems;" respiratory: "no problems;" HEENT: "nothing with head, ears, or throat, but I have had an enucleation." Okay. The patient had an enucleation. I had no idea what that was. I decided, however, I was going to write "enucleation" down and read up on it so that I knew all about enucleations by the next day.

Then I began my physical exam. Heart rate: rhythm regular without murmurs; lungs clear to auscultation in all fields; abdomen soft without masses. I then took out my ENT kit and began that evaluation. Ears clear; right eye—pupil equal and reactive with clear eye grounds. Left eye, left eye—I could not see a thing. I readjusted my ophthalmoscope to be sure it was working properly and I started again. I could not see a thing, no matter what I did.

That was when my patient said to me, "Student doctor Wallace, did you hear me when I said I had an enucleation?" I replied, "Yes ma'am, I did hear you say that; I wrote it down." She replied, "Student doctor Wallace, do you know what an enucleation is?" Okay, now I was caught with no way out, so I told her the truth. "No ma'am, I do not know what an enucleation is. I wrote it down to look it up this evening and learn about it."

Her response? "Well, student doctor Wallace, an enucleation is when you have an eyeball removed, and currently, you are attempting to look into my glass eye."

Well, there were not a lot of places to go from there. Any preconception that I knew anything about medicine, any confidence I had about all the facts that I had crammed into my head over the past two years, went out the window with a huge whooshing sound. I stood in front of Dr. Chapel embarrassed, feeling foolish, and certainly humbled to recognize how much I did not know about the human body.

I remember, however, that it was this exact moment I learned about personal humility. I felt like a failure, but Dr. Chapel was gracious, and even in her hospital gown, in her hospital bed, dehydrated, she remained an osteopathic teacher. She said, "Thank you for not lying to me. Here, let me show you." At that point, Dr. Chapel removed her glass eyeball and invited

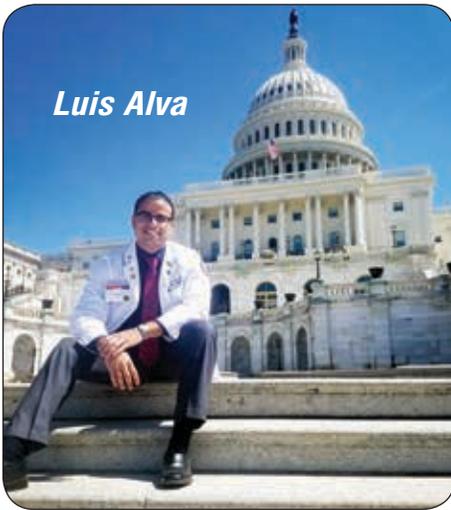
me to examine her eye socket—something I had never done before and have never done since.

When I finished my H&P, I specifically thanked Dr. Chapel for the experience of examining her eye. But, through the years, I have often felt sorry that I did not know to thank her for a much greater lesson that she taught me—to be humble in the face of knowledge. All of our patients are our teachers both in medicine and in value lessons. All of our patients help us to become better doctors and better people. We are all students before this fountain of knowledge.

This is what I offer you—the advice to pay attention everywhere. Learn, grow, and be ever thankful for this wonderful privilege you have been given. Stand up every day as a student and as a servant of medical history and medical knowledge. Be honest; be humble; be a friend to your patients; be the best version of yourself that you can be—and never forget what an enucleation is.



# Students Share Their Perspectives



## The Power of Positive Thinking

By OMS-I Luis Alva  
Class of 2020 SGA President

“Whether you think you can or you can’t—you’re right.” These words of inspiration from Henry Ford introduce the idea that success in any aspect of life is influenced by one’s attitude. The first year of medical school is a test of stamina—trekking along the medical journey with the seemingly oppressive weight of balancing academics with wellness while combating one’s inner thoughts of failing.

This past year has taught me that my attitude toward what I can achieve has directly represented the outcomes on each exam, along with my ability to take on responsibilities. When stress seems like an inescapable albatross, channeling one’s thoughts to a positive attitude has proven to be more productive.

Along the way, you will be presented with windows to focus those

efforts into something meaningful, such as D.O. Day in Washington, D.C. During the midst of exam weeks, D.O. Day on the Hill allowed medical students across the country to engage in a change of environment from their typical campus library to visit our nation’s monumental Capitol. There, we were given the exclusive opportunity to meet with several legislators to discuss topics regarding residencies, teaching health centers in rural areas, grad plus student-loan interest rates, and much more.

It was encouraging to know that Congress listened to our plea and that many supported our cause—making our voice even stronger. This resonated with me into my role as class president, where I am called on to be an exemplary leader for my peers when they are feeling lost or begin to lose hope.

I have also learned that leadership requires not only displaying a high level of equanimity when the waters are calm, but more importantly, during periods of high stress. I challenge those faced with the same obstacles to redirect your attention first to the idea that you can achieve your personal greatness and watch the possibilities unravel.

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## The Servant Leader and the Physician

By OMS-III Bhavik Gupta,  
NSU-COM SGA President

The phrase “servant leadership” was coined by Robert K. Greenlead

in “The Servant as Leader”—an essay he first published in 1970. He defined the servant-leader as follows: “The servant-leader *is* servant first. It begins with the natural feeling that one wants to serve, and serve *first*. That person is sharply different from one who is a leader first, perhaps because of the need to assuage an unusual power drive or to acquire material possessions. The leader-first and the servant-first are two extreme types; between them, there are shadings and blends that are part of the infinite variety of human nature.

“The difference manifests itself in the care taken by the servant-first to make sure that other people’s highest priority needs are being served. The best test, and difficult to administer, is: ‘Do those served grow as persons?’ Do they, *while being served*, become healthier, wiser, freer, more autonomous, more likely themselves to become servants? *And* what is the effect on the least privileged in society? Will they benefit or at least not be further deprived?”

Throughout the course of my medical school career—and to a broader extent my primitive years as a blossoming premed trying to put into words why I wanted to become a physician—I have sought to define the relationship between leadership and doctoring. Many people have this idea that leadership is about titles, positions, and flowcharts. In the medical profession, there are plenty of sought-after titles and positions, as well as countless flowcharts. There

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is, however, one leadership position that is often underutilized and largely unrealized—the physician.

It is my belief that every physician is a leader, whether she or he chooses to accept it or not. I also realize that between servant-first and leader-first, everyone falls somewhere along the spectrum. It can be a conscious choice, but can very well be an inherent trait. However you choose to view this, it is the way others will view you and will ultimately define the type of impact you have on thousands of patients, colleagues, and friends. This ability to impact others is enmeshed in the servant-leader and is the cornerstone for what I believe is the fundamental purpose of leadership.

To me, becoming a physician is not about being God's gift to science and medicine. I'm good at science, but I won't find the cure for the common cold. I wish I could, but it probably won't be me. As a physician, I want to be there for my patients as more than just a source of medical knowledge. I want to be a physician because I understand that behind all the complexities of medicine, there are simple and fundamental remedies for patients. Through adopting servant-leadership, I have just begun to realize what I truly want to accomplish as a physician.

To all my budding physicians, I encourage you to find out what type of leader you want to become and what type of impact you want to have. For me, servant leadership is a philosophy and set of practices that enrich the lives of others, build better teams, and ultimately create a more just and caring world.

## Part One: A Guide to NSU-COM

By OMS-IV Ravi Uppal  
Class of 2017 SGA President

*(Below is the first of a four-part informal and personal series that will be presented throughout the upcoming year in SGA Rounds.)*

*"I'm done."*

Oh, how great it feels to say those two words. Four years! At times, it feels like an eternity. On other days, I reminisce and think about how it all went by too fast. The crazy roller-coaster ride known as medical school is now over, and I get to move on to the next big attraction—residency.

But, before I begin my freak-out for what the next few years have in store for me, I had some time to reflect on my past four years at NSU and share my thoughts, tips, and advice for those still on their journey. I'm not quite sure how many of you will read this and where you are in your journey, so I will keep it chronological.

Just a few general words of advice: Med school is hard. You need to know this going in. You are always studying, always tired, and always stressed. The key is to balance it with other things so that you persevere and get to the other side. It's okay to complain, but don't do it all the time. Try to have a positive outlook. You don't want to be labeled as the Debbie Downer of the class or the guy that argues with everyone and is absolutely miserable.

Although it may seem like it to you at times, the school isn't out to sabotage your medical career. You are

just stressed, and any inconvenience or policy that hinders you slightly will feel disproportionately unfair to you. Take a deep breath and move on. If you really care deeply and want to enact school changes, consider joining the Student Government Association. A few of your ideas may take effect, which would make it worth all the trouble. (Disclaimer: I've been in the SGA for four years, so the Kool-Aid runs deep through my veins).

Alright, on to the real advice.

**Pre-M1:** You have just been accepted to NSU. Yay, life is great.

### **Don't do the following:**

**Pre-study?** It's not worth it. *"But I'm a nontraditional student, and I've been out of the game for a minute."* (Urban dictionary definition of it; "a minute" in cool people lingo means "a very long time") Still not worth it. You will spend two weeks studying what we will cover in one or two days.

*"But I've never taken anatomy before."* Still not worth it, because half your peers haven't either, and you aren't going to remember enough things in the amount of detail needed for it to be worth your while. You will waste your entire summer and gain very minimal results.

**Go on forums and obsess over every aspect of what medical school will be like.** If you are like me and had lots of free time before school starts, you will look for useless things to pass the time. Forums and SDN are NOT the way to go. As a person with over like 1,000 SDN posts, trust me. You will just become more anxious and wound up. Instead, watch a ton



of TV! Netflix through the wazoo! That way you will be all caught up on the shows. Your TV watching skills will become so great that somehow in the future, you will find out a way to binge watch the latest season of *House of Cards* right before finals and boards and still do well.

### Do the Following:

**Buy school supplies.** HIGH-LIGHTERS. Very important. Actually, never mind, we use iPads now. If you really want to prepare for med school in your time off, prepare for the nonacademic rigors of med school. Learn to meal prep, get a gym routine going, and figure out what you will do to help manage your stress. Schedule automatic payments/reminders for all your bills. Finals week is a blur, and you don't want a stupid late payment ruining your credit score.

**Travel.** This is one of the best times to go explore. You are worry-free, and the crippling medical school debt hasn't accumulated yet. If you don't have a baller European budget like some of your elite peers and friends, don't fret—staycations and domestic vacations are great. The national parks are also great and inexpensive. I give a great endorsement of Canada—go visit. The people are super friendly, the place is beautiful, and it's a cheap flight right on over. (Full transparency: I'm Canadian).

# Clubs and Organizations

## Acid Attacks on Indian Women: A Cause Worth Fighting

By OMS-I Jeena Kar, IPOF Historian

On April 5, the NSU-COM Indian Physicians of Florida chapter held its inaugural charity banquet. The event raised more than \$1,400 in donations shared directly with a women's shelter in New Delhi, India, called Chhanv. The IPOF would like to thank every student who attended to support this cause, as well as the several faculty members who attended and offered donations.

The event was unique in that it benefited a lesser known cause—acid

attacks on women in India. At least five women in India have acid thrown on their bodies each week—a statistic that is underestimated since many cases are unreported. Reasons for the attacks range from dowry misrepresentation, sexual rejection, or marital disputes.

Although the media has raised awareness for this critical issue over the past several years, we believe this event succeeded in raising awareness in our community. We hope to hold this event annually.



## StudentDocsCare: An Interprofessional Health Fair

By OMS-I Linda Hong, ASA Secretary

With the first year of medical school nearing its end, I was given an opportunity to see firsthand what interprofessionalism was and to realize how future collaborations with medical professionals from all fields are integral to patients' overall care. I knew from the start that NSU valued interprofessional care, but as busy medical students, most of us are in the library memorizing countless bugs, at our preceptors' offices shadowing physicians, or at home grasping cardiac physiology.

Dental, optometry, physical therapy, and occupational therapy students are busy studying in their niches and simulation labs. NSU's Health Professions Division (HPD) boasts several colleges that reside in more or less one building, and yet the most we see of each other may be in the hallways between classes and in the library. This year, the Asian Students' Association (ASA)—an HPD-wide club—or-



ganized a StudentDocsCare health fair on April 8 that embodied the true definition of collaborative care.

The idea burgeoned in the beginning of January, when a few ASA officers brainstormed on the club's agenda. The executive board consists of medical and dental students, as well as one representative from optometry, pharmacy, physical therapy, and anesthesiology assistant. First-year dental

student Jae Hoon Jung, president-elect, took on the task of reaching out to nearby associations.

With the help of OMS-II Suzie Park, ASA president, they partnered with the Miami Korean Association, Miami Immanuel Mission Church, and with NSU's Student National Medical Association and Student Osteopathic Surgical Association. The goal was to help educate underserved minorities in South Florida on health literacy and health insurance.

The ASA enlisted help from preceptors who were more than willing to volunteer their time to help students learn and educate the community. Soling Li, D.O.; Paula Anderson-Worts, D.O., M.P.H.; Eun Choi, D.M.D., Michael Au, O.D.; Tina Joseph, Pharm.D.; and Scott Kjelson, Pharm.D., provided guidance and professional assistance, while students conducted health screenings at stations organized by profession.



## StudentDocsCare: An Interprofessional Health Fair (continued)



Li gave the students and community members a presentation on diabetes, which is prevalent among the demographic with which we were working. Additionally, osteopathic medicine and pharmacy students took blood pressures and blood glucose readings and conducted bone-density screenings.

Kjelson and the participating pharmacy students reviewed patients' medications and reiterated their proper use. Optometry students performed eye and color blindness tests; dental students provided general dental hygiene education; and physical therapy students performed balance assessments. Osteo-

pathic medical students also offered an OMT station, where they performed simple soft tissue techniques.

In between stations, students reached out to each other and to the preceptors of different fields for advice when speaking with patients. We realized that the people who participated in the health fair came with higher expectations than we could address. Unfortunately, we, as students, were limited in the advice we could give or the treatments we could offer, but this limiting factor rekindled our passion for continually expanding our knowledge.

We wanted to quickly learn more so we could make a difference to improve people's lives. Some students mentioned that interacting with people in a real-life setting instead of in a simulation room reminded them of how much they had yet to learn. More important, it gave them a newfound appreciation of how much they had already learned and matured since the first day of school. We had 40 student volunteers, and many expressed to me how thankful they were that we had this chance to work shoulder to shoulder with and get to know the students of other HPD colleges.

In the near future, we, as health care providers, will work alongside other health care professionals, not as one giving orders or bending to another, but as equally knowledgeable and integral components to a person's life. The StudentDocsCare health fair has shown us the proper way to interact with patients and other professionals and has given us more hope for the future.



# SOSA Makes Waves at National Convention

By OMS-II Tiffany Sinclair, SOSA Secretary

The 2017 National Student Osteopathic Surgical Association Convention (SOSA) was held at Liberty University on April 1–2. Four members of the NSU-COM chapter executive board attended: Julia Ladna, Tiffany Sinclair, Kiara Jennings, and Suzie Park, who are all second-year students.

During the conference, we heard from several renowned osteopathic surgeons on topics including robotic surgery, the life of a neurosurgeon, basic orthopedic surgeries, and the latest in bariatric surgery. Former ACOS President Dawn Tartaglione, D.O., who is well known throughout the D.O. surgical community, gave a lecture on neurosurgery and led a lab session for students.

In the afternoon, we learned new skills and observed surgical techniques, which was by far the highlight of the conference. The included labs were neurosurgery techniques, orthopedic surgery techniques, ultrasound,



intubation, scrubbing, OMM in surgery, emergency triaging, ophthalmology, and splinting.

A residency panel and a question-and-answer session focused on surgical residencies. The panel included surgeons, a program director, fourth-year medical students who had recently matched, as well as current residents. We also enjoyed meeting other osteopathic medical students from around the country who are interested in surgery. Through our conversations, we came to realize that we all face the same struggle, regardless of which medical school we have chosen to attend. We have even stayed in touch with several students after the conference.

Finally, our executive board has been hard at work this year making our NSU-COM chapter great. We were honored at the convention with a few exciting recognitions. First, the NSU-COM SOSA chapter received

the National Chapter Scholarship for active involvement in the community. Park also earned a personal community service scholarship for her excellent involvement in service during medical school.

Probably the most exciting part of our trip, however, was winning the bid to host next year's spring conference. The SOSA would like to thank Park and Ladna as well as next year's chapter president, OMS-I Zach Smith, for their efforts. We could not be more excited to present the best of our school and serve as host at the next convention.

Our current board and the incoming 2017–2018 board will be hard at work creating a memorable conference for next spring. All NSU-COM students are invited to attend the conference, with SOSA membership, at the local and national level, along with a fee. If you would like more information about joining SOSA National, please contact Suzie Park at [gp599@nova.edu](mailto:gp599@nova.edu).



# Pediatrics Club Shaves Heads for St. Baldrick's

By OMS-II Sneha Tolia, Pediatrics Club Vice President



On March 18, the Pediatrics Club collaborated with the SOIMA to hold a campus-wide PJammin' 5K race-and-shave event to raise awareness and donations for the St. Baldrick's organization. All donated hair was given to Locks of Love for pediatric patients battling cancer. More than 20 students ran in the race, donated, or shaved their heads in tribute to pediatric cancer patients, and more than \$3,300 was raised for pediatric cancer research.

Osteopathic medical students from several clubs and backgrounds came together with other professional students and undergraduate stu-

dents to raise awareness and funds. We also invited a pediatric cancer survivor to speak to our participants. Her light and joyful smile encouraged us to continue to leave our mark on the community as students and future physicians.

On April 8, the Pediatrics Club also represented NSU-COM at the American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians Spring Conference in Louisville, Kentucky. Members of the executive board brought home a win after being awarded Club of the Year for the National Club Updates poster. We also celebrated the success of our faculty adviser, Edward Packer, D.O., who was named national president of the ACOP at this conference.



## Relay for Life

By OMS-I Kiara Singer

Class of 2020 Ethics Representative

Relay for Life is one of the American Cancer Society's biggest fundraisers. Each year, more than 5,000 Relay for Life events are held. This year, NSU hosted its very own Relay for Life outside of the Alvin Sherman Library on April 14, from 4:00 p.m. until 4:00 a.m. NSU-COM's team was captained by first-year students Ellen Dzierzak and Kiara Singer.

They hosted a fund-raiser at Blaze Pizza earlier in the semester and created a life-size Operation game for their booth. The NSU-COM team raised \$1,273. In addition to the 2 captains, there were 13 other volunteers who participated in this event and walked throughout the night.



# Student Government Association, Saamia Shaikh Snare Student Life Achievement Awards

By Scott Colton, B.A., APR, COM/HPD Director of Medical Communications and Public Relations



*Saamia Shaikh revels in her NSU Student of the Year win with George L. Hanbury II, Ph.D., NSU president and chief executive officer.*



*Natalie Negron, president-elect of the NSU-COM Student Government Association (right), poses with Lisa M. Deziel, Pharm.D., Ph.D., dean of the NSU College of Pharmacy.*



*Although she didn't win the NSU Student of the Year prize, Kristi Ray commemorated her NSU-COM Student of the Year Award with David Boesler, D.O., M.S., OPP chair.*

The College of Osteopathic Medicine was well represented at the 19th Annual NSU Student Life Achievement Awards (STUEYS) held April 13 in the NSU Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center. The NSU-COM Student Government Association was the recipient of the university's Student Government of the Year STUEY, which it also won in 2014.

Additionally, third-year NSU-COM student Saamia Shaikh, who is participating in the college's dual D.O./J.D. program, received the NSU Student of the Year Award as a representative of the Shepard Broad College of Law, which nominated her for the award.

"Being recognized as the overall NSU Student of the Year served as confirmation of my belief that sometimes you must follow your heart

in pursuit of a vision that only you can see," Shaikh said. "Receiving this award has reinvigorated me to work even harder in hopes of becoming the most competent physician and attorney for my future patients and clients. It was also very humbling, because it was an opportunity for me to reflect and realize that I could not have made it this far without the constant support and encouragement of my friends, family, and professors."

For those who are unfamiliar with the STUEY Awards, the event was created to honor the people and organizations that best exemplify the core values of academic excellence, student centered, opportunity, scholarship/research, integrity, diversity, innovation, and community within the university community.

Other nominees representing NSU-COM with distinction were

**Student of the Year**  
**OMS-IV Kristi Ray**

**Administrator of the Year**  
**Scott Colton, B.A., APR**

**Cocurricular Adviser of the Year**  
**Traci-lyn Eisenberg, D.O.**

