



SAU WINTER MEETING • FEBRUARY 6-7, 2026



Society of Academic Urologists

Lee Richstone, MD FRCS FACS

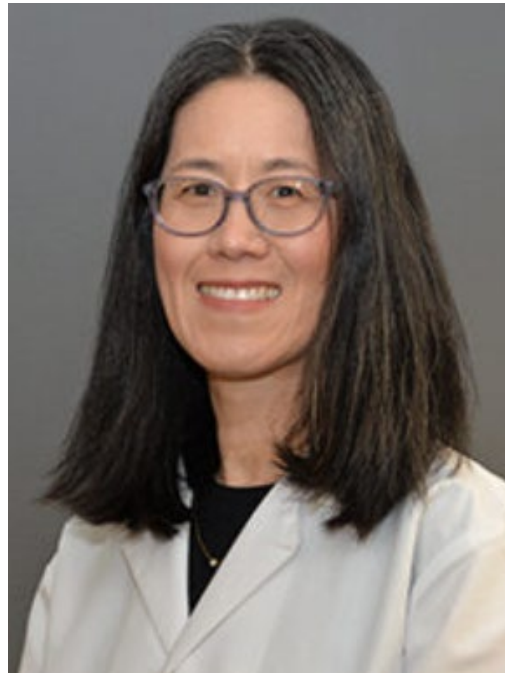
SAU President





Thank You Program Chairs!

Lara S. MacLachlan, MD and Wesley A. Mayer, MD





New at the Winter Meeting

- **SAU Awards:**
 - Faculty Teaching Award
 - Sustained excellence in teaching and mentoring
 - Resident Leadership Award
 - Professionalism, leadership, and dedication to academic urology
 - ACURE Program Coordinator Recognition Award
 - Outstanding service and innovation

A promotional graphic for the SAU Winter Meeting 2026. It features a city skyline at sunset over a green hillside. The SAU logo is in the top right corner. Below the image, the text reads: 'SAU WINTER MEETING FEBRUARY 6-7, 2026 Houston, Texas | Marriott Marquis Houston'. Further down, it says '2026 Winter Meeting February 6-7, 2026 Marriott Marquis Houston Houston, TX'. At the bottom, there are two call-to-action buttons: 'REGISTER NOW >>' in red and 'LEARN MORE >>' in blue.

SAU WINTER MEETING
FEBRUARY 6-7, 2026
Houston, Texas | Marriott Marquis Houston

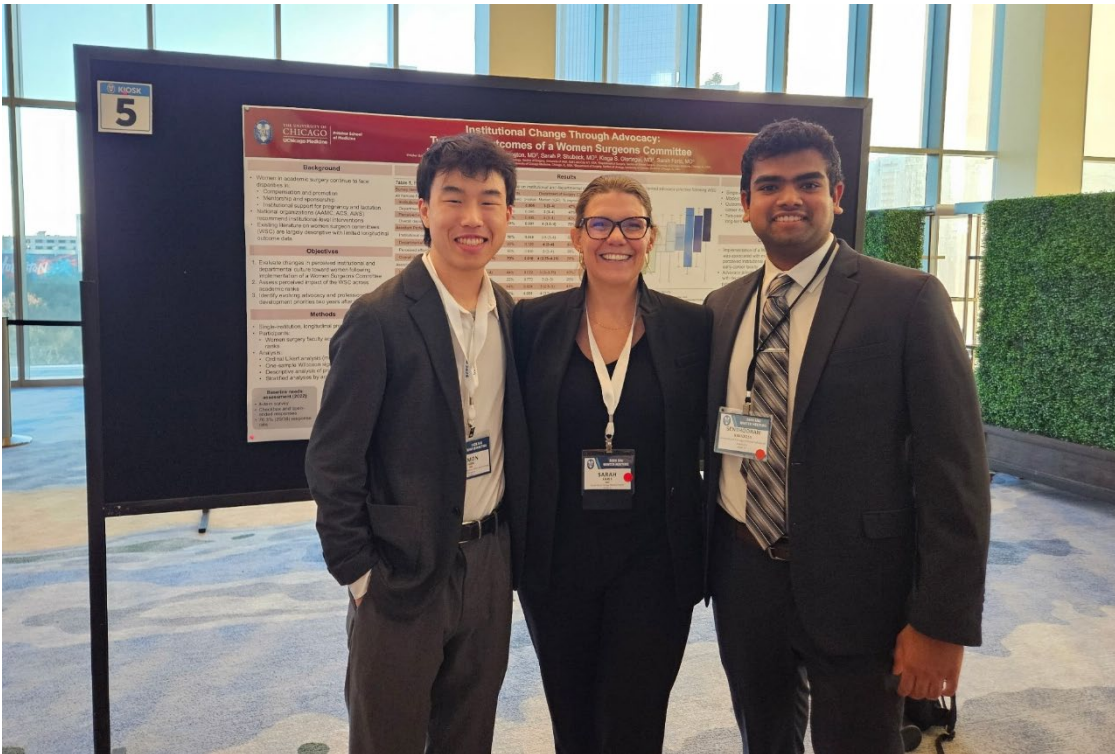
2026 Winter Meeting
February 6-7, 2026
Marriott Marquis Houston
Houston, TX

REGISTER NOW >>

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New at the Winter Meeting – Posters and Residents!





Inaugural Bi-Annual SAU Newsletter



NEWSLETTER SOCIETY OF ACADEMIC UROLOGISTS

Advancing Excellence in Urologic Education, Training, and Leadership

President's Welcome

Dear Colleagues,

It is both a privilege and an honor to serve as President of this exciting time for our specialty. As an organization, the Society of Academic Urology through the advancement of urologic education, development of faculty and program leaders, and to improve and collaboration.

The initiatives outlined in this newsletter highlight the upcoming Winter Meeting – focused on competency-based abstract submission component – to the expansion of professional programming, an SAU Fellowship for unmatched students, student and resident recruitment. Each of these endeavors is the next generation of urologists and ensuring the continued

I am deeply grateful to our members, volunteers, and leadership in urology. I look forward to engaging with many of you in the remarkable progress of our community at the 2026 Winter Meeting. More involved in our society!

With sincere appreciation,

Lee Richstone, MD, FACS, FRCS
President, Society of Academic Urologists

COMMITTEE NEWS

Medical Student Interest and Residency

Costas D. Lallas, MD, FACS, SAU Member at Large



Recruiting outstanding medical students into urology remains one of the Society's most important priorities, and the Medical Student Interest & Resident Recruitment

Committee (MSIRRC) continues to lead the way. The most recent match results underscore the success of these efforts: in 2025, all 403 PGY1 slots were filled, with an impressive 89.8% match rate among U.S. seniors and 57.8% of applicants matching to their first or second choice.

Looking ahead, the Committee is preparing new strategies to expand outreach to students who may not traditionally pursue urology. This includes previously unmatched applicants, international medical graduates, and students from institutions without home urology programs. The committee is developing durable and accessible content that

Professional Development Committee

Jennifer Yates, MD, SAU Member at Large

The newly formed Professional Development Committee has set an ambitious agenda to foster mentorship, collaboration, and shared learning across the SAU. A centerpiece of this work is the creation of a **Member Forum**, a virtual space where members can connect outside of annual meetings to crowdsource solutions, share resources, and support one another.

Another initiative is the **Visiting Professor Program**, which will provide annual funding for one program to host the recipient of the SAU

WEBINAR SERIES

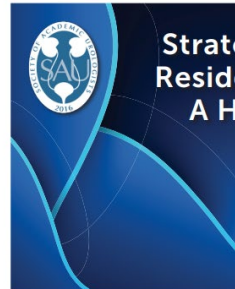
SAU Webinar Series – Fall/Winter

Courtney Yong, MD & Alex Small, MD
SAU Communications Committee Members

The SAU Webinar Series, launched by the Communications Committee, is a timely and practical programming to members. The commitment to addressing real-world challenges

In September, Dr. Christopher Keel (University of Michigan) presented a detailed experience building a program from the ground up. In November will lead *Strategies for Urology Resident Remediation*, practical approaches to remediation and trainee

Future sessions will continue to support education covering topics across both residency and fellowship



SAU UPDATES

Society of Academic Urology

Gina M. Badalato



The SAU is proud to announce the establishment of the inaugural SAU Awards Program, a new initiative created to recognize excellence and leadership in academic urology. The awards highlight the achievements of faculty, residency program coordinators, and residents who have made exceptional contributions to urologic education and training.

The awards include the **Faculty Teaching Award**, honoring faculty who demonstrate sustained excellence in teaching and mentoring; the

FACULTY TEACHING AWARD • PROGRAM COORDINATOR

CALL FOR A SAU Section of Education Editor

The Society of Academic Urology is pleased to have a role of SAU Editor – Section of Education in the qualified members to submit a Statement of Interest

The SAU Section of Education Editor will serve urology. It is responsible for curating, soliciting, and reviewing content that aligns with the mission and strategy closely with the editorial team of the *Gold Journal* in the journal. They will liaison closely with in person and virtually throughout the year.

Interested candidates should submit a Statement of Interest

DETAILS

SPOTLIGHT

Association of Coordinators in Urology

Denise Mussehl, MS, C-TAGMI



The Association of Coordinators in Urologic Residency Education (ACURE) continues its vital role as a volunteer-led organization dedicated to supporting coordinators, programs, and trainees. With a membership that now exceeds 130 individuals, ACURE offers a vibrant and collegial community that welcomes newcomers and benefits from the wisdom of veteran coordinators with decades of experience.

ACURE functions as more than just a support group. It has developed subcommittees focusing on membership, mentorship, professional development, and communication, ensuring that coordinators at every stage of their careers have



ACURE
Association of Coordinators in Urologic Residency Education



OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

THE STRENGTH OF THE SAU LIES IN THE COMMITMENT AND ENGAGEMENT OF ITS MEMBERS.

There are numerous opportunities to become more involved in the life of the Society:

Join a Committee or Volunteer to be a Program Chair

SAU committees welcome faculty, coordinators, and residents who are eager to contribute ideas and expertise.



Participate in Research and Surveys

Help shape the future of academic urology by responding to surveys and contributing data to collaborative projects such as the SIMULATE initiative.

Share Your Innovations

Submit abstracts, contribute to webinars, and present at meetings to disseminate best practices.

If you are interested in becoming more involved, please reach out to SAU leadership or committee chairs. Your participation is vital to ensuring the Society's ongoing success.



Membership Updates

- **New** Membership platform launched in Fall
- **New** Member listserv launching soon!

A screenshot of a social media feed interface. On the left is a navigation menu with 'Feed' (selected), 'Your Groups', and 'Topics'. On the right is the feed content, starting with a header for 'SAU - General Conversation' and 'Subscription: Summary'. Below this are several topic suggestions: 'Suggestions for engaging residents in QI projects 3', 'REMEDICATION for PROFESSIONALISM', 'Thoughts from programs who have implemented a night float call schedule', and 'How are you managing interviews for your either home or away sub-Is?'. At the bottom is a 'Match Questions' button. Red boxes highlight the '3' in the first topic, the 'REMEDICATION' text, the '3' in the second topic, and the 'Match Questions' button.



New SAU Section !

- Lindsay Hampson
 - SAU Editor – Section of Education Gold Journal of Urology
- Stephanie Kielb
 - Associate SAU Editor – Section of Education Gold Journal of Urology





NEW SAU Academic Fellowship

- One year, full-time fellowship beginning July 1, 2026
- Co-Directors Dr. Richstone/Dr. Thavaseelan
 - Exposure to SAU Leadership and Governance
 - Participate in Annual Meeting planning
 - Participation in Board/Committee initiatives
 - Scholarly and Academic Development
 - Match/Survey analysis and publication
 - Subcommittee derived academic projects
 - Mentorship, Networking, and Career Guidance
- Application Deadline – March 30, 2026





NEW: Implementation of Online SLOE !

- Pilot with AAMC
 - Richard Peng (Director ERAS Engagement)
 - Laura Fletcher PhD (Senior Research Analyst)
- Letter Writer Portal (LWP)
- Online SLOE for ≥ 2 letters



FINALLY



NEW INITIATIVE: S.I.M.U.L.A.T.E.

Standardized Instructional Models for Urology Learning and Training Excellence

Goal to develop BEST PRACTICE/STANDARDIZED simulation curriculum across the spectrum of urologic surgery

Step 1:
Needs
Assessment
Survey



Step 2:
Development &
Validation of
Simulation
Models



Step 3:
Pilot Testing with
selected sites



Step 4:
Widespread
Implementation

Recruit Residents

Phase 8: Resident Selection

Financial

Residency Toolkits

Launch the Program

Design Program: A Comprehensive

Phase 10: Program Evaluation

Ensure Continuous Improvement

11. Promote Resident Professional Development

- **Encourage Research:** Offer research opportunities and support scholarly activities to foster residents' professional growth.
- **Provide Career Support:** Guide residents in planning their careers, including fellowship opportunities or entry into independent practice.

VIEW WEBINAR

12. Promote Resident Professional Development for Established Programs

Challenge: Be prepared to adjust resources and support systems as the program grows. This is often the first challenge a new program face. Generally, this is not allowed until the program graduates a resident and has Continued Accreditation.

Considerations: Making this decision involve faculty to resident ratio and surgical case volume. A high volume of surgical case volume is essential in establishing the missed educational component and reasoning for expansion. The program should demonstrate a solid educational rationale for doing so.

Phase 11: Resident Growth & Success

Promote Resident Professional Development

- Encourage Research
- Support Career Development

Phase 12: Navigating Growth & Complexity

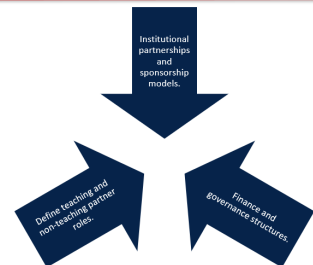
Address Challenges for Established Program



Propose for... Track case volume... Plan for program...



Community-Based & Private Practice Training



VIEW WEBINAR

Define selection criteria

Promote program online platforms fairs

Phase 9: Implement Program

Conduct orientation for new residents

Communicate

Begin curriculum

- Regular reviews and evaluations

- Curriculum updates based on feedback

- Maintain compliance and accreditation

7. Seek Accreditation

- **Prepare Documentation:** Collect all relevant information and documents.
- **Submit the Application:** Provide detailed information and documentation.
- **Prepare for the Site Visit:** Accreditation body visit.

VIEW WEBINAR

8. Recruit Residents

- **Establish Selection Criteria:** Develop clear criteria for selecting residents, focusing on academic qualifications, relevant experience, and personal attributes.
- **Advertise the Program:** Promote the residency through social media, medical school websites, professional organizations, and other channels.
- **Conduct Interviews:** Assess candidates for their suitability and alignment with your program's goals.

VIEW WEBINAR

9. Launch the Program

10. Ensure Continuous Improvement

- **Orientation for Residents:** Welcome the first cohort with a structured orientation program. Familiarize them with the curriculum, institutional policies, and expectations.
- **Monitor and Evaluate:** Continuously track the program's progress, gathering feedback from both residents and faculty. Use this input to make improvements.
- **Regular Reviews:** Conduct periodic reviews to evaluate whether the program is meeting its objectives and maintaining compliance with accreditation standards.
- **Adapt the Curriculum:** Update the curriculum to reflect advancements in urology, feedback from participants, and changes in accreditation requirements.
- **Maintain Accreditation:** Stay proactive about maintaining compliance with accrediting bodies and preparing for routine reviews.

VIEW WEBINAR

1. Conduct a Needs Assessment

- **Evaluate Demand:** Begin by assessing the current pool of potential applicants in your area.
- **Define the Purpose:** Identify why the program is being developed. Are you addressing a shortage of urologists, improve specialized training opportunities?
 - What is your mission statement?
- **Determine the Scope:** Decide on the program's scope. Will it be limited to a single institution; will it involve subspecialty?
 - What is your AAM's statement?
- **Engage Stakeholders:** Collaborate with key stakeholders such as medical schools, hospitals, and community urologists. Ensure their interest and support but also consider opposition from other educational centers in the region, as conflicts can negatively impact accreditation and resident education.
 - Identify your Institutional Sponsor and DIO (Designated Institutional Officer)
- **Perform a SWOT Analysis:** Use a SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) to organize your findings, stimulate discussions, and document your needs assessment effectively.

Timeline Overview:

- **Initial Accreditation Process:** 2-5 years
- **Full Accreditation:** 5-7 years after program launch, depending on performance and ACGME (Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education) review cycles

Clear communication from program leadership is essential to prevent misunderstandings and setbacks.

VIEW WEBINAR

2. Secure Funding and Develop a Financial Plan

Funding is the cornerstone of a successful implementation of a residency program.

- **Understand CMS Funding:** Familiarize yourself with CMS (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services) funding structures, which support graduate medical education (GME). Over the past two decades, CMS has placed limitations on training spot expansions, with a particular focus on rural and underserved specialties.
- **Anticipate Gaps:** Identify potential funding shortfalls and create a plan to address them. This may involve securing institutional support or alternative funding sources.
- **Develop an understood timeline:** Create an implementation timeline to set realistic goals and expectations for faculty and administration. Mismanaging expectations can destabilize faculty morale and jeopardize funding.

VIEW WEBINAR

3. Develop a Program Proposal

A comprehensive proposal is essential for success:

- **Define Objectives:** Clearly articulate the mission, vision, and educational goals of the residency program.
- **Consider an AAM Statement:** Organize objectives.
- **Outline Curriculum:** Develop a robust curriculum covering all aspects of urology, including clinical training, surgical techniques, and research opportunities.
- **Design Rotations:** Plan rotations to offer residents a diverse range of experiences, including subspecialty training and clinical exposure. Outline objectives for learning during each rotation.

VIEW WEBINAR

4. Secure Institutional Support

- **Engage the DIO:** The DIO likely has already been involved at this point, but you must obtain approval from your institution's Designated Institutional Official (DIO), as well as hospital leadership and medical school administration.
- **Budget Planning:** Develop a detailed budget covering salaries, equipment, educational materials, and administrative costs.



Toolkits in Pipeline

- **The Struggling Resident:** Best Practices For Faculty & Program Director as Educators
- **Residency Compliment Expansion:** Why, When, and How





Upcoming Events




SAU WINTER MEETING
FEBRUARY 6-7, 2026
Houston, Texas | Marriott Marquis Houston

2026 Winter Meeting
February 6-7, 2026
Marriott Marquis Houston
Houston, TX



[REGISTER NOW »](#)

[LEARN MORE »](#)






SAU WEBINAR
February 11, 2026 • 7:00 PM ET
DEMYSTIFYING THE ACGME

Hosts

 Courtney Young, MD	 Alexander Small, MD
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Panelists

 Kate H. Kraft, MD, MHPE Chair, Review Committee for Urology	 Stephanie J. Kiello, MD Vice-Chair, Review Committee for Urology	 Lauro E. Hull, MBA Executive Director Review Committee for Urology
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Demystifying the ACGME
February 11, 2026
Virtual

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SAU 20
AT AUA
ANNUAL MEETING **26**

MAY 14, 2026
WASHINGTON DC

2026 SAU at AUA Annual Meeting
May 14, 2026
Washington D.C.

[REGISTER NOW »](#)

[LEARN MORE »](#)



Call for Nominations/Get Involved!

- 2026 – 2027 SAU Board
 - Member at Large
 - Treasurer
- SAU Representative to the AUA Public Policy Council
- SAU Program Chair
 - SAU Winter Meeting
 - SAU @ AUA Spring Meeting
- Winter/Spring Program Speakers and Moderators
- Committee involvement
- Call for Resident Member of SAU Board



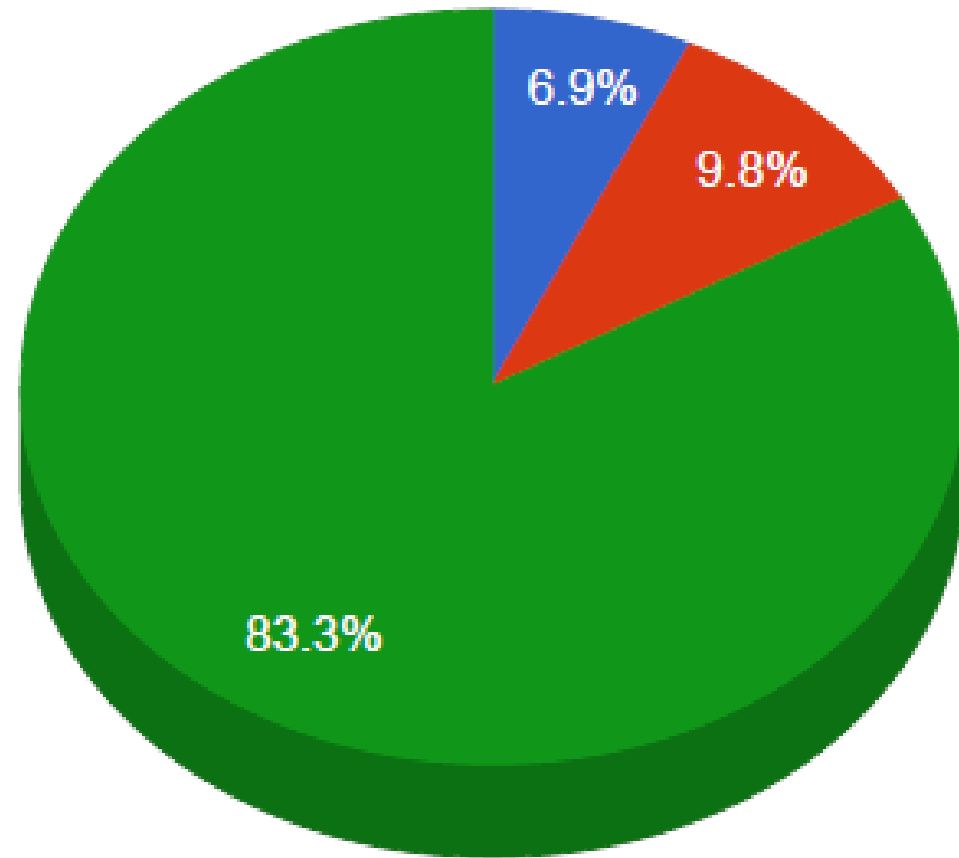
The 2026 Urology Residency Match

- 417 of 419 vacancies filled (99.5%)
- 417/550 applicants matched (76%)
- 133/550 applicants did not match (24%)
- 79% of female applicants matched
- 75% of male applicants matched





All Applicants By Type



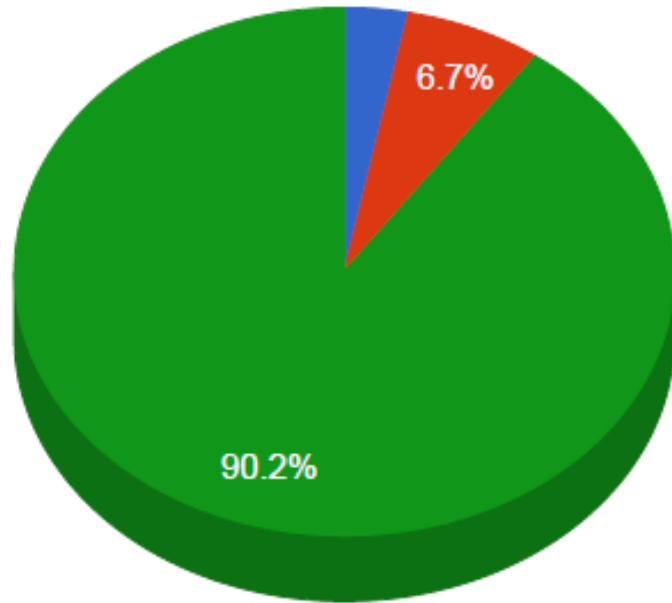
- International Medical Students & Graduates (38 / 6.9%)
- Previous Graduates (US) (54 / 9.8%)
- Senior Medical Students (US) (458 / 83.3%)



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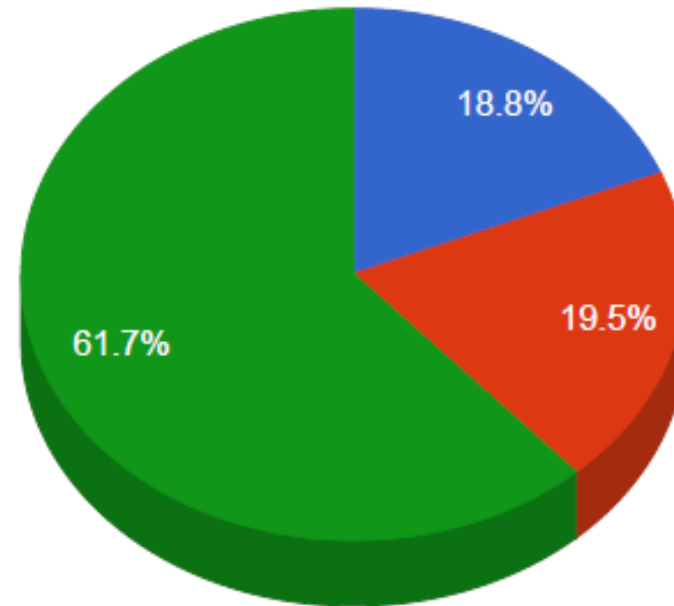


Matched Applicants By Type



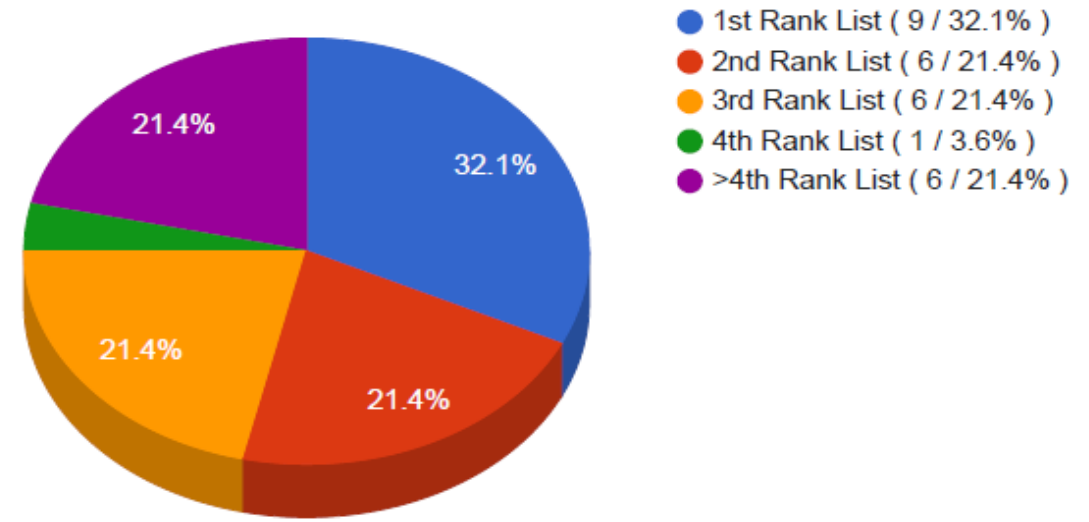
- International Medical Students & Graduates (13 / 3.1%)
- Previous Graduates (US) (28 / 6.7%)
- Senior Medical Students (US) (376 / 90.2%)

Unmatched Applicants By Type

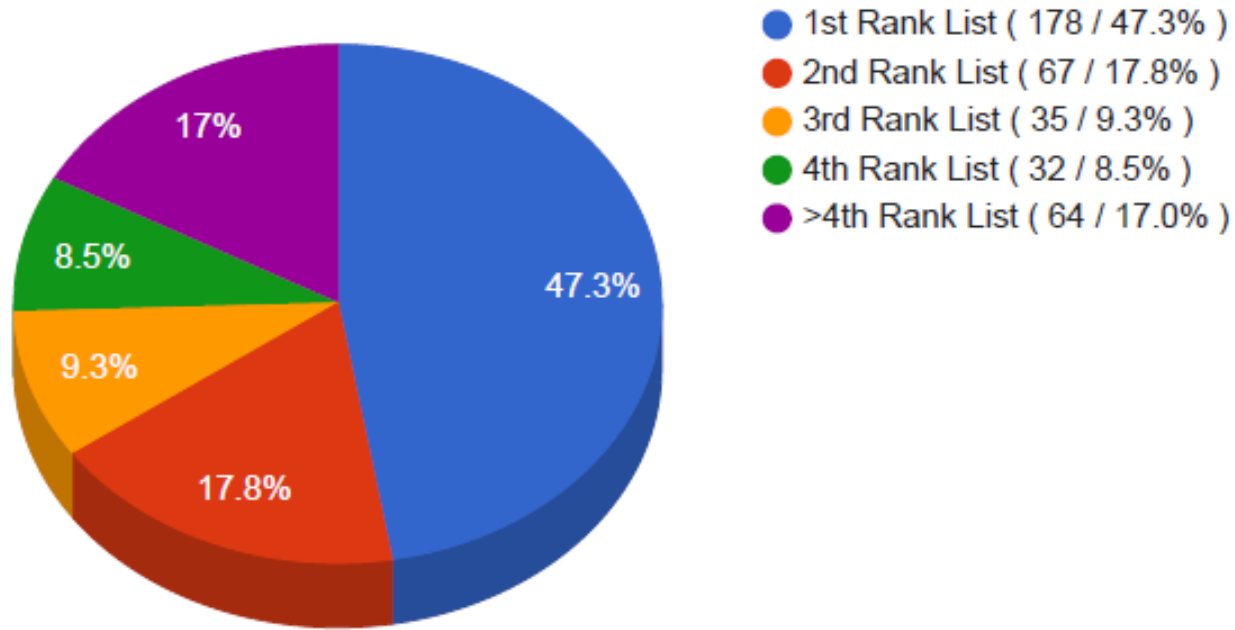


- International Medical Students & Graduates (25 / 18.8%)
- Previous Graduates (US) (26 / 19.5%)
- Senior Medical Students (US) (82 / 61.7%)

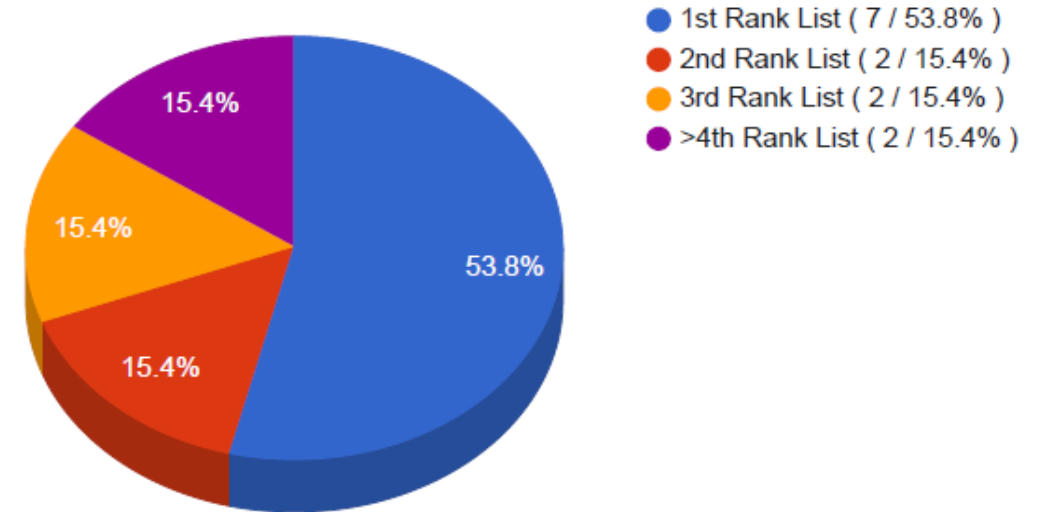
Matches by Rank List Selection - Previous Graduates (US)



Matches by Rank List Selection - Senior Medical Students (US)

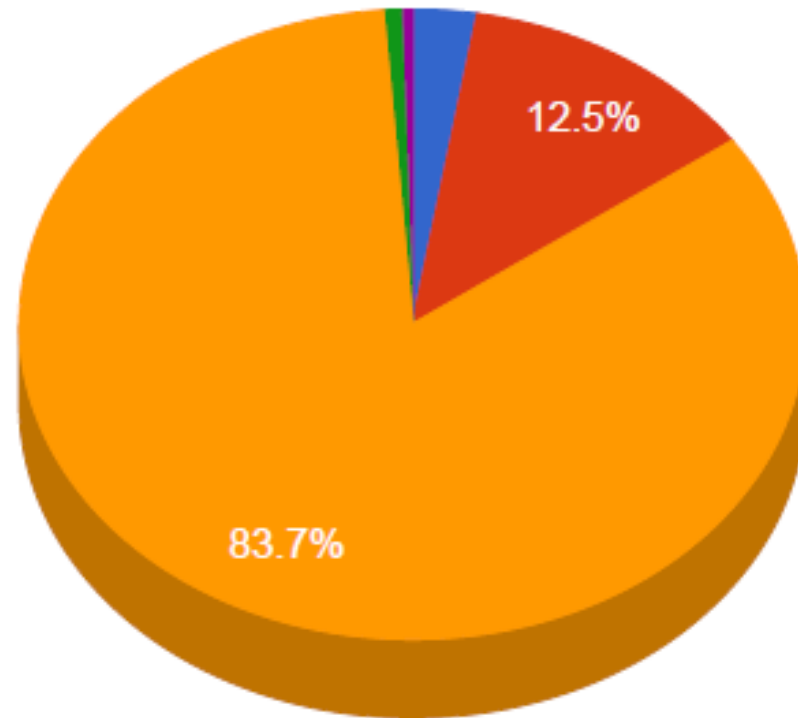


Matches by Rank List Selection - International Medical Students & Graduates





USMLE Steps of Matched Applicants



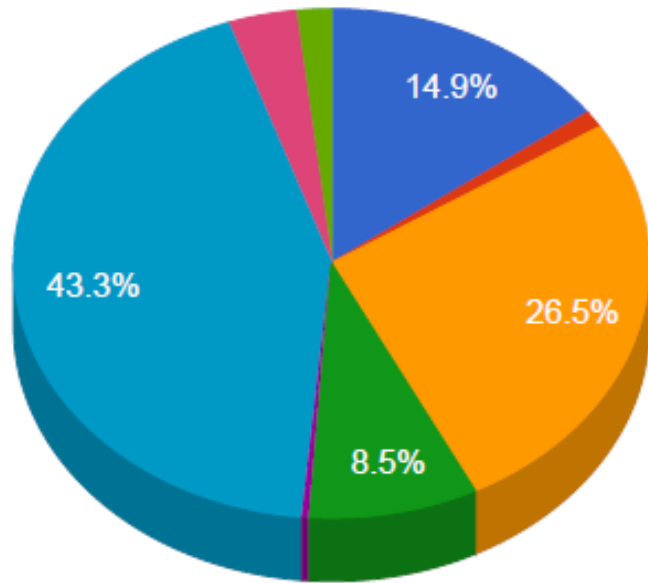
- No Steps (11 / 2.6%)
- Step 1 (52 / 12.5%)
- Step 2 (Clinical Knowledge) (349 / 83.7%)
- Step 2 (Clinical Skills) (3 / 0.7%)
- Step 3 (2 / 0.5%)



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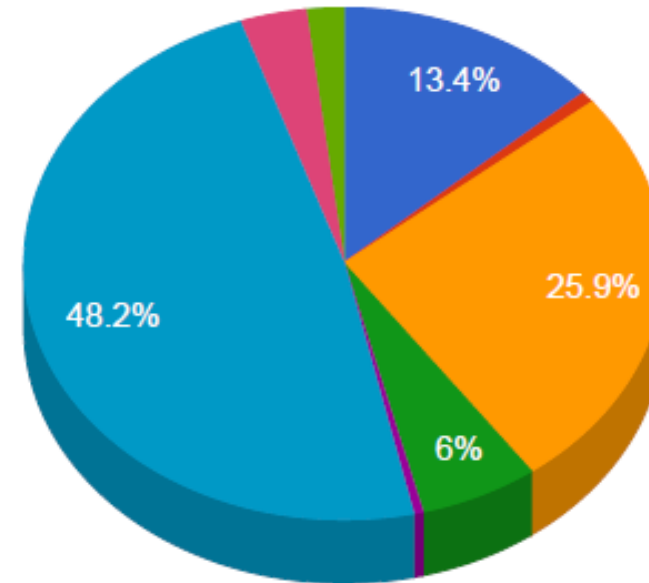


All Applicants By Ethnicity - Primary Ethnicity Only



- Hispanic, Latino or of Spanish origin (82 / 14.9%)
- American Indian or Alaskan Native (6 / 1.1%)
- Asian (146 / 26.5%)
- Black or African American (47 / 8.5%)
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (2 / 0.4%)
- White (238 / 43.3%)
- Other (19 / 3.5%)
- Undisclosed ethnicity (10 / 1.8%)

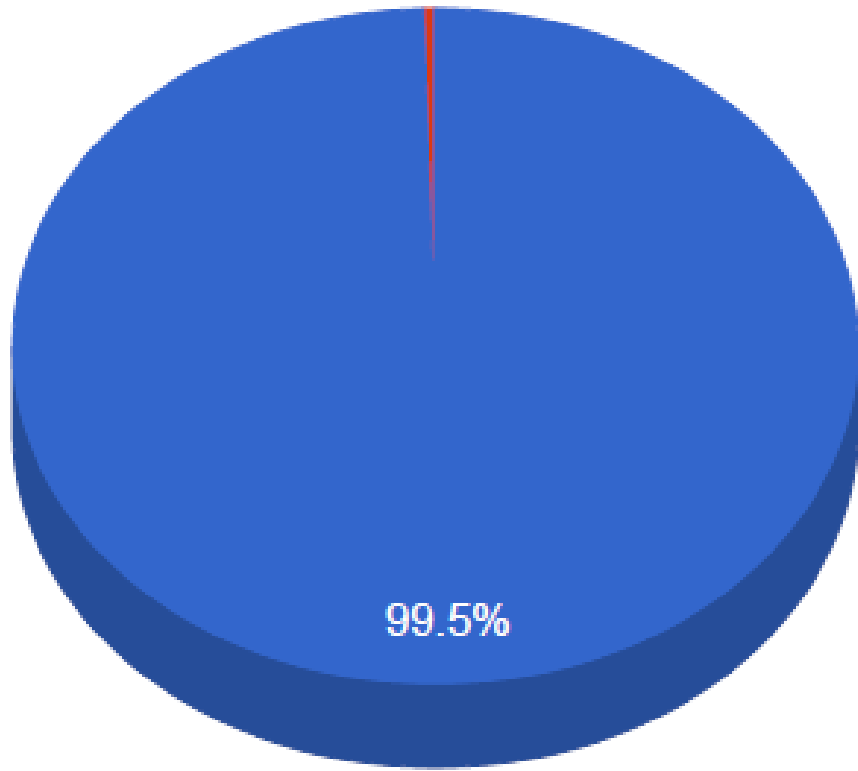
Matched Applicants by Ethnicity - Primary Ethnicity Only



- Hispanic, Latino or of Spanish origin (56 / 13.4%)
- American Indian or Alaskan Native (3 / 0.7%)
- Asian (108 / 25.9%)
- Black or African American (25 / 6.0%)
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (2 / 0.5%)
- White (201 / 48.2%)
- Other (14 / 3.4%)
- Undisclosed ethnicity (8 / 1.9%)

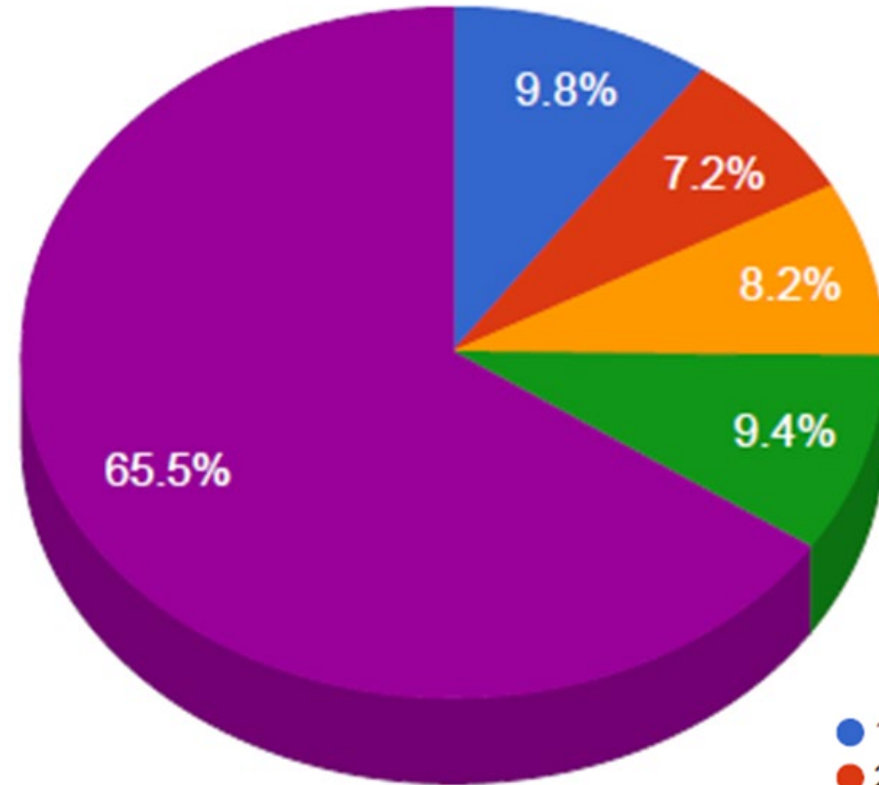


Programs - Matched vs Unmatched



- Matched (417 / 99.5%)
- Unmatched (2 / 0.5%)

Matches by Rank List Selection - All Matched Programs



- 1st Rank List (41 / 9.8%)
- 2nd Rank List (30 / 7.2%)
- 3rd Rank List (34 / 8.2%)
- 4th Rank List (39 / 9.4%)
- >4th Rank List (273 / 65.5%)



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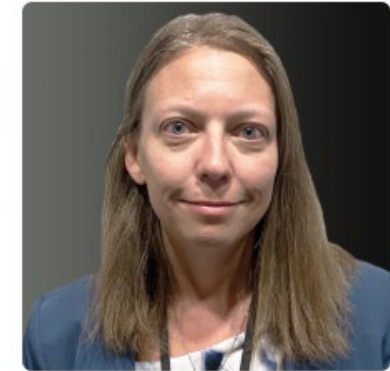
Sue O'Sullivan
Co-Founder & President



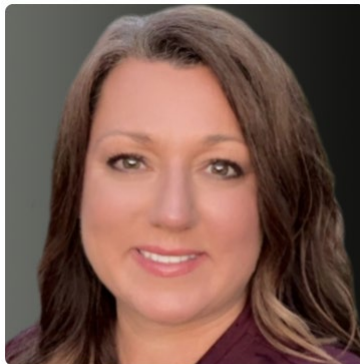
Donna Kelly
Co-Founder & Executive Vice President



Becca Albertini
Executive Director



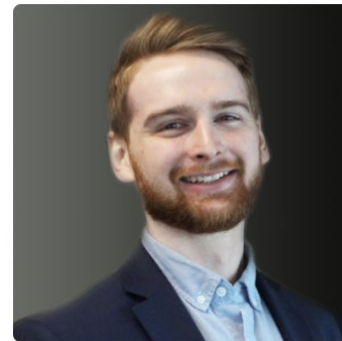
Marie Grover
Associate Director



Kristin Dube
Program & Speaker Manager



Christina Winkle
Chief Financial Officer



Ryan O'Sullivan
Vice President, Industry Relations



Tyler Gillespie
Account Manager Lead



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Simone Thavaseelan, MD
President-Elect



Gina M Badalato, MD
Secretary



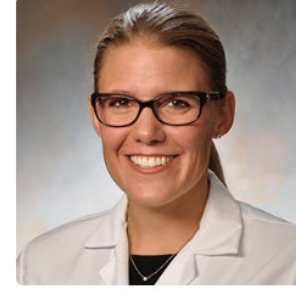
**Mathew Don Sorensen,
MD, MS, FACS**
Treasurer



Moben Mirza, MD, FACS
Past-President



**Kirsten Lynn Greene, MD,
MS**
Executive Secretary



Sarah F. Faris, MD
Member at Large



**Christopher E. Keel, DO,
FACS**
Member at Large



**Costas D. Lallas, MD,
FACS**
Member at Large



Jennifer Yates, MD
Member at Large



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