

# MAAB NEWSLETTER

Fall 2015

Your source for Meyerhoff Alumni Advisory Board news

GET INVOLVED!

## E-BOARD VISION 2015-2016

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings alumni! This year's Meyerhoff Alumni Advisory Board is excited to share its plans with you. We have many initiatives that are ongoing and we will be issuing these newsletters to keep you in the loop with all the happenings within our committees. If you want to get involved or have any questions, email us at [MeyerhoffScholarsAlumni@gmail.com](mailto:MeyerhoffScholarsAlumni@gmail.com).

Please don't forget to visit our blog to read updates about our fellow Meyerhoff sisters and brothers!

### VISIT OUR BLOG!



## COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

*Jattu Senesie & Berook Alemayehu*

### VISION STATEMENT

The MAAB Communications Committee seeks: 1) to fully engage the Meyerhoff alumni with MAAB and with each other by focusing on personal alumni stories and interactions, and 2) to highlight the diversity of STEM career options.

### ANNUAL GOALS

- i.** Create a sustainable online database of Meyerhoff alumni across the country.
- ii.** Increase social media presence of MAAB by posting science, professional development, and diversity articles to Facebook, and Twitter.
- iii.** Provide more content on the Meyerhoff Alumni blog highlighting selected alumni and their career paths, blogs, podcasts, and other ventures.

### REQUESTS OF THE COMMUNITY

*The Communications Committee kindly asks that you:*

- i.** Share any alumni updates (personal and professional) via [MeyerhoffScholarsAlumni@gmail.com](mailto:MeyerhoffScholarsAlumni@gmail.com) with the subject heading "Alumni News". Photos are appreciated.
- ii.** Suggest any op/ed topics that may be of interest (and let us know if you are interested in writing it).
- iii.** Nominate alumni who you think should be featured in our Communications quarterly update.
- iv.** Encourage fellow alumni who are not receiving MAAB e-mails to update their contact information via [MeyerhoffScholarsAlumni@gmail.com](mailto:MeyerhoffScholarsAlumni@gmail.com) with the subject heading "Updated Contact Info". Thanks for your help!

# FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

*Tabassum Majid & Marie-Urlima Okeke*

## VISION STATEMENT

The Fundraising Committee intends: 1) To employ novel fundraising efforts and maximize their success using our social media presence, 2) to strengthen ties between MAAB and other UMBC alumni to capitalize on fundraising and exposure, and 3) to align current and long-term fundraising goals to ensure funding for future years.

"OF THOSE TO WHOM  
MUCH IS GIVEN,  
MUCH IS REQUIRED"

## ANNUAL GOALS

- i.** To re-evaluate the Cohort Giving Challenge for the upcoming year, especially as we approach UMBC's 50th anniversary celebrations.
- ii.** To work with MAAB Programs Committee in incorporating our giving efforts into alumni social events.
- iii.** To engage corporate sponsors in fostering community awareness and understanding of alumni contributions.

## REQUESTS OF THE COMMUNITY

Please let us know what you think about this year's plans! If you would like to be part of this year's Fundraising Committee, contact Tabassum Majid or Marie-Urlima Okeke.

# MENTORING COMMITTEE

*Erica Childs & Monique Foster*

## VISION STATEMENT

The MAAB Mentoring Program exists to foster a supportive environment where Meyerhoff undergraduates can engage with alumni and receive valuable academic and career advice.

**SIGN UP  
TO BE A  
MENTOR!**

## ANNUAL GOALS

- i.** To re-focus the MAAB mentoring program to target Meyerhoff juniors and seniors.

*Alumni mentors will be one of many resources available to mentees while they prepare for their post-baccalaureate plans. Mentoring topics will be provided by the Mentoring Committee and will include: getting accepted into and surviving graduate school or other post-baccalaureate education options, achieving a healthy work-life balance, and exploring career options available to them after graduate school.*

- ii.** To establish a seminar series for Meyerhoff juniors and seniors.

*Students will hear from a variety of alumni voices about life in graduate/medical school and beyond. Alumni are invited to share their work/school experiences after college. Examples of seminar topics may include: identifying and articulating your goals, applying to graduate/professional school, surviving your first year, acclimating to your new school/work environment, managing finances, and navigating your student/PI relationship in graduate school.*

## REQUESTS OF THE COMMUNITY

We are seeking a wide range of stories for our seminar series. *If you feel that you did not follow or are not following the traditional path (PhD/Md PhD, PostDoc, faculty position), we are especially interested in hearing from you!*

If you are interested in serving as a mentor to a junior or senior Meyerhoff scholar, please contact us!

To engage with the Mentoring Committee on either of these objectives, send Erica and Monique a message at [MAABmentor@gmail.com](mailto:MAABmentor@gmail.com).

# PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

*Natasha Powell & Nicole Parker*

## VISION STATEMENT

The aim of the Programs Committee is to build a more active and cohesive alumni community by organizing inclusive and accessible events for Meyerhoffs across the country.

"...Of those to whom much is given, much is required." These words have shaped our lives since entering the program. To honor this privilege, we have outlined the following goals for the upcoming MAAB term.

## ANNUAL GOALS

- i. To organize a formal alumni event.
- ii. To create a family-friendly space for alumni and their loved ones to gather together.
- iii. To organize community service events, both local to UMBC and around the country.

*We have identified two organizations through which alumni can serve the community - read more below.*

**SisterMentors** is a non-profit organization in Washington, DC, impacting women of color by pairing young girls with mentors pursuing doctoral degrees.

"We make a long-term commitment to [our] girls starting in elementary/middle school and following them through high school and college graduation. [In SisterMentors, girls spend] anywhere from 5 to 9 years in our program before going to college. With mentoring, college visits and workshops, our girls learn how to succeed in high school and college and in life."

President Obama launched the **My Brother's Keeper** initiative in February 2014 to address persistent opportunity gaps faced by boys and young men of color and ensure that all young people can reach their full potential. My Brother's Keeper is a call to action for Americans to make a difference for young people by becoming a mentor. Research shows that the presence of a mentor in a young person's life significantly improves their potential for success.

## REQUESTS OF THE COMMUNITY

Please follow the hyperlinks to learn more about SisterMentors and My Brother's Keeper. If you are interested in partnering with either organization, contact us at [MeyerhoffScholarsAlumni@gmail.com](mailto:MeyerhoffScholarsAlumni@gmail.com).

FOLLOW US ON  
SOCIAL MEDIA!



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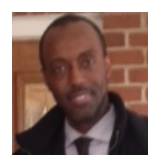
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**WANT TO GET INVOLVED? HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS?**

**EMAIL US!**

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