



Legacy Teachers™

Recognizing Our Patients as Teachers

“One of the most important aspects of a solid clinical education in medicine is not found within a curriculum. It is not provided by the faculty, nor is it provided by the students. It is inherently found within patients, who, at some of the most fragile points of their lives, allow a medical student to capture a glimpse of their medical conditions while coming to know them as not just a patient, but also a person.”

At the University of South Dakota, Sanford School of Medicine, patient-centered care is our highest priority. In recognition that many of our best and most memorable teachers are our patients, we created the Legacy Teachers™ program to celebrate and recognize our patients' contributions to our life-long learning and development.

Open to All Pillar 2 Students

We invite every Pillar 2 student to participate by reflecting on the patients who have had a lasting impact on your learning.

Essays, Poems and Artwork

Submit a short essay, poem or artwork that describes who stands out as especially important to your growth as a physician.

Luncheons

Selected quotations, submissions, authors, and Legacy Teachers™ will be celebrated at the First Annual Legacy Teachers™ Luncheon on April 2, 3, and 4 at all Pillar 2 Clinical Campuses

Publication

A compilation of quotations/submissions will be published commemorating our patients' impact on young physicians and their prospective patients.

Examples

Examples of the patient you might want to describe in your Legacy essay, artwork or poem

- A patient who changed you and helped make you a better future physician.
- A patient who taught you to listen deeply and to understand his or her experience.
- A patient who showed you the crucial roles of comfort and compassion, the importance of good communication, or the vital role of family and caregivers.
- A patient who you will never ever forget; whose lessons will always be a part of who you are.

Dean's Office Recognition

A letter highlighting your efforts will be added to your dean's office file.

Submission Guidelines

Your submission should be about a patient you have directly cared for as a Pillar 2 student. Essays, poems, and artwork are all acceptable. Emphasize how the experience affected you and the lessons you were taught, using medical details only to illustrate the lessons learned. Entries will be reviewed by a faculty panel for appropriateness and quality.

Essays

Essays should be 2-3 pages long. Please use a patient pseudonym.

Poems and Artwork

Include a one-page description explaining what your patient taught you.

Luncheons

Wednesday, April 3, 2019 — Yankton
Thursday, April 4, 2019 — Sioux Falls
Friday, April 5, 2019 — Rapid City

Submissions Period

December 31, 2018 to February 15, 2019

Send Submissions To:

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