KUMC Global Scholars Distinction Program (GSDP)

Eligibility

This recognition program is available to all degree-seeking students at KU Medical Center including SHP, SOM, SON and Graduate Studies.

Program Goals

- GSDP was created to recognize students who engage in educational experiences that involve working with a variety of cultures and/or with under-served communities during their time at KU Medical Center. These experiences can be attained locally, nationally, and/or globally.
- The goal of the GSDP is to give a permanent recognition to those students who take the initiative and show a commitment to extra-curricular activities including but not limited to volunteering in their communities, acquiring a foreign language, engaging with other cultures, participating in an international educational experience or leading a student-group focused on health disparities.
- GSDP encourages students to combine classroom learning with experiential learning.

Program Objectives

- Highlight cultural awareness, knowledge, and skills.
- Encourage students to articulate connections between courses and extra-curricular experiences.
- Honor those who demonstrate communication, teaching and leadership skills.
- Distinguish those who acquire or speak a second language.
- Spotlight student research.
- Recognize experiential learning.

Requirements

- Each student must participate in a combination of the following experiences and activities. Each item is worth a determined number of points. Students need a total of 25 points to receive the GSDP certificate.
- The credentials for this program will be visible on the recipient's transcript.

Core requirements:

1. Academics (6 points total to be earned)

There are several courses offered at KUMC which enhance students' knowledge of diversity, health disparities and vulnerable populations.

(Each course with a cultural or diversity component can be awarded 2 points.)

2. Away experiences (6 points total to be earned)

There are many rich off-campus learning experiences in communities both near and far available for our students for extended periods of time ranging from one-week to 2 months. These "away experiences" add depth to our students' learning in the classroom.

(Away Experience points can be earned in the following increments: 40 hours away = ½ point; 80 hours = 1 point; 120 hours = 1 1/2 points; 160 hours = 2 points. Points can also be awarded for the preparation time required for an international educational experience based on the recommendation from OIP. For example, a one-week IEE preparation is ½ point and preparation for a 2 to 8 week experience is 2 points)

Core requirements (cont'd):

3. Activities (6 points total to be earned)

KUMC offers a vast array of student organizations and events for students to attend, join and/or participate in. (Each activity can be awarded ½ to 2 points depending on the time-commitment and the student's level of involvement and leadership)

4. Service (6 points total to be earned)

There are a multitude of community service activities offered by KUMC as well as via organizations outside of the university which give students an opportunity to interact with vulnerable populations. Each student should follow his/her personal passion.

(Service can earn 1 point per 10 hrs of service)

5. E-potfolio and Reflection Paper (1 point total to be earned)

Students are required to synthesize and reflect on their experiences by submitting an e-portfolio documenting all activity as well as a final paper.

6. Finally, all participants will need to schedule a meeting with the faculty advisor in completion of the program to debrief.







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