

## Honor Medical Society Inducts New Members

Joined by housestaff, faculty members, and a BUSM alumna, twenty-four members of the Class of 2010 were inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society. They were inductees are recognized for their professionalism, academic excellence, service, and leadership in the medical profession.

- Class of 2010**  
**AOA Inductees**  
 Paul Bower  
 John Cuaron  
 Christopher D'Ardenne  
 Alexander DeHaan  
 Steven Deso  
 Daniel Faden  
 Sarah Freilich  
 Ravi Garg  
 Matthew Galtzler  
 Justin Golden  
 Ashleigh Halderman  
 Elizabeth Housman  
 Ryan Hunt  
 Nicole Jaffe  
 Amy Judy  
 James Kimbaris
- Housestaff Inductees**  
 Jon David Dorfman, MD  
 Amanda Ruth Vest, MBBS
- Faculty Inductee**  
 Todd Hoagland, PhD
- Alumna Inductee**  
 Marie McDonnell, MD '99

**Top right:**  
 BUSM faculty and department chairs with the 2010 inductees of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society.

**Bottom right:**  
 Inductee Matthew Sullivan '10 and his family with Dean Antman during the reception for guests before the Alpha Omega Alpha Induction ceremony held at The Caselle at Boston University on March 15, 2010.



**The Rebecca Lee Crumpler Academy of Advisors Volleyball Tournament**  
 In February, the six Academies of Advisors went head to head in a volleyball tournament in the Solomon Carter Fuller Building gym. Pictured above are "The Crumplers" of the Rebecca Lee Crumpler Academy, who won the competition, defeating the Mary Jane Safford Academy in two sets, 21-18, 21-9. The winners received a free breakfast buffet courtesy of the Academies Student Steering Committee and the Office of Student Affairs.

## Setting his sights on better eye care for underserved populations

Despite his youth, third-year BUSM student **Andrew Francis** has dedicated considerable time and effort to understanding and treating eye diseases in local and international populations that often receive very little care in this area.

On a grant from the International Health Summer Research Scholarship at BUSM, last summer Francis traveled to Accra, Ghana where he conducted nine weeks of full-time research into risk factors for glaucoma progression in the native population. Advanced glaucoma is a leading cause of blindness in Ghana, and this is the first study there to correlate potential risk factors such as advancing age, gender, intraocular pressure, and increasing cap-to-disc ratio using standardized International Geographical and Epidemiologic Ophthalmology criteria to define moderate and advanced glaucoma.

**Haiyan Gong, MD-PhD**, BUSM associate professor of ophthalmology and anatomy and neurobiology, was Francis' mentor on the project. "Andrew Francis is an exceptional young man and a prodigiously hard worker with large goals he will achieve in his career," says Gong. "His extracurricular activities and research demonstrate exceptional leadership in addressing the health care needs of minorities. I have no doubt that he has the potential to make important contributions to academic medicine and address the needs of the underserved."

Francis' research was accepted for presentation at the 2010 World Ophthalmology Congress held in Berlin, Germany. He also presented his summer research project at the Unite for Sight national conference and the Association for Research and Vision in Ophthalmology conference.

In the winter, he went to Guatemala with Mayan Medical Aid on an educational scholarship to provide medical care to the indigenous population who suffer from a cycle of poverty and poor nutrition that results in high rates of disease and early death. A native of California and the son of physicians, Francis has raised more than \$3,000 in philanthropic funds to offset the cost of cataract surgeries in Ghana and for medical supplies in Guatemala. In Boston, he is organizing a sus-



Place caption here if available

"Globally more than 300 million people are visually impaired and 45 million people are blind."

**Edward Feinberg, MD**, BUSM professor, emeritus chair of ophthalmology, and advisor to Francis, sees a bright future ahead for the medical student: "He is already active in the roles that an academic surgeon fills in teaching, research, and service."

