

**MMA Minority and Cross Cultural Affairs Committee Minutes  
Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2010**

<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Dionne Hart, M.D. Edwin Bogonko, M.D. Juan Bowen, M.D. Elena Polukhin, M.D. Stephanie Stanton, M.D. Anne-Marie E. Sirany Shayla Wilson	David Agerter, M.D. Tiffany Beckman, M.D. Romana DeJesus, M.D. Fatima Jiwa, M.D. Deborah McCarl, M.D. Tierza Stephan, M.D. Maisha Robinson, M.D. Armantina Espinosa, M.D.

- Approved Minutes and set meeting dates for 2011: February 2, May 4, August 3, and November 2.
- StratisHealth Culture Care Connection Program Manager Mary Beth Dahl, and Deb McKinley presented the results of their clinic-based project to improve adherence to CLAS standards and a run-through of [www.culturecareconnection.org](http://www.culturecareconnection.org). The group then discussed potential partnerships between Stratis and the MMA. After the meeting, Deb McKinley followed up with a memo about potential collaboration opportunities, including further clinic trainings (funding would need to be found), a blog, and video projects.
- The committee approved the two-year committee work plan. As part of that plan, the group discussed potential partners for the committee including the African American Alliance, the Interpreter Stakeholder Group, the Minnesota Black Physicians Group, Stratis, Patricia Walker, M.D., and the University of Minnesota Medical School. Committee members were directed to submit other potential groups for vetting.
- The committee discussed the prospect of a presenter receiving payment from a clinic while using the committee's interpreter

training materials. The committee concluded it could be appropriate; however, the committee wanted to stay in a position to have some control and say over the presentations, since the presentations are a public representation of the MMA.

- Mentoring program update. The program is doing well and will continue at Harding High School in St. Paul for 2011.
- New Business – Director of the MMA Foundation Dennis Kelly talked about how the foundation is expanding its efforts to also include helping underserved urban areas to receive access to p physicians. One committee member asked whether it was possible to make a donation for the specific purpose of helping a particular ethnic group.

The committee also discussed its plans to address the issue of foreign trained physicians seeking to practice in the U.S. Dr. Bokonko committed to giving a presentation about the topic at the February meeting.