What an incredible year it’s been for ELAM and for women leaders in academic medicine. Our 22nd class graduated in 2017, and once our 23rd class graduates in April 2018, there will be more than 1,000 ELUMs in leadership positions at 259 schools of medicine, dentistry, public health and pharmacy, and other academic health care organizations across the country and around the world! That’s something to celebrate, especially as we head towards our 25th anniversary on May 1, 2020. ELAM continues to grow both in recognition as a preeminent program in women’s leadership training (see The Lancet, 2.10.18, and Inside Higher Ed, 2.15.18), and in numbers. And looking ahead, we’re excited to announce that we have added six seats to our 2018-19 class for a total of 60 Fellows.

This past year, we were humbled by the enthusiasm and support of our ELUMs. One hundred alumnae came to our 2017 Professional Development program in Denver, and we saw the same impressive turnout at our reception at the Association of American Medical Colleges in Boston. And with ELUM events at the AAMC’s Group on Faculty Affairs conference in Austin, Texas, and the American Dental Education Association annual session in Long Beach, California, we had a wonderful time connecting with our western alumnae.

In 2017, 26 ELUMs received awards from, or were elected to the boards of, prestigious organizations such as the National Academy of Medicine and the Association of American Medical Colleges, and 132 ELUMs ascended to new positions at institutions around the world. We’ve shared their remarkable accomplishments in our e-newsletter the Edge and on our social media platforms (our Twitter followers grew by 64 percent in 2017!).

But as you know, women are still significantly underrepresented within the topmost administrative ranks of academic health centers. Only 22 percent of medical school full professors and 16 percent of medical school deans are women. So while we see so many stories of success within our ELAM community, there are still plenty of stories of blocked paths and glass ceilings. I look forward to continuing to work together with you to expand the pool of qualified women candidates who can bring strong, innovative leadership to academic health centers across the country and beyond.

Warm regards,

Nancy D. Spector, MD
Executive Director

As Dean of the medical school that is ELAM’s home, I not only take pride in the successes of the program and its fellows, I also have witnessed the direct impact of ELAM on leadership at the College of Medicine and across our university. More than 20 ELAM alumnae have risen to executive positions at Drexel, including department chair, vice dean, college dean and vice provost. These already highly accomplished individuals honed their professional skills through the ELAM program.

It is natural for us to be strong supporters of ELAM and its mission of building a community of women who can attain top roles in academic medicine, dentistry and public health. At the College of Medicine we are committed to producing a diverse population of physicians and scientists; we know that diversity in our leadership, faculty and professional staff are essential to fulfilling our commitment.

Moreover, the advancement of women is part of our heritage. Drexel’s College of Medicine is the successor to the Woman’s Medical College of Pennsylvania, the first medical school in the world for women, which was founded as the Female Medical College of Pennsylvania in 1850. A member of the first graduating class later became Dean of Woman’s Med, the first woman dean of a medical school anywhere. This pioneering institution remained a single-sex school until 1970, educating more than 3,000 women, many of whom went on to prominence. That is a great part of our legacy.

Each year, I welcome participating in the ELAM Leadership Forum with the exceptional women who are accepted as fellows and their institutional leaders. As ELAM heads toward its 25th anniversary in 2020, I look forward to a very special celebration for this sterling program.

Warm regards,

Daniel V. Schidlow, MD
Walter H. and Leonore Annenberg Dean
Senior Vice President for Medical Affairs
Our Impact

The Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine® (ELAM) program aims to increase and sustain the number and impact of women in academic leadership positions in the health sciences. ELAM carries on the legacy of advancing women in medicine begun by the Female Medical College of Pennsylvania, the nation’s first women’s medical school. ELAM continues as a national resource hosted by Drexel University College of Medicine. Since its inception, the one-year, part-time fellowship has expanded to target diverse health professions and to reach a broader, global stage.

Applications

Applicants to ELAM come from around the country and around the world.

They are mid-level and senior faculty from medical, dental, public health and pharmacy schools.

In 2017, the ELAM program received applications from:

- **103** applicants from **73** schools for **54** seats
- **8** applicants from dental schools
- **2** applicants from public health schools
- **1** applicant from a pharmacy school

Support from academic institutions and executive search firms enables ELAM to provide continuing support for ELAM alumnae, who in turn support an institution’s emerging women leaders through community building, continuing education and professional development.

- **51** Academic Sustaining Members
- **5** Executive Development Council Members (executive search firms)
- **377** job postings in our e-newsletter *The Edge*
- **30** resource lists of highly qualified ELUMs produced for academic institution search committees

Academic and Business Support

A primary goal of ELAM is to sustain our alumnae in their leadership roles.

We do this by facilitating ELUM community-building activities; distributing the ELAM *Edge* e-newsletter with position announcements, program and alumnae updates and leadership-themed news items; offering advanced leadership development programs for alumnae; being available for phone consultations with our ELUMs, and more.

The support we receive from ELUMs is crucial in helping us in these efforts.

**Legacy Fund:** Supports alumnae programming and community building.

**69 gifts = $18,012**

**Innovations Fund:** Provides support for ELAM that our program fees do not cover.

**49 gifts = $12,125**

**Founders Fund:** Sustains the influential work of the ELAM program by helping endow a director’s chair.

**4 gifts = $11,000**

Gifts

Special thanks to University of Colorado School of Medicine Anschutz Medical Campus for their $50,000 sponsorship of our 2017 and 2018 ELUM Professional Development programs.
The ELAM program was extraordinarily valuable to my own professional development and my appointment and success as a dean. It has also brought great value to the women faculty we have sponsored over the years, nearly all of whom have been appointed to decanal roles, including Vice Deans, Associate Deans and Senior Associate Deans. Our ELUMs are better leaders as a result of the tools, skills and networking gained through the program and this leadership has in turn strengthened our institution. We will continue to consider the ELAM program as a well spent investment in our future.

Toni M. Ganzel, MD, MBA
Dean of the School of Medicine
Interim Executive Dean for Health Affairs
University of Louisville

2017 HIGHLIGHTS

U.S. MEDICAL SCHOOL DEANS

Male Deans
Female Deans
ELUM Deans

DID YOU KNOW?

• 13 of the 23 women deans and interim deans at U.S. medical schools are ELUMs

• 6 of the 12 women deans at U.S. dental schools are ELUMs

• 5 of the 21 women deans at U.S. public health schools are ELUMs

ACCOLADES

“I’m compelled to state that based on the individuals we have previously nominated for the ELAM fellowship, I have extraordinary respect for the program. Through the years we have sent you a true cavalcade of academic stars, all of whom shone brighter after their ELAM fellowship. In general, then, we consider the ELAM experience for our faculty a building block for strengthening our institution.”

Edward R. Burns, MD
Executive Dean and Professor
Albert Einstein College of Medicine

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973 ELUM-authored or co-authored articles were published in 2017.

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