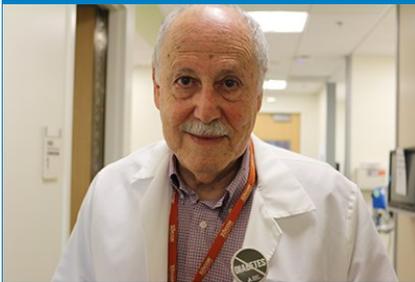


# CHARLES R. DREW UNIVERSITY

OF MEDICINE AND SCIENCE

## This month at CDU:



### Insulin Prices are Rising Dramatically

CDU diabetes expert Dr. Mayer B. Davidson tells diabetics what they need to know. See [Insert](#)



### SSA II's Let's Move & Fall Preview Attract 100s to CDU!

Students along the spectrum of the pipeline enjoyed multiple events and brought joyful noises to CDU Oct. 29. [Photos](#)



Entry Level Masters Students (ELM) Line up for their White Coat Ceremony

# CDU News | October 2016

## The President's Message

### Fall Semester Updates

Greetings,

Here at CDU, the fall semester is in full swing. CDU is in full throttle toward the holidays as Thanksgiving is less than a month away. We have so much to be thankful for.

Our students are absorbing challenging course material at high rates. Long at the forefront of providing opportunities to under-represented students, CDU has responded by launching two new degree programs: Physician Assistant Master of Science (MS) and Master of Science (MS) in Biomedical Sciences. Additional new programs are also in the pipeline. Our Fall Preview on October 29<sup>th</sup> brought new recruits to visit CDU, as we rise to meet the challenge to grow CDU to 2,000 students within 5 years.

During October, we continued our celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month. On October 29<sup>th</sup>, the Saturday Science Academy II's popular "Let's Move!" event started with a 3-5K Walkathon and it was exciting to see the young and older moving with enthusiasm and enjoying the health fair.

Dean Jinny Oh and her Student Affairs team have worked to bring more student programming to the campus, most

recently showing appreciation for our students and faculty of various academic programs. Charles R. Drew University Student Government (CDUSG) *Rocked the Vote* with an event that urged voter registration.

Our faculty is sought after and invited to present as guest speakers all over world. Dr. Mayer Davidson, Professor of Medicine, is addressing Diabetes in Taiwan and Provost Dr. Steve O. Michael was in China for the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the Association for the Global Advancement of Universities and Colleges.

On October 31<sup>st</sup>, all enjoyed this year's costume contest at the Staff Management Council's Harvest Festival and Human Resources hosted the monthly staff birthday celebration.

Plans are underway for Diabetes Day at USC November 7 (free for the CDU family) as well as our Holiday Dessert Reception on November 22<sup>nd</sup> – so stay tuned. Fasten your seat belts, Mighty Lions, and get ready for lift off!



In the Community: The Drs. Carlisle—Sylvia and David—attended the Special Needs Network Gala. *Photography by Hamilton*

David M. Carlisle, MD, PhD  
President and CEO



## Students Make CDU Go 'Round!

Clockwise from top left: Animo H.S. Tour; Professor Eva McGhee flanked by two of her mentees at the Post Bacc Program Appreciation event. Three post bacc students discuss plans to go to medical school: Genesis Chavez, Sergio Rodriguez and Erick Leyva; Dr. Monica Ferrini's lab of post baccs, undergrads, and one skeleton. Below, nursing students relax in LSRNE, undergrad students prepare for a quiz. Lower left corner: Saturday Science Academy at "Let's Move." Left middle: the ELM program's White Coat Ceremony. [Photos](#)



Provost Steve Michael



## Student Affairs: The Program Appreciation Days Are a Hit!

All across campus, Student Affairs Dean Jinny Oh and her team could be seen hosting "meet, greet over treats" type receptions, drawing the students in various programs together for socials and networking since many faculty and staff participate as well.



The events continue through November so check your email or visit the [www.cdrewu.edu](http://www.cdrewu.edu) website. Or, if you see this yellow sign (below), stop and check your program's date!



They are fun!



**Program Appreciation Day Events**  
Sponsored by the Department of Student Affairs,  
College of Science and Health, School of Nursing and College of Medicine

Sep 21	Masters of Public Health, 5pm-6pm, COSH Lobby
Oct 5	Radiologic Technology, 12pm-1pm, COSH Lobby
Oct 6	Radiologic Technology, 12pm-1pm, Cobb Foyer Masters of Science in Biomedical Sciences, 5pm-6pm, Cobb Foyer
Oct 11	Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences, 12pm-1pm, COSH Courtyard
Oct 20	Masters of Science in Nursing, Entry Level Track, 12pm-1pm, LSRNE Courtyard
Oct 25	Post-Baccalaureate Program in Pre-Medicine, 12pm-1pm, Cobb Foyer
Nov 7	Masters of Science in Nursing, Family Nurse Practitioner Track (Coast 13 & 16), 12pm-1pm, LSRNE Courtyard
Nov 14	Masters of Health Science, Physician Assistant Program, 12pm-1pm, COSH Lobby
Nov 15	Masters of Science in Nursing, Family Nurse Practitioner Track (Coast 14 & 15), 12pm-1pm, LSRNE Courtyard

**Find Your Program and Join Us!**

# CDU Diabetes Expert Warns of Rising Price of Insulin and Impact on Communities Facing Health Disparities

Recently, our news crawlers have found numerous media hits quoting Dr. Mayer B. Davidson, Professor of Medicine here at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science (CDU) and Director of the Diabetes Program at Martin Luther King, Jr. Outpatient Center, who alerted us about the diabetes drug insulin. It is very disturbing.

On September 8, 2016, [Reuters \(www.RT.com\)](http://www.RT.com) quoted Dr. Davidson as saying "In 2001, a monthly supply of extremely concentrated insulin *had the wholesale price of \$45. By last year, the cost had skyrocketed to \$1,447 for the same amount,*" Dr. Davidson said.

The article was titled "**Longstanding scandal: Huge insulin price hikes worse than EpiPen's, experts say.**" EpiPen is a life-saving allergen treatment. Its price has jumped to \$600. The article went on to reveal that with only three companies in the world making insulin, steep price jumps over recent decades for the vital drug that combats diabetes amount to "price gouging, plain and simple," according to one US senator. RT.com did not name the senator.

While the 500% increase for allergy treatment EpiPen has dominated attention in the pharmaceutical world and beyond, far more people — **nearly 30 million people in the US — are diabetic and rely on insulin to survive.** Insulin prices, too, have soared in recent years.

"*This borders on the unbelievable,*" said Dr. Mayer Davidson to Lee Newspapers. He has been monitoring insulin costs.



Dr. Davidson as well as his colleagues at CDU have signed on to serve communities with deep health disparities, most of which cannot afford such price jumps. He is aware of insulin being

sold on the black market, and that patients are taking less of a dosage to stretch their insulin when they can not afford to pay for it. He invited CDU News to his clinic to talk further about insulin and what high prices mean to diabetics in the Watts/Willowbrook area of Los Angeles who they serve.

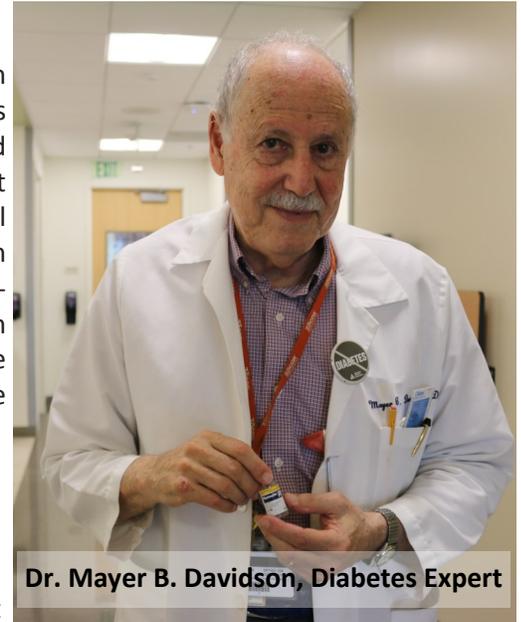
The newly built, state-of-the-art annex to Martin Luther

King, Jr. Community Hospital where the diabetes clinic is housed is brightly lit, and serves as a place where students from King Drew Medical Magnet High School can learn as they work. CDU health professions students learn there under the watchful gaze of more experienced medical professionals as they work their clinical rotations.

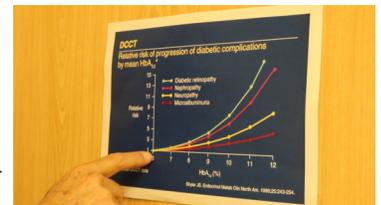
Dr. Davidson donned his white coat and had his assistant pull out a small bottle of insulin and a few syringes, and sat down to chat. Here are a few of the points he made:

"I'm often asked what people can do to make sure diabetes doesn't really cause

them any problems. And in the populations we serve here, which is a minority, usually a medically underserved one [made up of] Africans American and Asians (although there are not so many Asians), diabetes is very common. There is a myth especially for Latinos and African Americans, that if they take medicine, they must be sick. But diabetes doesn't have many symptoms early on. And therefore they say 'Why should I take all this medicine, I feel fine.' then they stop taking the medicine. This is a problem because the high blood glucose although initially it doesn't cause any symptoms in people, it acts on the body over time and causes the complications which cause the eye disease. The major cause blindness, in this country, in the working age population, is due to diabetes. People on dialysis, when their kidneys fail 50% of them or more have diabetes, and all of that is unnecessary--the eye disease, the kidney disease-- because if the glucoses can be controlled you don't get this problem. Therefore it is extremely important if your physician says you need to take this medicine, *you do need to take this medicine* even if you feel fine. If you lose the weight its helpful but eventually it is



**Dr. Mayer B. Davidson, Diabetes Expert**



not enough.”

Dr. Davidson collected his belongings and gave a brief tour on the way out. He was in a hurry to board a plane for Taiwan where he was slated to address the International Diabetes Fed-



eration. The former head of the American Diabetes Association and author of over 300 articles, and numerous studies and books, he is very sought after on the topic of diabetes.

He will be a major presenter on Diabetes Day, scheduled for November 7<sup>th</sup> at the University of Southern California.

In the video below, Dr. Davidson speaks about this preventable disease, symptoms of the two types of diabetes (Type I and Type II) in this video clip and its sale on the Black Market:

<https://youtu.be/nW7eSsYM2hA>



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## Provost Steve Michael An International Exchange in China



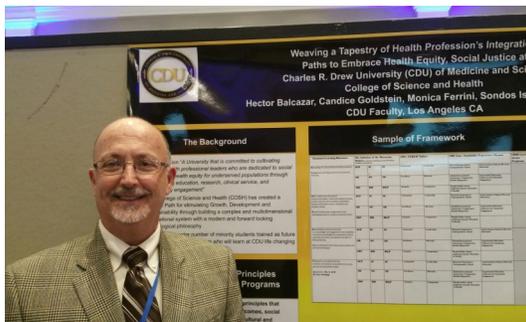
**Dr. Steve O. Michael**, Executive Vice President and Provost of Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science (CDU) and President of the Association for the Global Advancement of Universities and Colleges ([AGAUC](#)) was recently in China from October 12<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference of AGAUC. The conference took place at the Xian International University (XAIU), Xian, China where Dr. Michael spoke on the topic of Enhancing Institutional Excellence: The Power and Promise of Strategic International Partnership to higher education policy leaders, university presidents, and community leaders who participated in the conference.

On the invitation of the Second Health School of Qingdao, Dr. Michael delivered a lecture on October 17<sup>th</sup> to the nursing students and faculty on the topic of Nursing Education in the US: The Demand and Supply Challenge. Dr. Michael concluded his visit to China with yet another lecture at the Beijing Wuzi University on October 19<sup>th</sup> on the topic of Providing Quality Healthcare: The Challenges of Demand and Supply of Health Professionals in the United States.

Dr. Michael reported that institutions in China are eager to form partnerships with CDU and the opportunities for students and faculty exchange abound in Asia. "Given our CDU Advantage, the expectation for global experience will increase at CDU. After all, our vision is *health and wellness for all in a WORLD without health disparities*," he said.

View [more photos](#):  
Chinese Captions: [Click Here](#)

## Dean Hector Balcazar Presents Poster on the CDU Advantage at ASAHP



Dr. Hector Balcazar, Dean of the College of Science and Health, attended the Annual Meeting of the Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions (ASAHP) October 19-21 in New Orleans. The Conference theme was "Looking out on the Horizon: Emerging Issues in Allied Health Education and Practice." On behalf of COSH and CDU, Dr. Balcazar presented a poster highlighting the CDU Advantage and health professions education at CDU incorporating health equity and social justice values.

## Community Faculty Member Loretta Jones Invited to the White House



Imagine the excitement when you open an invitation to the White House. Community Faculty Professor Loretta Jones, who founded Healthy African American Families (HAAFII) and her daughter Felicia Jones, Program Director, made the 3,000 mile trek to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, in Washington DC on October 6. Although the President was away on business, Felicia said that they were both excited to be in the White House. As they entered the hallowed halls, it struck them that this meeting was for the privileged few. Neither had been invited before. [Continue](#)



## CDU CALENDAR: November 2016

**November 4, 2016** Fourth Annual Community Stroke Symposium - Carson Community Center  
**November 4, 2016** SPIRP Symposium 2016  
**November 7, 2016** 3rd Annual DHS Diabetes  
**November 14, 2016** DEVELOP@CDU

## CDU Holiday Closures:

November 11<sup>th</sup>: Veteran's Day  
November 24<sup>th</sup>: Thanksgiving Day  
November 25<sup>th</sup>: Friday after Thanksgiving Day  
December 23<sup>rd</sup>: Christmas Eve (observed)  
December 25<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Day (observed) Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>  
University Closed until January 3<sup>rd</sup>  
December 30<sup>th</sup> New Year's Eve (observed)  
January 1<sup>st</sup>: Happy New Year  
January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017: New Year's Day (observed)



**Click to join us!**

For more information, visit <http://www.cdrewu.edu/>, and follow CDU on: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) @cdrewu, and [Instagram](#) @charlesdrewu



Rad Tech Student [Vinny Le](#) captured other student volunteers at Jazz at Drew [More](#)

# CDU Alum Heads the Post Bacc Program

**Dr. Ngozi Chukwu Leads the Post Bacc Program**



At the Student Affairs reception for the Post-Bacc Program, we met Director **Dr. Ngozi Chukwu** (left). She graduated from CDU and has plans to shepherd the students through the process to qualify for Medical School. There are currently 38 students but they plan to decrease the number of students to 15. The program will become more comprehensive with Research, Clinical, as well as Community service with plans to grow the Academic Support.

Read the latest Alumni [Newsletter](#)



## OFFICE OF STRATEGIC ADVANCEMENT

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 Email comments or story ideas to: [IsidraPersonLynn@cdrewu.edu](mailto:IsidraPersonLynn@cdrewu.edu)

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## CDU In the News:



### Dr. Theodore Friedman

L.A. Times Opinion: Soda taxes work. We should have more of them, by Dr. Theodore Friedman [Click](#)



**PACE NEWS:** Jazz at Drew Draws Hundreds To Celebrate CDU's 50th Anniversary [Click](#)



### Halloween Costume Contest Winners!

3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Frida Kahlo portrayed by Jackie Beaupre; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Vintage Students portrayed by April Walter-Brown and Keith Andre; and 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Grim Reaper portrayed by Bruce Johnson.

[More Halloween and Staff Member of the Month Photos](#)

[Click for All Photos](#)



### PeoplesWorld.org: "Black Women in Medicine" aims to change face of health care

Dean Deborah Prothrow-Stith featured in book on women in medicine:

"Black women doctors are also change agents," said Dr. Deborah Prothrow-Stith, Dean of the College of Medicine at Charles R. Drew University. She went on to say that in order to encourage more young Black women to go into medicine there needs to be "a commitment to public schools," because there are deficiencies when it comes to math and science in public schools.

[Click](#)