

FSU College of Medicine awards scholarships to fourth-year students

Beth Strack, Special to TCPalm

Published 1:26 p.m. ET Oct. 23, 2018



(Photo: CONTRIBUTED BY BETH STRACK)

FORT PIERCE — By law, the Florida State University College of Medicine was created in 2000 to produce more primary care physicians for the state.

Especially physicians who will work with Florida's rapidly growing population of residents over age 65, its millions of patients in rural areas and other medically underserved patients.

Because of its focused mission, FSU is producing more primary care physicians than any other medical school in Florida.

But students with the greatest commitment to medically serving others often have the fewest economic

resources.



From left, Jennifer Riche and Karolain Garcia (Photo: CONTRIBUTED BY BETH STRACK)

Research also shows that students most likely to practice in medically underserved communities are those who come from such a background. This is where scholarships play a crucial role.

Brett Thomas, Class of 2014 student at the Tallahassee Regional Campus, said, "I was on the path to accrue more graduate debt compared to most of my colleagues. Support from many scholarship resources has provided a spirit of liberation to pursue a specialty irrespective of the salary."

For the seventh year, the FSU College of Medicine Fort Pierce Regional Campus has provided scholarships to its medical students.

Presented at their recent Faculty Appreciation Celebration, the campus was able to provide four \$5,000 scholarships to some very deserving fourth-year students of the Class of 2019.

Two were sponsored by several donors to the Fort Pierce Regional Campus and were awarded to Karolain Garcia and Jennifer Riche.



Tiffany Smith-Sutton and Dr. Juliette Lomax-Homier (Photo: CONTRIBUTED BY BETH STACK)

Another scholarship, the Sai Ram scholarship, was provided by an anonymous FSU faculty member and was earned by Tiffany Smith-Sutton.

The fourth scholarship was donated by the Medical Executive Committee of Martin Health System, in memory of Lillian Avner, D.O. and John Powers, M.D., and was awarded to Eric Crespo.

Read or Share this story: <https://www.tcpalm.com/story/specialty-publications/your-news/st-lucie-county/reader-submitted/2018/10/23/fsu-college-medicine-awards-scholarships-fourth-year-students/1739819002/>