



PRAISE FOR THE U.S. SCHWEITZER FELLOWS PROGRAM

Praise from Academic Leaders:

“Giving our students the opportunity to think bigger picture when they’re swamped with the rigors of an engineering education is a critical lesson and one that sets up a great pattern for life.”

– *Ellen Stein, Assistant Dean of Student and Academic Affairs, Thayer School of Engineering at Dartmouth*

“The Schweitzer Fellowship has been such a wonderful gift to the students who have participated. It’s opened them up to a whole realm of possibilities and allowed them to interact with students from other disciplines. The Fellowship is different from other community service opportunities in that the projects are student-directed and far larger in scope. It gives students the opportunity to coordinate all aspects that make the project a success.”

– *Tanya Maggi, Director of Performance Outreach for the New England Conservatory of Music (NEC)*

“The local chapter of the Schweitzer Fellowship, which targets the most vulnerable segments of our community, has already become an integral part of training women and men to work on interdisciplinary teams. I am thrilled that the program has chosen two of our first-year students to initiate a social work project for needy individuals.”

– *W. Andrew Achenbaum, Professor, University of Houston Graduate College of Social Work*

“Two Rice students have received Albert Schweitzer Fellowships for their service projects. These projects by Rice students will give our academic programs additional visibility in health-related service projects; they show the orientation towards engagement with the community that the V2C [Rice University’s vision for its second century] espouses.”

– *Dr. Paula Sanders, Dean of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, Rice University*

“The Tufts-Schweitzer Fellowship enables Tufts students to engage with local communities while completing their professional education.”

– *Nancy Wilson, Associate Dean, Tufts University’s Jonathan M. Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service*

“Working with the underserved is a huge blind spot in traditional medical education. Students get good training and understand how to communicate with patients in a disease-oriented way, and even in a wellness-oriented way. But without exposure to the underserved, they lack understanding about basic issues related to care for these populations. They might know how to diagnose and treat people’s illnesses, but might not understand how difficult it can be for patients to even get in to see a doctor. Access to health care is a widespread problem, and physicians need to take a leadership role in solving it. It is an honor for our students to participate in the New Hampshire/Vermont Schweitzer Fellows Program. Dartmouth Medical School has had a long tradition of community service, and the Schweitzer Program fits our identity. It is seen as the paradigm for community service at DMS.”

– *Dean John Baldwin, M.D., Dartmouth Medical School (DMS)*

“The mission of The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship is vital in developing leaders in health-related service to communities in need, both locally and internationally. I am pleased that the Schweitzer program is now available to graduate students from all New Orleans universities. Our students are committed to community service, and addressing the under-served populations in our local communities.”

– *Benjamin P. Sachs, MD, Senior Vice President of Tulane University*

“The New Hampshire/Vermont Schweitzer Fellows Program is a good opportunity for students to be supported in projects outside the normal range of the law school curriculum. It also allows them to be involved with students from other professions. Moreover, the Schweitzer Fellows Program provides us strong connections with two schools that are also part of the program: UVM and Dartmouth. We have several links now with these schools. Service is a basic value of the legal profession as much as it is for the health professions. There is a longstanding tradition of pro bono service, and law schools support clinical programs that allow students to provide free services to individuals. At VLS, our environmental focus has provided many opportunities for students to provide services that benefit our communities. The Schweitzer Fellows Program provides consistent and ongoing opportunities for working with the underserved. It articulates the ethical basis of service through Schweitzer’s life and example. The Schweitzer projects are an example to other students.”

– *Dean L. Kinvin Wroth, Vermont Law School (VLS)*

“The expressed goal of the Schweitzer Fellowship, to help underserved or uninsured communities while simultaneously enhancing the education of health professionals in the area is totally consistent with our mission. I am pleased that our students have the opportunity to participate and to utilize their talents and skills in a way that will contribute to the national goal of eliminating health disparities.”

– *Wayne T. Harris, MD, Dean of the College of Pharmacy at Xavier University of Louisiana*

“The Schweitzer Fellows Program is a wonderful way to have students involved in service and their communities. By reinforcing the caring side of medicine involved in doctoring, the program sets a standard for community service and doctoring at UVM. It is important for medical schools to promote service learning because it makes students better doctors in the long run. There is a ripple effect to the benefits of having students participate in service learning. Anything the Schweitzer Fellows do is amplified throughout the school. There is a certain cachet to being a Schweitzer Fellow, so the program helps promote the concept of community service not only for its Fellows, but for the students around them as well.”

– *Joseph B. Warsaw, M.D., University of Vermont College of Medicine (UVM)*

“The Fellows’ service has exemplified the obligation of health care providers and reminds us why we entered the health care profession. All of the Fellows who I have mentored possessed compassion in helping others and a unique leadership trait in advocating for those in need.”

– *Brent Lin, DMD, Associate Clinical Professor at the University of California, San Francisco*

“It has been inspiring and an honor to work with students of such high caliber.”

– *David Buck, MD, MPH, Associate Professor at Baylor College of Medicine and President and Founder of Healthcare for the Homeless—Houston*

“I was looking for a way to increase public interest projects among our law students. As I spoke with students about their Schweitzer proposals, I was truly inspired by their commitment to community service, what they had done in the past, and what they hoped to do in the future. It is the light in

their eyes, and their dedication, that has inspired me to be a better member of my community as a Schweitzer mentor.”

– *Professor Sandra Carnahan, South Texas College of Law*

Praise from Community Leaders

“I have really admired the commitment to service learning that the Fellows have demonstrated. It has heightened staff awareness about the importance of dental health and has increased the involvement of UCSF at our Camp Mendocino.”

– *Tavi Baker, MPH, Citywide Director of Health & Fitness for Boys & Girls Clubs of San Francisco*

“I hope that many more organizations benefit from mentoring a Schweitzer Fellow. You’ll need to invest time in getting to know the Fellow, learn about their interests and skills, and let them know about your organizational priorities. The benefits will be manifold.”

– *Radhika Gordon Sharma, MPH, Healthy Albany Park (HAP) Coordinator*

Praise from Foundations and Corporations

“We enjoy funding this program so much because we feel that this is one of the few grants that we make that really has a double impact. It impacts not only the medically underserved populations that the Fellows serve, but hopefully it impacts and aids the Fellows as well.”

– *Rob DiLeonardi, Executive Director, VNA Foundation*

“HPHC Foundation and the Schweitzer Fellowship have similar goals—to develop people as leaders. The Fellowship is an important pipeline for leadership development.”

– *Michael Devlin, Community Service Program Manager, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care (HPHC) Foundation*

“The goals of the program are aligned with the goals of The Simmons Foundation, which believes in a healthy community with meaningful work for all. By lending support, foundations are making an important statement about the critical need for students to have a life-long commitment to public service, particularly to underserved populations.”

– *Linda May, Simmons Foundation Executive Director*

“We believe that the work of the Schweitzer Fellows, particularly with the new emphasis on collaboration with Trust grantees and issues, enhances the work already being pursued in these communities. We believe that the intentional partnering between a national leadership program and a statewide funder in merging the interests of the two organizations is quite innovative.”

– *Allen Smart, Program Officer, Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust*

“The Baxter Foundation has been a supporter of this program from the beginning ... Schweitzer Fellows care, in the best and broadest sense of that term. And they carry that commitment with them into their professional and personal lives, long after their projects have been completed. We’ve watched with pride as the Fellows Program has grown in stature and substance ... It’s been a remarkable success story.”

– *Charles Thurman, Assistant Treasurer and member of the Baxter International Foundation Board of Directors*

NOTE: The identifiers of all individuals quoted reflect their position and affiliation at the time the quote was given.