AGENDA
Note: All times are Eastern Standard Time.

Monday, Nov. 16

PLENARY

11 a.m.-12:15 p.m.  ●  COVID and Beyond: Where Do We Go From Here?

The COVID pandemic has highlighted the worldwide need for a better understanding of both this particular virus and of pandemics in general and for a more organized approach to developing and sharing new diagnostic tests, treatments, and vaccines for infectious diseases. At the same time, the tragically disproportionate effects of this pandemic have brought home the need to improve public health in the hardest-hit communities and to strengthen global cooperation in health care and science.

In the starkest way possible, for the first time in a century, we’re seeing that lives depend upon how we handle events like this. The world’s new appreciation for the value of science makes this a time of enlightenment, underlining the importance of investments in top-notch research and disease-management capabilities. But while some scientific efforts are advancing rapidly right now, other important projects may be stalled, with potential repercussions across multiple fields. How do we prioritize the most essential research, for the long term as well as the short term, while we’re constrained by these unprecedented times?

Join Anne Schuchat, MD, and Francis Collins, MD, PhD, as they discuss the pandemic, the vaccine progress, funding for research and public health, and initiatives to achieve greater diversity in medicine and science.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

12:45-1:45 p.m.  ●  Cross-Continuum Competencies in Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
  Medical School Admissions: Lessons Learned From the COVID-19 Pandemic
  Regulatory Round-Up: Update on Federal Regulations
When My Time Comes: Should Patients Have the Right to Determine When Life Should End?

Diane Rehm, legendary NPR radio host and author of several bestsellers, recently authored *When My Time Comes: Conversations About Whether Those Who Are Dying Should Have the Right to Determine When Life Should End*. In the book, Rehm addresses the urgent, hotly contested cause of the right-to-die movement, which she champions.

Through interviews with terminally ill patients, as well as with physicians, ethicists, spouses, relatives, and representatives of those who vigorously oppose the movement, *When My Time Comes* gathers the viewpoints of a broad range of people personally linked to the realities of medical aid in dying. The book presents their fervent arguments. In this session, Timothy E. Quill, MD, professor of medicine at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry and author of several books on end-of-life, will discuss the compelling debates across the nation about whether to adopt laws allowing those who are dying to put an end to their suffering by their own hand. Dr. Quill was the lead physician plaintiff in the New York State legal case challenging the law prohibiting physician-assisted death that was heard in 1997 by the U.S. Supreme Court (*Quill v. Vacco*).

No matter where you stand on the issue, the discussion is essential and has implications on how we approach these topics within a medical school curriculum.

COVID-19: Progress to Date and Preparing for Future Pandemics

The session focuses on the perspective of public health leaders who play a prominent national role in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the session, speakers Ross McKinney, MD, and Anthony Fauci, MD, will discuss the progress made against the disease, the status of vaccine development, and broad social, political, and ethical challenges raised by pandemic response. The session will emphasize the powers and limitations of existing public health and governmental mechanisms, lessons learned for future pandemics, and the role of academic medicine.
2-3 p.m. ● Addressing Institutionalized Racism in Academic Medicine

Advocacy and Public Policy to Advance Diversity Across the Continuum

Communities, Social Justice, and Academic Medical Centers: Revisiting Conversations From Learn Serve Lead 2015

From Some Benches to Some Bedsides: Developing and Accessing Breakthrough Technologies

Overwhelmed: How to Work, Love, and Play When No One Has the Time

If you can’t watch this session because you think you don’t have the time ... well, that’s exactly WHY you should watch it.

Today, too many of us are caught up in toxic overload. Americans work longer hours than those in almost every other advanced economy. And that’s everyone – not just the health care workforce and those of us in the overcompetitive, overachieving culture of academic medicine. Imagine where we, from deans to medical students, would rank on the “overwhelmed” chart?

We’ve come to value busy ness as a badge of honor in this country. But is all the time we pour into our jobs really ensuring that we’re doing our best work, much less leading healthy and full lives? Our culture of overwork is leading to burnout, stress, sickness, and disengagement. And it perpetuates gender inequality — an issue brought to the forefront when we started quarantining and homeschooling.

Brigid Schulte’s talk will draw on her extensive research and her work as director of the Better Life Lab and host of “Better Life Lab,” one of Apple’s top 50 podcasts. She’ll use stories and data to show how transforming our work culture at the individual and organizational level; shifting our mindsets; applying tools based on behavioral design; and focusing on mission, performance, flexibility, and healthy, happy workers yield not only better work, but also time for a better life.
PLENARY

3:15-4:30 p.m.  ●  Is There a Cure for Racism?

Throughout our country’s history, racism has affected every aspect of our collective national life — from education to opportunity, personal safety to community stability, and health care to housing. Events earlier this year made it all too clear that racism — systemic and individual — is still prevalent today.

But there is hope. More Americans than ever before stand ready to combat racism. Yet how do we create lasting change beyond this moment?

Ibram X. Kendi, PhD, and Nikole Hannah-Jones, two of the most influential voices in the conversation about racism, White privilege, and social justice, will explore where we are today and what it will take to make true progress in eliminating racial injustice and inequality.

Dr. Kendi, a cancer survivor, history professor, and celebrated author of bestselling books — including *How to Be an Antiracist* — is a frequent and persuasive voice on all matters related to race and equity. Hannah-Jones, the recipient of a Pulitzer Prize, a National Magazine Award, a Peabody, and a Polk Award, has written about federal failures to enforce the Fair Housing Act, the resegregation of American schools, and policing in America. She is currently partnering with Oprah Winfrey to produce an expansive portfolio of films, television series, and other programming based on *The New York Times*’ groundbreaking 1619 Project, marking the 400th anniversary of American slavery.

Dr. Kendi and Hannah-Jones will hold a candid discussion — facilitated by AAMC President and CEO David J. Skorton, MD — on how entrenched programs, policies, and societal mores, including in health care, have stood in the way of justice and equity for all people.

Kendi will take questions from members of the audience in a follow-up session.
Tuesday, Nov. 17

11-11:30 a.m. ● Interview With Lonnie Bunch III

PLENARY

11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. ● We All Have a Story to Tell: The Power of Human Connection

Emmy Award-winning journalist and producer Ann Curry has witnessed unfathomable conflict, oppression, and inequality during her celebrated 30-plus-year career in television. As a former network news anchor and fearless international correspondent, Curry has covered topics ranging from global conflicts to humanitarian disasters.

More recently, she served as executive producer of two critically acclaimed television series — We'll Meet Again (for PBS) and Chasing the Cure (for TNT) — both of which demonstrate her exceptional ability to connect communities and inspire hope. In Curry's “Witnessing Humanity” TED Talk, she cautions against perpetuating divisive us-versus-them narratives, warning that such polarization can “spread like viruses.”
In this plenary session, Curry will explore how our impulse to categorize people can often lead us down dangerous paths. After her talk, Bon Ku, MD, Thomas Jefferson University’s assistant dean for medical education and an advisor for *Chasing the Cure*, will join Curry for a conversation about a range of topics, including humanism in medicine, the patient’s perspective, gender equity, and resilience.

**Speaker**

Ann Curry  
Emmy Award-Winning Journalist and Producer

**Facilitator**

Bon Ku, MD  
Assistant Dean for Medical Education, Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

1-2 p.m.  ● The Coalition for Physician Accountability: UME-GME Transition Review Committee

Courageous Leadership: Challenging the Status Quo in Academic Medicine

Creating a Culture of Inclusion in Academic Medicine: Perspectives From the Field

Tomorrow’s Telehealth: How Much Will Telehealth Shape the Future of Health Care?

Together: The Healing Power of Human Connection

Vivek Murthy, MD, is the 19th Surgeon General of the United States. Dr. Murthy’s commitment to medicine and health began early in life. Born in the United Kingdom as the son of immigrants from India, Dr. Murthy discovered the art of healing in his father’s medical clinic in Miami, Florida. A believer in the power of community, he and his sister co-founded VISIONS, a peer-to-peer HIV/AIDS education program in India, and Swasthya (“health and well-being” in Sanskrit), a community health partnership that trained women to defy the odds in their patriarchal villages and become health care providers and educators. Dr. Murthy is a Gold Humanism Honor Society member and a 2016 recipient of the National Humanism in Medicine Medal.

In this session, Dr. Murthy will share his commitment to humanism and discuss stories and inspiration from his *New York Times* 2020 bestselling book, *Together: The Healing Power of Human Connection in a Sometimes Lonely World*. He will also be presented with the 2020 Vilcek-Gold Award for Humanism in Healthcare by Jan T. Vilcek, MD, PhD, chairman and CEO of the Vilcek Foundation; David J. Skorton, MD, president and CEO of the AAMC; and Richard I. Levin, MD, president and CEO of The Arnold P. Gold Foundation. The award honors an immigrant professional who has made extraordinary contributions to humanism in health care.
As we've focused this year, out of necessity, on COVID-19, the opioid epidemic has become less top of mind for many of us. But stay-at-home orders pushed those working toward sobriety into isolation while limiting their access to treatment. The New York Times called the coronavirus “a national relapse trigger.” The opioid crisis remains a crisis. While prescribing patterns have declined, 2.6 million Americans are still addicted to opioids.

In this session, we will hear from two individuals who have thoroughly researched this crisis. Travis Rieder, PhD, a bioethicist at Johns Hopkins University, suffered a severe injury in a motorcycle accident and found himself with a profound dependency on oxycodone. In the wake of that experience, he became driven to discover why medicine is so bad at dealing with prescription opioids. His book In Pain interweaves his personal story with scientific research and potential solutions. Beth Macy, an accomplished author, journalist, and storyteller, has spent years reporting on the opioid epidemic. Her 2019 book Dopesick explores the lives of young heroin users and their parents in rural Virginia while taking an intimate look at drug dealers and at the police officers, judges, doctors, and health activists struggling to fight the epidemic.

Dr. Rieder and Macy will share stories and frank recommendations for how physicians, residents, and students can help reverse the disturbing statistics.
PLENARY
3:45-4:45 p.m.  Leadership Plenary

Join us for an AAMC Learn Serve Lead tradition: the Leadership Plenary with the AAMC Board Chair and President and CEO — this year, respectively, Joseph E. Kerschner, MD, and David J. Skorton, MD. These two highly respected leaders will inspire us to celebrate academic medicine, challenge us to confront our shared shortcomings, and share their insights about the path ahead. Both leaders are known for their willingness to confront forthrightly issues that stand in our way, so expect to hear frank, honest perspectives on persistent obstacles that affect academic medicine’s learners, leaders, and patients.

Speakers

Beth Macy
Journalist and Author, *Dopesick: Dealers, Doctors, and the Drug Company That Addicted America*

Travis N. Rieder, PhD
Director, MBE Program; Assistant Director for Education Initiatives; Associate Faculty; and Research Scholar, Johns Hopkins University Berman Institute of Bioethics
Author, *In Pain: A Bioethicist’s Personal Struggle with Opioids*

Facilitator

J. Larry Jameson, MD, PhD
Chair-Elect, AAMC Board of Directors; Executive Vice President, University of Pennsylvania for the Health System; and Dean, Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania

Speakers

David J. Skorton, MD
President and CEO, AAMC

Joseph E. Kerschner, MD
Chair, AAMC Board of Directors
Dean, School of Medicine, and Provost and Executive Vice President, Medical College of Wisconsin
Wednesday, Nov. 18

11-11:45 a.m.  ●  Town Hall With AAMC Leadership Team

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Noon-1 p.m.  ●  The AAMC Annual Washington Update 2020: An Extraordinary Year
   Addressing Social Needs and Determinants: What Works, What Doesn’t, and What Should Your Role Be?
   Elitism and Educational Inequity as Barriers to Diversifying the Medical Profession
   Herbert W. Nickens Lecture: Black Lives Matter in Science, Engineering, and Medicine
   Responding to the National Opioid Epidemic: NIH HEAL and AAMC Initiatives

1:15-2:15 p.m.  ●  Adapting Access Strategies to Meet Patient Care Needs in Unstable Times
   Black Men in Medicine: Stories Behind the CV
   Effective Policies and Practices Addressing Sexual Harassment: Update From the AAMC Gender Equity Lab
   Telehealth Competencies: Guiding Curricula to Prepare Clinicians to Deliver 21st Century Care
   Transition to Residency: Rebooting After COVID-19