

Six Tulane students named Schweitzer fellows

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Mingyang Liu, a second-year MD/MPH student at Tulane University, is one of six Tulane medicine and public health students selected as 2012-13 New Orleans Schweitzer Fellows. The fellows will spend the academic year carrying out innovative service projects that address underlying social factors impacting health in the greater New Orleans area.



Second-year MD/MPH student Mingyang Liu will work with the Vietnamese-American community to create a hepatitis B awareness and screening program at a student-run clinic. (Photo by Paula Burch-Celentano)

Liu will work with members of the Vietnamese-American community to create a sustainable hepatitis B awareness and screening program at the New Orleans East Louisiana Community Health Center.

“Like many of my classmates, I came to Tulane because of our longstanding dedication to the community,” says Liu. “With a growing Vietnamese population in and around New Orleans, it is pivotal for both the communities and the healthcare providers who care for them to begin a dialogue about hepatitis B, an infection affecting one in every 10 Asians and Asian Americans.”

Also selected as fellows are Purva Amar (School of Medicine) and Nanci Zhang, (School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine), who will work with the primary care clinic at Grace House, a residential treatment program for women in recovery.

Ashley Case (School of Medicine) will develop an education and support program for children with chronic asthma and their caretakers at the [Ruth U. Fertel/Tulane Community Health Center](#).

David Fralinger (School of Medicine) will create an online resource for LGBT patients, working to identify and address concerns and barriers to care, and creating a network of healthcare providers.

Michael Halperin (School of Medicine) will work to promote healthy lifestyle choices by implementing the CrossFit exercise program at several charter schools.

Since 2007, nearly 50 Schweitzer fellows have delivered more than 8,000 hours of service within the city's most vulnerable neighborhoods. The program is funded entirely through charitable donations and grants including sponsorship from the Tulane University School of Medicine.