July 15, 2018

Dear First Year Students,

Welcome to Pritzker!

We are very excited to announce that your class will be a part of the recent curricular change project which was funded by the American Medical Association called VISTA. The VISTA program is supported in part by a grant from the American Medical Association as part of its Accelerating Change in Medical Education Consortium, which includes more than 30 medical schools across the country.

VISTA (Value, Improvement, Safety, and Team Advocates) is a new longitudinal experiential program to train students to act as effective advocates in four areas of health care delivery: 1) Value of care, 2) Improvement science, 3) Safety of patients, and 4) Team training.

The new changes will build on existing curricula, as well as create new modules to give you the necessary tools to successfully consider and contribute to improvements in health care delivery. The primary objectives are to: 1) implement and evaluate a longitudinal skills-based immersive learning curriculum in healthcare delivery sciences to provide medical students with the skills to advocate for a better healthcare system for patients, 2) use interactive technologies (i.e. micro-blogging, mobile apps) to support medical students as advocates in VISTA areas during clinical experiences, and 3) execute and support a culture change strategy to support empowering medical students as active champions of the health care delivery system.

In order to integrate the project into the curriculum, all first year students will receive iPad minis. The devices will be set up ahead of time with apps and educational links that you will be able to use throughout your time at Pritzker.

We look forward to meeting all of you soon!

Sincerely,

Vineet Arora, MD, MAPP, Principal Investigator VISTA
Professor, Section of Internal Medicine
Assistant Dean for Scholarship & Discovery
Director, GME Clinical Learning Environment Innovation

Jeanne Farnan, MD, MHPE, Co-Principal Investigator VISTA
Associate Professor, Section of Hospital Medicine
Associate Dean, Evaluation and Continuous Quality Improvement
Director, Clinical Skills Education
Medical Director, Clinical Performance Center

The VISTA Steering Committee
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