DREXEL UNIVERSITY
Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine
College of Medicine

2025-2026 ELAM ANNUAL REPORT

The ELAM Annual Report is distributed annually in August/September.



FROM THE DIRECTOR

The effectiveness of ELAM's distinctive approach to leadership preparation is broadly recognized within the academic health community. ELAM alumni number over 1,800 and serve in leadership positions at over 300 academic health centers around the world. ELAM carries on the legacy of advancing leaders in medicine begun by the Female Medical College of Pennsylvania, the nation's first degree-granting women's medical school and a predecessor of Drexel University College of Medicine, where ELAM is hosted.

The program's expansion to include the Executive Leadership in Healthcare (ELH) track reflects a deep commitment to expanding leadership roles in hospital systems. In 2025-2026, ELAM opened to qualified applicants regardless of gender, recognizing that many who wish to champion women in leadership often lack access to the training needed to do so effectively.

To continue expanding the impact of ELAM, the program will be introducing the Executive Leadership in Transformational Change (ELTC) in 2027-2028 as a new track. The Allyship Track at ELAM has been incorporated into the ELTC program. ELTC is designed for senior leaders in academic medicine, health systems, and industry who are ready to serve as transformational change agents within the organizations they lead, such as dean, vice dean, executive vice dean, provost, CEO, CMO, COO (c-suite roles). We will be strongly encouraging ELUMs in high level leadership roles to apply to ELTC.

ELAM's mission has always been transformative, and we are grateful to all of our supporters and institutional sponsors for making the program such a success. We look forward to continued growth as we pursue our vision: to transform healthcare by seating and sustaining the most talented and dedicated leaders.

Nancy D. Spector, MD
Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics
Betty A. Cohen Chair in Women's Health
Senior Vice Dean for Faculty
Executive Director, Lynn Yeakel Institute for Women's Health and Leadership (IWHL)
Executive Director, Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine® (ELAM) and Executive Leadership in Healthcare (ELH)
Drexel University College of Medicine



FROM THE DEAN

Academic medicine and healthcare are navigating a period of extraordinary complexity and transformation. Rapid advances in technology, shifting economic realities, policy shifts, evolving workforce needs, new models of care delivery and the changing demands of educating the next generation are reshaping our organizations. Meeting these challenges requires leaders who can look beyond immediate priorities, bring people together around a shared purpose and turn vision into meaningful, sustainable progress.

This is what makes the work of Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine® (ELAM) and Executive Leadership in Healthcare (ELH) so important. These programs prepare already accomplished individuals to lead complex organizations while giving fellows opportunities to apply what they learn to consequential priorities within their own institutions. Their impact extends well beyond the fellowship year—to departments, schools, health systems and the communities they serve. Building on this strong foundation, Executive Leadership in Transformational Change (ELTC), planned for 2027-2028, will further expand this work by preparing senior leaders to advance meaningful change at the institutional and systems levels.

Drexel University College of Medicine is proud to be the home of programs that are strengthening leadership across academic medicine and healthcare, helping organizations build the capacity they need for both today and the future. I am deeply grateful to Dr. Nancy Spector and the ELAM and ELH faculty and staff for their vision, dedication and continued commitment to this mission. I am equally grateful to the deans, CEOs and institutional sponsors whose investment in their fellows reflects a broader investment in the future of their organizations and our fields. Together, this extraordinary ELUM community is developing leaders prepared not only to meet the challenges before us, but to create stronger, more innovative and more resilient organizations for the generations that follow.

Charles B. Cairns, MD, FACEP, FAAEM, FAHA, FAAAS
Walter H. and Leonore Annenberg Dean
Professor of Medicine and Emergency Medicine
Drexel University College of Medicine
Senior Vice President, Medical Affairs
Drexel University

Scenes From 2025-2026



Sharmila Makhija, MD, MBA (ELAM '13), presented on "Philanthropy for Leaders" at the Winter 2026 Session, sharing her journey that led to her current role as founding dean and CEO of Alice L. Walton School of Medicine.



Pictured L to R: Erika Brown, PhD (ELAM '15), Andrea Anderson, MD, MEd (ELAM '25), and Nancy Spector, MD (ELAM '10), gathered for a photo at the NMA Professional Development series reception, supported by ELAM.



Charles B. Cairns, MD, dean of Drexel University College of Medicine, takes a selfie with ELAM and ELH fellows after presenting their Ann Preston case at the Fall 2026 in-person Session.



Elizabeth Travis, PhD (ELAM '00), was the class of 2026's graduation speaker.



Pictured L to R: Vidya Raman, MD, MBA (ELH '23), Peggy McNaull, MD (ELAM '20), and Viviane Nasr, MD, MPH (ELH '25), gathered for a photo at the Society for Pediatric Anesthesia SPA-AAP Pediatric Anesthesiology meeting in Denver.



ELUMs and fellows pose at the AAMC Learn Serve Lead 2025 ELAM reception.

The ELAM Impact

The *Hedwig van Ameringen* Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine® (ELAM) program, established in 1995, began as a prestigious national leadership fellowship for women, which aimed to increase and sustain the number and impact of women in leadership positions in the health sciences. In 2025, ELAM celebrated its 30th anniversary, boasting over 1,800 alumni (ELUMs) in high-level leadership positions (provosts, deans, chief officers, chairs, etc.) at more than 300 health institutions around the country. To leverage the success of the ELAM program for the benefit of everyone, the ELAM program began accepting all qualified individuals in the spring of 2025, regardless of gender.

APPLICATIONS

Applicants to ELAM and ELH come from around the country and around the world.

They are mid-level and senior faculty from medical, dental, public health and pharmacy schools and health systems.

Facts and figures for the class of 2026-2027:

ELAM

- **135** total applications; 19 reapplicants; 4 pre-accepts
- **105** unique institutions
  - 9 first time
  - 2 second time
  - 13 nominating after 5-year absence

ELH

- **51** total applications; 5 reapplicants; 2 pre-accepts
- **40** unique institutions
  - 5 first time
  - 8 second time

119 total institutions nominated across both programs.

ACADEMIC AND BUSINESS SUPPORT

Support from academic institutions and executive search firms enables ELAM to provide continuing support for ELAM alumni, who in turn support an institution's emerging leaders through community-building, continuing education and professional development.

- **25** Institutions for Leadership Advancement
- **13** Executive Search Network members (executive search firms)
- **414** job postings in our e-newsletter, the Edge
- **139** resource lists of highly qualified ELUMs produced for academic institution search committees and search firms

GIFTS

A primary goal of ELAM is to sustain our alumni in their leadership roles.

We do this by facilitating ELUM community-building activities; distributing the ELAM Edge e-newsletter with position announcements, program and alumni updates, and leadership-themed news items; offering advanced leadership development programs for alumni; being available for phone consultations with our ELUMs; and more.

The support we received from ELUMs and friends is crucial in helping us in these efforts.

GIFT TOTALS

Laura Lynch Legacy Fund:
Supports alumni programming and community building.
Gifts totaling $23,403

The Breaking Through Fund:
Provides supplemental financial support to fellows who may face financial constraints.
Gifts totaling $1,986

Innovations Fund:
Provides support for ELAM that our program fees do not cover.
Gifts totaling $10,741

Founders Fund:
Sustains the influential work of the ELAM program by helping endow a director's chair.
Gifts totaling $30

Transforming Healthcare

More than 1,800 fellows have been sponsored by 90% of accredited U.S. medical schools and 60% of accredited U.S. dental schools.

35 fellows have come from schools outside of the United States. 117 schools have had 5 or more fellows, and of those, 69 have had 10 or more fellows.

Alumni of the *Hedwig van Ameringen* Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine program hold executive leadership positions at more than 300 academic health organizations.

These include:

- 113 Chief Executive/Academic Officers (Presidents/Chief Executive Officers, Executive Directors, Provosts and Chancellors)
- 21 Assistant/Associate/Vice/Senior Associate Provosts
- 83 Vice Presidents

58 Deans of Accredited Schools

36 at medical schools
3 at dental schools
12 at public health or population health schools
7 at other institutions

290 Associate/Senior Associate/Vice Deans

221 at medical schools
26 at dental schools
16 at public health schools
27 at other institutions

396 Center Directors

281 at medical schools
15 at dental schools
15 at public health schools
85 at other institutions

361 Department Chairs

277 at medical schools
24 at dental schools
16 at public health schools
44 at other institutions

Thank You to Our Donors!

Our deepest thanks to the individuals below for their outstanding support of ELAM.

These numbers reflect donations recieved from July 2025 to June 2026.

$1-$499

Abbott, Andrea M.
Ajit, Seena
Akkanti, Bindu
Allen, Norrina B.
Ambardekar, Aditee
Basu, Saonli
Blasius, Kimberly
Braun, Kelli M.
Brennand, Kristen J.
Caceres, Jennifer
Carlson, Nichole
Carter-Edwards, Lori
Casey, Susan Bleasdale
Castiglioni, Analia
Chang, Betty
Christianson, Mindy S.
Chubinskaya, Susan
Chung, Ellen
Ciaccio, Christina E.
Coan, Katy
Coker, Modupe
Colla, Carrie
Crary, Shelley E.
Danciu, Theodora Elena
David, Lisa Renee
De Leon-Crutchlow, Diva D.
Dharmarajan, Kavita V.
Dinan, Michaela A.
Eickmeyer, Sarah M.
Fernandez, Helen Maria
Ford, Deetra Yelena
Fox, Nicole
Fuentes-Afflick, Elena
Furdui, Cristina M.
Gandhi, Manisha
Gerber, Megan R.
Gibbs, Jennifer
Goldberg, Aviva
Graves, Kencee Kaye
Gundry, Rebekah
Han, Heeyoung
Harrison, Leila E.
Harrop, Catriona M.
Helou, Marieka Ann
Henderson Kelley, Laura
Hesemann, Laura
Hinds, Monica T.
Humphrey, Catherine Anne
Isakova, Tamara
Iyer, Maya S.
Jaffe, Rebecca
Jan, Sophia
Jayaraman, Vasanthi
Johnson, Margaret Mary
Kennedy, Kierstin C.
Kubiliun, Nisa
Lane, Susan Wallace
Laughlin, Ruple S.
LeBlanc, Amanda J.
Lee, Allison Joanna
Lighthall, Jessyka Grace
Luo, Yu (Agnes)
Maloney Patel, Nell
Martin, Pamela M.
Matteson, Kristen
McCallister, Jennifer Wanda
McCoin, Nicole Streiff
McKinney, Katherine
McMichael, Amy J.
McNamara, Mariah
Mehta, Akanksha
Menkiti, Ogechukwu
Mielke, Michelle M.
Modesitt, Susan C.
Monrad, Seetha Ursula
Mulcahey, Mary K.
Muniz Pujalt, Gysella B.
Munson, Mary
Muszynski, Jennifer A.
Ngwenya, Laura B.
Ogdie, Alexis
Omole, Folashade S.
Page, Kathleen A.
Parikh, Payal D.
Parikh, Priti P.
Peccoralo, Lauren
Pereira, Rocio I.
Peterson-Carmichael, Stacey
Pileggi, Roberta
Powers, Diane
Quatman-Yates, Catherine C.
Raghavan, Aarti
Raman, Vidya T.
Randis, Tara M.
Riddle-Jones, Latonya Antoinette
Ruhl, A. Parker
Rundell, Kristen
Sammons, Julia Shaklee
Samuels-Kalow, Margaret
Schiff, Lauren D.
Schleyer, Anneliese M.
Scholtens, Denise M.
Shevde-Samant, Lalita
Singh, Upinder
Smith, Beth Alison
Smock, Kristi Johnson
Sopko, Kelly L.
Starrels, Joanna L.
Stiefel, Sharon
Tan, Antoinette
Thomas, Reena Parada
Tilton, Ann H.
Torun, Nurhan
Verduzco-Gutierrez, Monica
Walia, Harneet
Wang, Tisha
Ward, Cary Cecile
Wilke, Lee G.
Wright, Crystal C.
Xu, Jinping
Yahyavi, Noushin
Yuan, Judy Chia-Chun
Zebrowski, Alexis M.
Zgierska, Aleksandra E.

$500-$999

Bartels, Christie
Brown, Ann Julia
Brown, Kelly M.
Dankoski, Mary E.
Day, Hollis
Good, Misty
Greene-Chandos, Diana L.
Harman, Stephanie
Khan, Abigail May
Lee, Tzielan Chang
Maassen, Rachel A.
McCrea, II, Leon
McKenzie-Brown, Anne Marie
Mutha, Sunita
Njoku, Dolores Benedicta
Phelan, Mary Beth
Quezada, Sandra Maria
Riley, Carley
Shutter, Lori A.
Theard, Marie Angele
Weir, Rachel Anne

$1,000-$5,000

Hedrick, Traci L.
Hopf, Harriet W.
Termuhlen, Amanda M.
Tjoumakaris, Stavropoula I.
Tyler, Katren Rachel
Villablanca, Amparo C.

We greatly appreciate each gift given in support of ELAM, and we have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of this listing. Please notify Shermika Lightfoot at stl42@drexel.edu of any inaccuracies. We regret any errors.

Thank You to Our ELAM Team

ELAM Leadership

*ELUM

Nancy D. Spector, MD*
Executive Director, ELAM
nds24@drexel.edu

Erika T. Brown, PhD*
Associate Director, ELAM
erika.t.brown@dartmouth.edu

Sara Jo Grethlein, MD, MBA*
Associate Director, ELH
sgrethlein@yahoo.com

Linda Berardi-Demo, EdD
ELAM Admissions Lead
lab396@drexel.edu

Sharon Hull, MD*
ELAM Coaching Lead
sharon.hull@mettasolutions.com

Maya Iyer, MD, MEd, FAAP*
ELAM Research Strategy Lead
maya.Iyer@nationwidechildrens.org

Leon McCrea II, MD, MPH, FAAFP*
Associate Director, Allyship at ELAM Program
lm978@drexel.edu

Ruth Shim, MD, MPH*
University of California, Davis
rshim@health.ucdavis.edu

Amanda Termuhlen, MD*
University of Minnesota
mandy@atermuhlenmd.com

ELAM Staff

Joyce Collins, MA
Director, Communications & Programs
jml575@drexel.edu

Takiyah Fortune
Finance Coordinator
tf494@drexel.edu

Brian Kall, MBA
Senior Director, Strategic Operations and Logistics
bk335@drexel.edu

Shermika Lightfoot, MBA
Director, Administrative Operations
stl42@drexel.edu

Indee Phillpotts
Program Manager
iep23@drexel.edu

Tamar Simpser, MBA
Executive Director, Finance & Administration
tts37@drexel.edu

Katie Stanton
Executive Assistant
kls484@drexel.edu

**Thank you to all of our volunteers,
ELUMs and non-ELUMs,
for your time, dedication and inspiration.**

Thank You to Our Institutions for Leadership Advancement

Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine

Drexel University College of Medicine

Duke University School of Medicine

Harvard Medical School

Indiana University School of Medicine

Rush Medical College of Rush University

The Medical College of Wisconsin

The Ohio State University

The University of Alabama at Birmingham Marnix E. Heersink School of Medicine

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine

UC Health; University of Cincinnati Medical Center

University of California, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

University of California, Davis School of Medicine

University of California, Riverside School of Medicine

University of Colorado School of Medicine Anschutz Medical Campus

University of Kentucky College of Medicine

University of Minnesota Medical School

University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Medicine

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

University of Texas Medical Branch

University of Utah School of Medicine

University of Virginia School of Medicine

Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine

Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell

Thank You to Our Executive Search Network

AGB Search

AMN Healthcare

Caldwell Partners

Diversified Search

Isaacson, Miller

JUNE Partners

Kaye/Bassman International

Korn Ferry

National Medical Association

Opus Search Partners

Spencer Stuart

The Medicus Firm

WittKieffer