2014 Edward D. Harris Professionalism Award

The Board of Directors of Alpha Omega Alpha is pleased to announce the winner of the 2014 Edward D. Harris Professionalism Award. This award emphasizes $A\Omega A$'s commitment to its belief that professionalism is a crucial facet of being a physician, a quality that can be both taught and learned. Originally named the $A\Omega A$ Professionalism Fellowship, the award was renamed in 2010 to honor the late Edward D. Harris, the longtime executive director of the society. Applications were open to medical schools with active $A\Omega A$ chapters or associations. Faculty who have demonstrated personal dedication to teaching and research in specific aspects of professionalism that could be transferred directly to medical students or resident physicians were encouraged to apply for these funds.

The winner of the 2014 Edward D. Harris Professionalism Award is:

Lisa Moreno-Walton, MD, MS, FACEP, FAAEM

Professor of Clinical Emergency Medicine at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center—New Orleans

Professionalism in clinical medicine entails providing every patient with the best service, and this requires that physicians are culturally competent and sensitive to the needs of unique patient populations. A recent review of the literature and an unpublished study conducted by Moreno, et al., indicate that medical school and residency didactic curricula provide an average of forty-five minutes a year of education regarding the unique health needs of the lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender (LGBT) population. For this project, our team will create a video teaching tool designed to familiarize the learner with several health care situations unique to the LGBT population. It will address several errors and misconceptions common in the treatment of this population and will model culturally competent treatment interventions that can be rendered with dignity and mutual respect. The video project will make the learning of material, for which there are few content experts, widely available to medical students and residents, schools, and programs, both nationally and internationally.

