

To Whom it May Concern,

It is an honor and a privilege to submit my nomination for Chair for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) for the Society of General Internal Medicine Midwest Region. I have been an Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine at Loyola University since 2017 and I believe my passion for education and my commitments to teaching and equity will help me succeed in this role.

Diversity and equity work have always been passions of mine. While in college I did work with Amnesty International and a human rights internship abroad in Costa Rica. The skills of patience, humility and generous listening that I learned through these experiences helped support my successes in medical school at the University of Minnesota, where I was Co Chair of our student-run free clinic, and in my residency at New York University where I helped found the resident-run Social Justice Coalition.

As a faculty member at Loyola University I have worked closely with institutional leaders, medical students and residents in many different capacities to advance equity and diversity. I have delivered anti-racism and bias training to employees and faculty as well as lectures on social determinants of health to our students. I helped develop an elective for medical students in Narrative Medicine, where we explore the patient experience through stories and lived experience.

In 2021 I was promoted to Associate Program Director for our Internal Medicine Residency with a specific focus on supporting DEI initiatives. I also serve as Chair of the DEI Committee for our Department of Medicine. These opportunities helped me find dedicated time to create a DEI curriculum for our residents and to critically analyze recruitment and promotions processes. I have given lectures regionally and nationally about racism in medicine and had several works published in newspapers and in peer-reviewed journals related to health equity.

I believe as a physician leader, it's important for my work to extend beyond my practice and my institution. Therefore, my aforementioned interests have helped inform my advocacy work outside of my job, where I serve as Co President for the Illinois Physicians for a National Health Plan advocacy group. I have also spoken at regional and national conferences on the topic of health care advocacy.

Lastly, but most importantly, my position at Loyola has allowed me to develop a robust and meaningful primary care practice which informs why equity work is so essential.

I think my experiences as a physician, an educator and an advocate will help me succeed in the role of DEI Chair. Thank you for your time and your consideration and I look forward to continuing my work with SGIM!

Sincerely,

Monica Maalouf, MD
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Associate Program Director, Internal Medicine Residency
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Dr. Monica Maalouf is a primary care internist and Assistant Professor of Medicine at Loyola University Medical Center. She did her undergraduate education at the University of Chicago where she studied biology and anthropology. She went to medical school at the University of Minnesota and completed her residency training in Internal Medicine at New York University School of Medicine in New York City.

As faculty member she serves as Director of Wellness for the Stritch School of Medicine and is Co Chair of the WELL Committee. She is Associate Program Director for the Internal Medicine Residency with a specific focus on diversity, equity and inclusion. She is also Chair of the DEI Committee for the Department of Medicine. She has helped develop curricula for students and residents and has spoken regionally and nationally on racism in medicine, health equity and health advocacy.

She has had several essays published in regional and national publications as well as in peer reviewed journals. She has won multiple teaching and patient-care related awards.

Outside of her role as faculty, she is Co-president of Physicians for a National Health Plan (PNHP) Illinois and a Board Member of the Illinois Single-Payer Coalition. Her medical interests include HIV care and women's health with a particular focus on marginalized communities. She is fluent in English, Spanish and Arabic.