

MSBML Newsletter

W O M E N ' S H I S T O R Y M O N T H



December 9, 2021

[Special Board Meeting](#)

January 20, 2022

[Executive Committee Meeting](#)

January 20, 2022

[Board Meeting](#)

**IN
THIS
EDITION**

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Upcoming Meetings



Know Your Board Members

Shoba Gaymes is an active member of many organizations in Mississippi and abroad in Guyana. She previously has served as President for Central Medical Society Alliance, MS State Medical Association Alliance, and International Friends of Mississippi in addition to participating in various committees and volunteer work. She has a passion and love for civic activities and volunteering. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in History/Political Science from Belhaven University, as well as an Associate's degree in Elementary Education.



Shoba Gaymes was appointed to the MS State Board of Medical Licensure in 2018, and her term expires in 2024.

"As a non-medical person, I am afforded the opportunity to voice an impartial unbiased opinion for patients and consumers' safety, care, and protection to the disposition of alleged, unethical, or malpractice based on evidence presented."

Shoba and her husband, Dr. Charles Gaymes, are the proud parents of two sons. She loves spending time with and spoiling her grandson. She also enjoys traveling, reading, socializing, dancing, and music.

"The MSMBL has given me the opportunity to learn about the ethical practice of medicine and the protection of the public from abuses of such practice."

Follow us on social media!



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Instagram - msboardofmedical



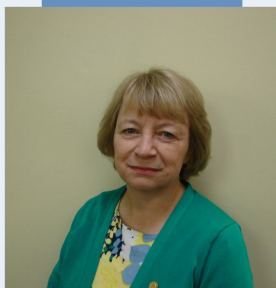
The Legacy of Dr. Helen Barnes

Dr. Helen Barnes, Mississippi's first African American board-certified OB/GYN, was born in Jackson, MS, and spent much of her early childhood in Jackson before attending school in New York City and Pennsylvania. After being unable to attend medical school in Mississippi due to her race, she graduated from the Howard University School of Medicine in Washington, D.C. After graduation, she returned to her home state of Mississippi as a general practitioner. She then completed a residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Kings County Hospital in Brooklyn, NY. Throughout her four decades of service, Dr. Barnes remained committed to providing improved care for underserved women and babies. Dr. Barnes, a UMMC emeritus faculty member, taught scores of medical students before officially retiring in 1983, and continued to serve the poor and disadvantaged while inspiring and influencing countless young people and medical professionals.

Celebrating MSBML's Women in Leadership

March is Women's History Month, a time dedicated to recognizing the many contributions of women, their diverse experiences, and their ongoing work towards equity and excellence in leadership and medicine. MSBML is proud to celebrate the contributions of trailblazing women in a range of fields. The work of female caregivers and frontline workers during this ongoing pandemic must also be recognized. Women of all backgrounds have made significant contributions in providing healing and hope now and throughout history.

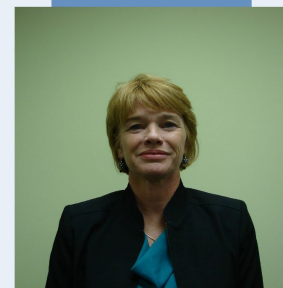
The COVID-19 pandemic has presented new challenges for physicians that have had implications for patient-physician relationships as well as physician well-being. Physicians have faced unique challenges and stressors, psychological consequences, and moral distress. Yet, despite this, they have continued to strive towards improving the lives of their patients and colleagues. MSBML has been fortunate to have several women serve in leadership positions on the board, including several female presidents. We would like to recognize and thank these incredible women for their outstanding contributions and achievements; past and present.



J. Ann Rea, MD
Anesthesiology
MSBML President and Board Member



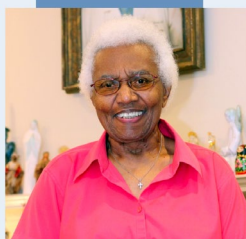
Freda M. Bush, MD
Obstetrics and Gynecology
MSBML President and Board Member



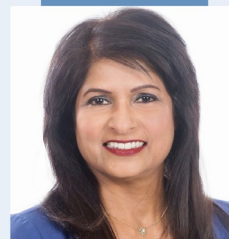
Virginia M. Crawford, MD
Adolescent Medicine, Internal Medicine
MSBML President and Board Member



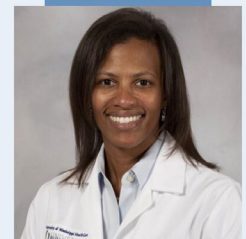
Dwalia S. South, MD
Family Medicine
MSBML Board Member



Helen Barnes, MD
Obstetrics and Gynecology
MSBML Board Member



Shoba Gaymes
MSBML Board Member



Michelle Y. Owens, MD
Obstetrics, Maternal-Fetal Medicine
MSBML Board Member

Female Physician Workforce in the U.S. and Mississippi

Data collected by the AAMC in 2019 shows that one of the steadiest movements in America's physician workforce has been the rise in women as a percentage of the physician workforce. This percentage rose from 28.3% in 2007 to 36.3% in 2019. This can be attributed to the rise in the number of female medical students. In fact, 2019 marked the first time that the majority of U.S. medical school students (50.5%) were women. With increasing numbers of female medical students graduating, it's expected that the percentage of female physicians in the workforce should grow even more. While this growth facilitates increased diversity in medicine, women remain concentrated in a handful of specialties and underrepresented in others.

As of 2019, the Mississippi physician workforce is made up of 1,551 female physicians, and the proportion of women physicians continues to increase. The largest areas of practice for female physicians in Mississippi include:

- Family Medicine/General Practice (235)
- Pediatrics (202)
- Internal Medicine (184)
- Obstetrics and Gynecology (142)



Upcoming Meetings

Executive Committee
Wednesday, May 18, 2022

Full Board Meeting
Thursday, May 19, 2022

Vimeo links are provided prior to the meetings on the Board's website:

www.msbml.ms.gov.