ASNR is Enhancing Diversity in Neurorehabilitation Through our Diversity Fellowship Program

The American Society of Neurorehabilitation (ASNR) is dedicated to fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion in our organization and within the field of neurorehabilitation. These values will help ensure we produce the best science and provide the best medical treatment for patients. In accordance with our commitment to diversity, ASNR established the Diversity Fellowship Program in 2021 to support underrepresented individuals by providing travel, training, and mentorship support.



The Fellowship Program includes an annual travel award of \$1,000 and complimentary registration for the ASNR Annual Meeting for three consecutive years. First-year Diversity Fellows are paired with a Fellow from a prior year to receive mentorship, to help them make the most of their time during the ASNR Meeting, and to connect them with other ASNR members to facilitate the establishment of long-term meaningful relationships within the organization.

In the first two years of the program, ASNR awarded Diversity Fellowships to four individuals total. These individuals were Dr. Caitlin Banks, Maria Bandres, Dr. Ephrem Zewdie, and Nicole Haikalis. This year, we received numerous applications from highly-qualified candidates, and we were excited to expand the program to grant four new awards in 2023. The members of our latest cohort of Diversity Fellows are Ermyntrude Adjei, Dr. Davetrina Seles Gadson, Dr. Michelle Corkrum, and Dr. Jasmine Hope.

During the 2023 ASNR Annual Meeting, Dr. Jasmine Hope commented that "everybody's been so welcoming, congratulating me for the Fellowship... I don't think people understand how grateful I am for that. I'm really excited for the future and participating with ASNR. I'm already planning what poster I can show next year and who I should talk to." ASNR's Annual Meetings provide attendees with outstanding opportunities to network, share their work, and hear from leaders in the field of neurorehabilitation, and we are thrilled to bring even more diverse voices and perspectives to these meetings through our Diversity Fellowship Program.

We look forward to introducing you to each of our 2023 Fellows, as well as Fellows from prior years, in upcoming "Meet Our Members" features on our blog. Postdocs, residents, and students who meet the <u>NIH designation</u> for underrepresented populations in science are eligible to participate in our Diversity Fellowship Program. Follow us on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, and <u>LinkedIn</u> to make sure you don't miss updates about our next application cycle for 2024!