

## **New Physiology Focused Path to Medical School**

The department of Integrative Biology and Physiology in partnership with the Medical School and College of Liberal Arts is initiating a new undergraduate program that will streamline the path for accepted students into the University of Minnesota Medical School. The new BA/MD program will accept up to 10 incoming freshmen each year and direct them through a combined undergraduate/medical school curriculum culminating in a B.A. and M.D. degree after seven years of study. College of Liberal Arts accepted high school seniors have been invited to apply based on their interest in a medical career, academics and potential for leadership and service. Each candidate will have a choice of matriculating using one of two Bachelor of Arts pathways, Biology, Society & Environment or Physiology.

The Physiology focused curriculum was combines elements of the existing physiology B.A. degree program with additional Medical School preparative experiences during the first three years of undergraduate education. Successful completion of the planned curriculum and the MCAT exam will guarantee admission into the U of M Medical School at the beginning of the fourth year. Completion of the first year of medical school will serve as the capstone to a B.A. degree in physiology and allow the candidates to complete their entire undergraduate and medical degree program in 7 rather than 8 years.

The first students in this program will begin in the Fall semester of 2017. We are excited to engage these promising young scholars and to help speed their path towards becoming physicians.

Vincent Barnett

Director of Undergraduate Studies in Physiology