



The Bassett Society Update

The Bassett Society was founded in 1985 by Dr Frank H Bassett III, legendary orthopaedic surgeon at Duke University Medical Center. Dr Bassett served as the team physician for Duke Athletics from 1966 to 1993, but remained a prominent figure within the department even after retirement. He was known for his warmth and charisma, and inspired everyone he came into contact with—students, athletes and doctors alike.



Dr Bassett, having played football at the University of Kentucky, had a passion for advancing the opportunities of student-athletes interested in medicine. While creating the society, he developed the acronym 'AMOEBA'—Athletes' Medical Opportunities Endowed By Athletes. The initiative quickly took off, and to date the Bassett Society has over 230 members.

A person can become a member either by lettering at Duke University as a varsity athlete or cheerleader and enrolling in medical/dental school, or by lettering in a varsity sport at another school and serving on the DUMC faculty. In recent years, the foundation has been able to make a more significant contribution by awarding larger scholarships (\$5,000-\$10,000) to several athletes annually. The award bears the namesake of Dr Claude T Moorman II, who was instrumental in the development and



continued operation of the Bassett Society. Individuals are chosen on the basis of academic excellence, contribution to their team, citizenship and spirit.

Each year the Bassett Society hosts an academic program in the fall to promote scientific teaching and foster continued relationships among the alumni. Last year's meeting had many highlights, to include Dr Bill Mallon and Dr Fraser Leversedge reflecting on their experiences in covering the recent London and Vancouver Olympics. The weekend culminates with a Duke Football game, where the Bassett Scholarship winners receive their awards on the field. Our 2012 scholarship winners were Kelly Hathorn, Kim Imbesi and Peter Truskowski.

- Hathorn is in her 3rd year of medical school at Duke. In 86 career matches as a member of the Blue Devil women's soccer team from 2005 to 2008, she totaled 23 points and was a three-time Academic All-District III selection.
- Imbesi is in her 4th year of medical school at Duke. She started 62 games as goalkeeper for the Duke women's lacrosse team from 2006 to 2009 and finished with 467 saves. She was a three-time Academic All-ACC team selection, and made the 2009 ACC All-Tournament team.
- Truskowski is in his 3rd year of medical school at Harvard. A member of Duke's fencing team from 2006 to 2009, he was a two time All-American with top 10 finishes at the NCAA championships in 2006 and 2008. He posted a career record of 163-57 and was a first team Academic All-America selection.

More information for the 2013 meeting will be released in the coming months.

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Bassett Society Scholar/Member, since 2004