



Dermatology Applicants' Impressions of Virtual Meet and Greets: A Proposed Guideline

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Introduction

- The COVID-19 pandemic changed the residency applicant recruitment landscape.
- Travel restrictions limited applicants' ability to visit or interview in person at their residency program of interest^{1,2,3}.
- Residency program → adapted and offered virtual opportunities to connect with applicants.

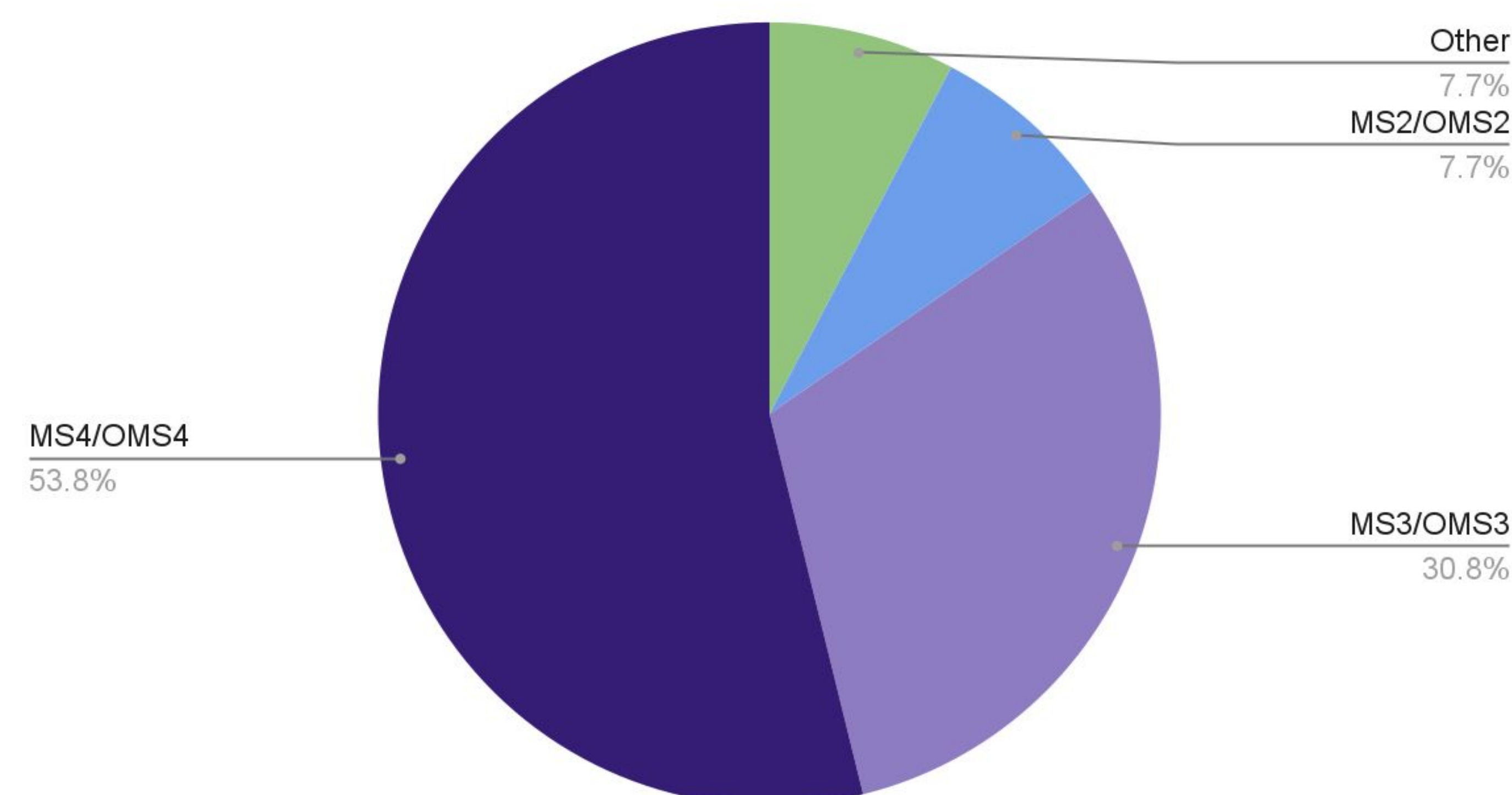
Purpose of our Study

- Explore dermatology residency applicants' impressions on virtual meet and greets and assess the utility of the meet and greets, optimal structure, and desired topics to be addressed³.

Methods

- Anonymous online survey with dermatology applicants through social media platforms.
- The survey comprised of demographic information and Likert-scale questions to gain insight into desired topics and how to optimize the future structure of sessions.

Year in Medical School Represented

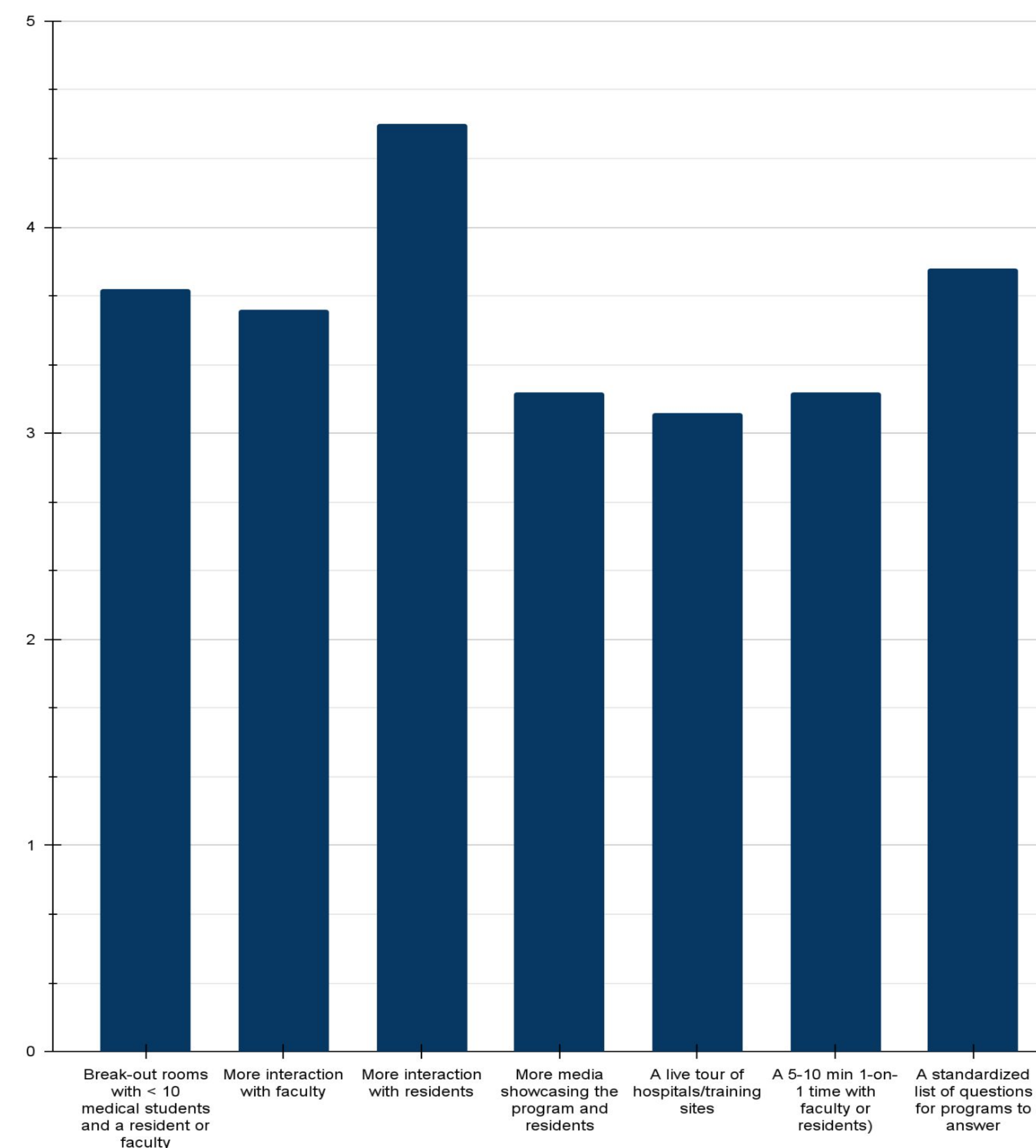


Results

Rated Importance of Meet and Greet Components

| | |
|---|-----|
| Introduction to faculty | 3.1 |
| History of program | 2.1 |
| Training sites discussion | 3.4 |
| Residency salary | 2.9 |
| Diversity in the residency program | 4.2 |
| Strengths of the program | 4.5 |
| Weaknesses of the program | 4.2 |
| Subspecialties offered | 3.8 |
| Media of hospital and/or location showcase | 3.2 |
| Residents participation with a Q&A discussion | 4.5 |
| Faculty participation with a Q&A discussion | 3.8 |
| Demographics of the current residents | 3.4 |
| Diversity initiatives in the program | 4.4 |
| Research opportunities | 3.6 |
| Prestige of the program | 1.9 |

What Participants Would Like to See in the Future



Discussion

Virtual Meet and Greet Components (n=13)

| MOST IMPORTANT | MODERATELY IMPORTANT | LEAST IMPORTANT |
|--|--|---------------------|
| Diversity in the program | Introduction to faculty | History of program |
| Strengths & weaknesses | Training sites discussion | Residency salary |
| Q&A with residents | Subspecialties offered | Prestige of program |
| Mentorship & free clinic opportunities | Media of hospital and/or location showcase | |
| | Demographics of current residents | |

- Diversity is an important topic for students
- History of program, resident salary, and prestige of program → less likely to be of interest for virtual meet and greet attendees
- Limitation includes small number of responses

Conclusions

- Virtual events will likely remain helpful in generating interest and providing opportunities for students to learn more about residency programs.
- Programs must incorporate components that best address the students' interests.
- Future direction → How to increase outreach to underrepresented in medicine students

References

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