Charles R. Drew University

**Audio Clip #1:**

Dr. Carlisle: This is a defining characteristic of the American healthcare system. Patients want doctors who look at them and they don't see some poor uninsured individual down on their luck. They see somebody who can be, might be their cousin, might be their brother. Maybe they don't have health insurance, but they still are a valued human being. And that's the type of thing that you get when you add diversity to the healthcare mix. Without it, we see things like the fact that our American healthcare system does so poorly on any outcome measure.

**Audio Clip #2:**

Dr. Carlisle: I haven't seen the exact number, but I think we've more than doubled our enrollment over 10 years. We intend to double our enrollment again in our next strategic plan over five years. And we intend to go beyond that, and we'd like to double our enrollment again. Our goal is to become a 4,000 students full-faceted university, focusing on health professions and research. And our students do a lot of research. We’re a very successful NIH-funded institution as well. All the research is focused on health disparities. As I mentioned, we’re official applicant institution with the Licensing Council for Medical Education, on our way to opening our own independent medical school. When we do that, in addition to our current 28 students, we will add another 60 students per year in medical education and through our university. Basically almost tripling our current number of medical students.

We plan to open a traditional BSN, a nursing program. We'll probably ultimately have several hundred students going through that program as well. And again, our goal is to address the fact that when you look at the pipeline into health professions, people talk about the pre-college years and elementary school as being problematic. And they are problematic. But the biggest leak in the pipeline actually occurs when students from under-resourced communities, underrepresented populations go to college. They may come in as pre-med, pre-nursing, science majors, they graduate, if they graduate, as maybe some other type of degree. They've fallen out of the pipeline. They're no longer in health professions targeting student, and many of them are just straight-up academic casualties.

Our goal is to be the smaller, private, very nurturing, higher education institution that we don't have enough of in California, that can take those students and propel them into health professions.