

February 20, 2018

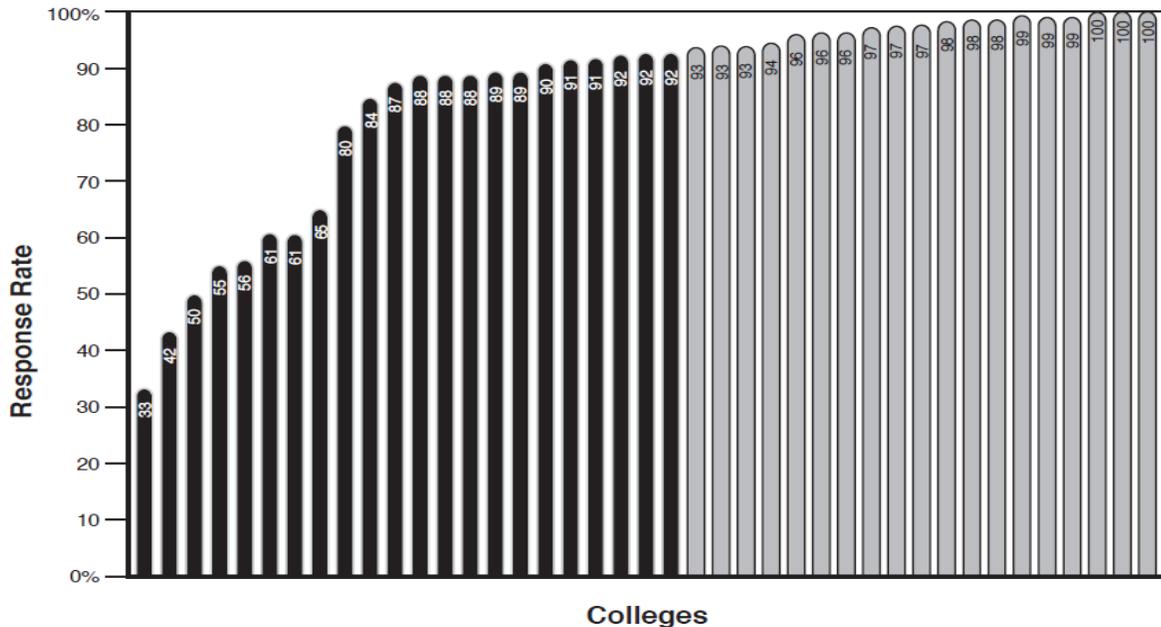
Dear Student Participants in the POMEE Project:

The POMEE Research Advisory Group, composed of representatives from several osteopathic medical colleges throughout the United States, extends its gratitude for your kind participation in this national research project.

You are receiving this project update because you voluntarily provided your e-mail address upon submission of your first online Empathy Survey at the beginning of this 2017-18 academic year, indicating your desire to receive your personal empathy score in addition to a table of national norms for the assessment of your score.

Briefly, a total of 6,146 first-year students from 41 colleges of osteopathic medicine responded to the POMEE survey. Thank you! You and your first-year peers have attained an average participation rate of 85% and a median of 92%. No other large-scale empathy project to this date has achieved this rate of participation.

Survey Response Rates in 41 Participating Colleges



The cross-sectional portion of this national study will be finalized once you and your colleagues complete the final survey at the end of the academic year. If you provided your e-mail address in the first survey at the beginning of the academic year, then you will receive your empathy score and national norm for that survey. If you provide your e-mail address on both surveys (beginning and end of the academic year), you will receive your scores and national norms for both surveys in separate e-mails. We anticipate data analysis will be completed by July of 2018 and e-mail delivery of your score(s) in August.

Your empathy score(s) will provide you with a valuable self-assessment of your empathy levels through the first year of medical school. Your results will be accompanied with resource links to assist with score interpretation and approaches to enhance empathy as it relates to physician education and preparation. Our hope is that your results will be utilized in your pursuit of personal and professional development as a caring physician.

We look forward to your continued interest and participation as we anticipate the results to provide groundbreaking insight into empathy and osteopathic medical education.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "SC Shannon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Stephen C. Shannon, DO, MPH
AACOM President and CEO