



An Interview With John Flo BRI Chapter President St. Louis School of Medicine

Dear Friend of BRI,

March 31, 2015

BRI: What drew you to BRI?

John Flo: I sought out Benjamin Rush Institute to pursue a well-rounded medical education. As a classical liberal arts student, I have come to appreciate the interconnectedness of all areas of study. Consequently, it was hard for me to enjoy my medical education without understanding the economic and political backbone of the healthcare industry. As I pursued more conversations about these topics, the friction between different political allegiances became very evident. Sensing that my free market thinking was in the minority, I turned on my own ideas to challenge their credibility. During my search, I stumbled across BRI, which provided a number of resources confirming that my beliefs were founded on sound principles. Since my membership, my experience with BRI has been educational and exciting. I have new direction in my journey through medical school, and I expect to become much more involved with the movement to preserve the principles of liberty in healthcare.



John recently accepted the Summer 2015 Internship in Health Care with The Heritage Foundation, joining the ranks of several current and past BRI Student Leaders who have held internships with Heritage.

Congratulations, John!

BRI: What do you find challenging, and what do you see for yourself and your future out of participating with BRI?

Flo: I have found it difficult to challenge my classmates on the issues of healthcare economics and policy. I am not used to feeling like the political or philosophical castaway, and so adapting to this position has been unusual. However, with the multitude of resources available online and through BRI, these feelings have evolved into a renewed sense of purpose. It is incredibly important that students are aware of the consequences of policy on the future of medicine. I now see medical school as a place where I can participate on the ideological battlefield that underlies our formal education. As I learn more about these issues that frame the art of medicine, I know that I will ultimately be a more effective leader in healthcare.

BRI: What do you hope to accomplish through BRI, and what have you accomplished already?

Flo: In February, we were approved to create our Benjamin Rush Institute Chapter at *St. Louis University School of Medicine*. We established a robust Chapter leadership and have already hosted several events, including a viewing of the documentary "*Code Black*." March 25th -- right before the Leadership Conference -- we are hosting a lecture on *concierge medicine*, part of what BRI calls the "Price Transparency Movement." There was significant interest in attending the BRI-Leadership Conference 2015 in Washington DC at the end of March, and I am excited that we were allowed to bring three students from our Chapter, instead of the usual two.

We are also excited about our future plans. We will be hosting debates and panel discussions to continue to educate our fellow students about the immense benefits of a market-based healthcare system. We would also like to hold more regularly scheduled small group sessions where we challenge the credibility of the many criticisms aimed at free market principles in healthcare.

**To follow our experiences at the BRI-Leadership Conference 2015 and continue to educate yourself and fellow doctors and students, please visit *BRI's website*. [Forward this email to your friends and colleagues](#) and ask them to [sign up for our newsletter](#), like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#).
Thank you for your support.**

Thank you for supporting BRI's important work. It's very satisfying to see my fellow students respond to a common sense healthcare approach and work for real, sustainable, win-win healthcare policy solutions.



John Flo
M1 Medical Student
BRI Chapter President, St. Louis School of Medicine

Tuesday 3/31 @ 12pm: Healthcare services lecture at Georgetown



Sorry for the short notice, but we know some of you will be able to go to this lecture today at Med-Dent/Georgetown, hosted by Georgetown's Family Medicine Interest Group. This event will feature a discussion of the innovative practice created by Dr. Alan Dappen, [DocTalker](#). DocTalker is a practice in Virginia which charges patients not with a fee-for-service model, but instead by billing for the amount of time consumed.

Dr. Dappen will discuss how his practice works with students of the Family Medicine Interest Group. BRI students are invited to attend as well. The event is free and food will be provided.

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BRI Donations & Membership

Thank you for your time and dedication to BRI. We would not exist if it were not for medical students like you who believe in what BRI stands for, and who are willing to give of their time, talent and treasure to help advance healthcare freedom. Please take a few minutes to join now, or make an additional donation to continue BRI's important work. Thank you!

Benjamin Rush Institute
BenjaminRushInstitute@gmail.com
PO Box 3113
Half Moon Bay, CA 94019



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