



**SCHOLARS**  
STRATEGY NETWORK

## Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Programs Make Doctors Better

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Gov. **Ron DeSantis** recently declared that higher education should promote academic excellence, not political activism. Great grades, high test scores, honor society memberships and research publications are all great *academic* accomplishments. But they are not sufficient to produce a competent doctor.

As a medical education professional for more than 10 years, I know that general medical knowledge is not enough; it's essential to have the aptitude to understand the needs of each patient. Standards of professionalism and respect are also crucial. Academic excellence alone will not cut it.