



# connections

MAYO CLINIC SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WINTER 2017

**GRADUATION  
ISSUE**

# Welcome to the Alumni Association

Dear students, alumni, new graduates and families:

It is my pleasure to congratulate all of our new graduates. Graduation is an important milestone in life — a major accomplishment in your health care career. I hope you have gained knowledge, clinical experience and lasting memories.

As you advance your career, keep those skills and learning experiences in mind. The foundations of your training will empower your confidence and self-trust and assist you in finding creative ways to apply strong fundamentals wherever you work in health care. I hope that you have transformed not only your mind and clinical skills but also your heart and dedication toward patient care.

On behalf of the entire Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences Alumni Association (MCSHSAA) family, I welcome new graduates to the Alumni Association, wish you the best and look forward to hearing about your successes. Please stay connected with the Alumni Association through our website and social media outlets. These provide great opportunities to get involved and stay abreast of our alumni accomplishments.

As we celebrate the achievements of our new graduates, we also would like to turn our focus toward the future. The MCSHSAA is committed to our members and would like to encourage everyone to be a part of our journey and vision forward. Please consider signing up to be a mentor or participating on the Alumni Association Board of Directors. Be sure to save the date for the Alumni Association annual meeting and dinner — April 21, 2018. Find details on the back cover. I look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,



Matt Curran, PharmD, CPh  
President, MCSHS Alumni Association  
Pharmacy Residency, Florida  
Class of 2014

On the cover: Graduates from Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences programs in Rochester include: Genevie Echols, Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist; Ashley Moore, Surgical First Assistant; and Rashad Momoh, Radiation Therapy.

» <https://mshsalumni.mayo.edu> » [facebook.com/mshsalumni](https://facebook.com/mshsalumni)

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## 2017 Highlights

### **20,998 alumni strong**

Check the Alumni Association website to connect with MCSHS classmates and alumni in your community. Complete your alumni profile at <https://mshsalumni.mayo.edu> so other alumni can connect with you.

### **Two programs highly ranked in U.S. News**

For the second year in a row, the MCSHS Nurse Anesthesia Program ranked as one of the top 10 nurse anesthesia training programs in the nation in the *U.S. News & World Report* list of Best Health Schools. The Physical Therapy Program continued to hold a top-20 ranking among Best Health Schools.

### **Seven new programs**

Since 2015, MCSHS has added 19 new internships, fellowships and programs. Seven launched in 2017:

#### **Arizona campus**

Postgraduate Year 1 Pharmacy Residency

#### **Florida campus**

Postgraduate Year 2 Pharmacy Residency in Solid Organ Transplant

#### **Rochester campus**

Clinical Hemodialysis Technician Program  
Laboratory Animal Medicine Residency  
Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant Urology Fellowship  
Occupational Therapy Dysphagia Residency  
Proton Radiation Medical Physics Professional Enhancement Course



### **A deep dive into allied health careers**

Forty Minnesota high school students, many from diverse backgrounds, gathered in Rochester for the second MCSHS Career Immersion Program for allied health careers. Over a week in July, students learned about 15 career areas including echocardiography, histology, phlebotomy, radiography, respiratory care and sonography.

Of the 18 high school seniors who completed last year's program and graduated from high school, two completed MCSHS programs and work at Mayo Clinic. Five are attending the University of Minnesota Rochester, a MCSHS education partner.

### **There's a new 'Clinic' in our name**

We're now the Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences Alumni Association to mirror the school's new name: Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences.

### **No. 1 in the nation**

Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences students learn and train in No. 1 ranked hospitals on all three campuses. Once again, Mayo Clinic was named the best hospital in the country in *U.S. News & World Report's* annual list of top hospitals. In addition,

- Mayo Clinic ranked No. 1 in Arizona, Florida and Minnesota
- Mayo Clinic ranked No. 1 in the Jacksonville, Florida, and Phoenix metro areas

### **Match with a mentee**

Alumni are volunteering for Mayo Connect, the new Alumni Association mentoring program to match MSCHS students and alumni. More mentors are needed to open this program to students. Sign up at <https://mshsalumni.mayo.edu>. Click on Resources and then Become a Mentor.





# MEET THE GRADUATES OF 2017

Meet a few of the remarkable graduates of 2017. They share what inspired their careers in health care and their aspirations to make a difference.



**Genevie Echols // Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist**

## Bringing heartfelt experience to electrophysiology lab

Genevie Echols understands the importance of listening to her heart. She and her children have long QT syndrome, a heart rhythm condition. Understanding the disorder and how to manage it is a priority for her. She uses that knowledge in her role as a cardiovascular invasive specialist at Mayo Clinic in Rochester.

Echols knew she wanted a career that would enable her to help others. She'd started college as a premed student, but then life got in the way. "I got really sick," Echols says. So sick, in fact, that she had to leave school. She started thinking about a plan B and, two years later, enrolled in the Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist Program at Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences.

This new direction involved a move — the family relocated from Cortez, Colorado, to Minnesota. She and the children settled into a new routine, and her husband, Kevin, worked as a traveling nurse. While Echols was a full-time student, she was also the primary parent to four children.

"I got very good at time management," Echols says. "I spent a lot of time doing homework at the kitchen table. My 8-year-old learned all about heart valves."

And all of the Echols children learned another lesson. "I wanted my kids to see that if you work really hard, you can accomplish things," she says.

That includes graduating with honors, which Echols did in May 2017. Shortly afterward, she began working in the electrophysiology lab at Mayo Clinic in Rochester.

"I help with putting in pacemakers and defibrillators," says Echols. She has a combined defibrillator/pacemaker herself and says that helps her understand what her patients are experiencing.

"Having a device implanted is really scary," she says. "Having someone there to hold your hand and support you makes a big difference. I want to be that person for my patients."

Echols' plan B has turned out to be an A-plus decision.

"I love what I do and love the people I work with," says Echols, whose husband recently accepted a nursing position at Mayo Clinic Health System in Austin, Minnesota. "It's like a dream for me to be here. I wouldn't change a thing."

Travis O'Brien // Nurse Anesthesia

## Helping patients through surgery with minimal anxiety and pain

Travis O'Brien, CRNA, always knew he'd work in health care. During summers while getting his undergraduate nursing degree at Minnesota State University, Mankato, O'Brien worked as an anesthesia tech at Mayo.

"I chose nursing because of all the options for advance practice degrees and Mayo Clinic because it's a great employer," he says. "I was drawn to anesthesia. Once I was employed as a nurse at Mayo Clinic, I asked the nurse anesthetists I worked with about their jobs. I didn't meet anyone who was unhappy or wished they'd chosen a different career path."

O'Brien's now-wife, Meredith O'Brien, CRNA, also was planning to pursue nurse anesthesia training. Her parents, Felisa and Steven Lee, are retired Mayo nurse anesthetists. Travis started the Nurse Anesthesia Program at Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences (MCSHS) one year after Meredith started.

"For a year and a half, we were both in school, and we'd had our first child right before Meredith started, so it was a challenging time," says O'Brien.

O'Brien and his wife both work at Mayo Clinic in Rochester. "For the first year as a nurse anesthetist at Mayo, you're in a floating pool serving both hospitals," he says. "I like going to all the different areas. Because I trained at Mayo, there wasn't a huge learning curve. I feel very confident managing OR cases."

O'Brien is considering pursuing a doctorate in nurse anesthesia — but not just yet. He and his wife now have two daughters — a 4-year-old and a 1-year-old. "Meredith and I discuss getting our doctorate degrees down the road when the kids are little more independent and we're more settled in our lives and established in our careers," he says.

"In the meantime, it makes me feel good to know I've done whatever I can to make my patients comfortable before I leave for the day," says O'Brien. "I get a sense of accomplishment helping them get through surgery with as little nervousness, anxiety and pain as possible. This is a very satisfying profession."





**Arlena Schmidt // Phlebotomy Technician**

## **Working in health care while pursuing education**

Arlena Schmidt had just finished her junior year of high school and had only a vague vision about her future. “I always wanted to work in health care, but I didn’t want to be a doctor,” she recalls.

Fast forward little more than a year, and Schmidt has graduated from the Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences (MCSHS) Phlebotomy Technician Program and started work as a part-time phlebotomist at Mayo Clinic in Rochester. She also is a freshman at the University of Minnesota Rochester, intent on earning a Bachelor of Health Sciences degree en route to becoming a physician assistant.

Schmidt’s future came into clearer focus when she took a high school biology teacher’s advice. She applied and was accepted to attend the MCSHS Career Immersion Program in July 2016. The five-day residential program for high-school students boosts awareness about allied health careers.

A parade of Mayo Clinic employees shared perspectives on their careers, and students had hands-on opportunities to learn about careers from phlebotomist to physician assistant and dozens of other options.

Schmidt had a two-part epiphany — she set a career goal to become a physician assistant in a surgical setting. “Being with the patient the entire stay is a big part for me,” she says. “I want to get to know them. I feel that connection is really needed in health care.”

Part two of her epiphany: One job in health care can lead to another — and help pay the expenses during school. That’s what attracted her to the Phlebotomy Technician Program.

“I loved the Phlebotomy Program,” she says of the 10-week course on collecting and preparing blood samples for laboratory testing. “It was very hands-on and fast-paced. I love that I get to work in health care at Mayo Clinic while I continue my education.”



**Jonathan Dabadji // Respiratory Care**

## Overcoming painful interruption in education

Jonathan Dabadji was determined to become a respiratory therapist — until devastating headaches became a barrier to learning. “The pain was more than I thought was possible,” Dabadji recalls. “It might last six hours or three days. I would ‘go blind’ for hours or a full day. The times I could read, after I closed the book, everything I learned was gone.” Dabadji didn’t quit, but he did put his education on hold.

Dabadji, who grew up in the West African nation of Togo, knew that education was the way to a better life and a career in health care. “I wanted to be a doctor,” Dabadji says. “I was at the top of my class, but the medical school wouldn’t take me.”

He immigrated to the United States at age 19 to pursue educational opportunities in Minneapolis. He earned two-year degrees in biotechnology, chemistry and biology at a community college. At a career fair, he learned about the Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences Respiratory Care Program and instantly thought of his childhood best friend, who had asthma. “I wanted to get into medical school so I could help him,” Dabadji explains. “If I can’t be a doctor and cure asthma, maybe I can help manage it.”

He entered the Respiratory Care Program in 2014. What he thought were migraine headaches became more frequent, making his first year difficult. In his second year, the headaches intensified. “Homework was piling up, and sometimes I couldn’t even see to do the homework. I couldn’t keep up with classes,” Dabadji says. School staff encouraged Dabadji to take a leave of absence and return to the program when healthy.

“The staff was there for me when I was down,” he says. “That’s something I’ll always be grateful for.” Mayo Clinic physicians discovered that a blockage in his brain was causing a buildup of cerebrospinal fluid and creating pressure. In 2015, surgeons implanted a shunt that diverts excess fluid to his abdomen for absorption. Dabadji’s headaches now are infrequent and mild.

He returned to school in 2016 and graduated in 2017. He’s a respiratory therapist at the University of Minnesota Medical Center in Minneapolis. “It’s a really good place to work,” he says. “This is the place I want to be.”

Dabadji says his struggles tell a common story. “That’s what life is all about,” he says. “It doesn’t matter how many times you fall, you just need to keep trying.”



**Sarah Cooper // Physical Therapy Geriatrics Residency**

## **Helping patients do ‘things they thought they would never do again’**

Sarah Cooper, PT, DPT, says her Grandma Mary deserves some credit for her career path. Cooper is a physical therapist for Genesis Rehab Services and works with older adults at Fountain View Village, Fountain Hills, Arizona. This retirement community of more than 250 people offers independent living, assisted living, memory care, rehabilitation and skilled nursing.

Cooper grew up near her grandmother's home in Kansas City, Missouri. "We were pretty close," she says. In later life, her grandmother had both Parkinson's disease and cancer. "I saw how physical therapy helped her," says Cooper, who was interested in a health care career but unsure of a direction.

Observing those physical therapists pointed Cooper to her career niche. "I wanted to help patients experience the best quality of life as they age," she says. Cooper is a 2016 graduate of the University of Kansas Medical Center Physical Therapy Program and 2017 graduate of Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences Physical Therapy Geriatrics Residency. She says the 12-month residency provided the hands-on

experience she wanted with older patients in settings including outpatient, skilled nursing, acute inpatient rehabilitation and long-term care.

The patients she met confirmed her career path. "One patient who had a very challenging hospitalization stands out," she says. "He had complex heart surgery and was anxious, nervous and unable to do much due to poor endurance," she says. After six weeks of physical therapy and recovery, "The patient was walking as far as he wanted and back home with his wife," says Cooper. "It was amazing to be part of that."

Those are the kind of experiences she encounters in her new position, working mainly with patients in post-acute rehabilitation. "What I like best is the opportunity to help patients when they may be dealing with one of the worst times in their lives and helping them return to doing things they thought they would never do again," she says. Cooper adds that Grandma Mary would be pleased and proud of her granddaughter's career — improving the quality of life for older patients with physical therapy.

Rashad Momoh // Radiation Therapy

## Back to school for dream job in proton beam therapy

While he was completing the 12-month Radiation Therapy Program at Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences (MCSHS), Rashad Momoh worked three jobs. He was a radiology aide and a supplemental X-ray technologist at Mayo Clinic in Rochester and a waiter at a local restaurant. He was in school and working every day, every night and every weekend. Now he has his dream job as a radiation therapist in the Proton Beam Therapy Program at Mayo Clinic.

"I'm passionate about working with people — however I can help and wherever I can fit in," he says. "I'm blessed with the ability to make people feel comfortable and at ease, whether at the hospital or a restaurant. I get joy from being able to make others happy."

After completing a bachelor's degree in biology with an emphasis on medical sciences at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, Momoh worked as a positron emission tomography (PET) technician, running quality control samples in a lab in Chicago, and then as a radiation safety officer. "I liked working with science and in the lab, but I knew I wanted to get back to face-to-face patient care and continue my education," he says. Momoh describes the Radiation Therapy Program as challenging but says it's very well structured. "You can feel overwhelmed, but you'll do OK if you follow the program director's advice. And having three jobs forced me to keep a tight schedule, and my wife helped keep me on target, too." The couple married during the first weekend of the Radiation Therapy Program.

Momoh was the first recipient of the MCSHS Hammers Family Diversity Scholarship, which is awarded in the spirit of increasing the number of diverse students in MCSHS programs, with secondary consideration given to those with financial need.

Both of Momoh's parents are from West Africa — his father from Nigeria and his mother from Liberia. They came to the U.S. in 1979 and 1981, respectively, and raised Momoh and his two sisters in Little Canada, Minnesota. All three of the children pursued careers in health care. "I'm fortunate to have the opportunity to receive the scholarship," he says. "It's a good feeling."





Olivia Redd //  
Clinical Neurophysiology Technology

## Helping kids through 'scary' procedures

When Olivia Redd was in third grade, her father took her to hear a harp ensemble. The performance captivated her. "I was fascinated by the grace and poise of the musicians," says Redd, who is from Sugar City, Idaho. That fascination inspired her to learn to play the harp.

Years of playing music may also have helped Redd develop skills in a different area — accuracy and speed in applying recording electrodes to patients for neurodiagnostic testing, according to Jan Buss, director of the Clinical Neurophysiology Technology Program at Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences.

Buss says Redd also is "an all-around great person who is kind, caring and helpful to everyone she comes in contact with."

Redd's early life imparted unique gifts that she shares with patients. "I had a brother who had seizures and passed away young," Redd says. During his life, he had numerous EEG exams. "My mom has given me lots of tips and tricks for helping kids and parents through the exams."

Redd's sister Mia, who has Down syndrome, also helped hone her bedside technique. "My sister has had to have a lot of medical tests, and I've been able to make that not so bad for her," says Redd, who often accompanied Mia to her medical appointments. "You really can make a difference in people's attitudes toward tests."

Instructors and colleagues helped reinforce that idea during Redd's two years in Rochester. "People at Mayo are so patient oriented and really coached me to develop my skills," says Redd, who worked part time in Mayo's Center for Sleep Medicine while completing the CNT program. "I was blessed to meet some amazing technologists. They always had encouraging words and gave good advice."

It is advice Redd took along to her new position at Primary Children's Hospital in Salt Lake City, Utah. Most of her patients have epilepsy or seizure disorders. "I've found I have a special knack for helping kids through 'scary' procedures," Redd says. "I really love pediatric patients."



**Craig Leier // Nuclear Medicine Technology**

## Trading lab work for more direct patient care

After college Craig Leier worked as a clinical lab technologist in cytogenetics at Mayo Clinic in Rochester. He liked it but wanted to work directly with patients. “I’m an outgoing person,” says the father of three.

“I already had the prerequisites for the Nuclear Medicine Technology Program at Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences. The science behind it — biology, chemistry, physics and instrumentation — is pretty cool.”

Eight years after he started his lab tech job at Mayo Clinic, Leier entered the one-year Nuclear Medicine Technology Program. Four of his seven classmates took the more traditional route to the program — three years of preparatory coursework at an affiliated undergraduate institution and the fourth year of their bachelor’s degree program in the Nuclear Medicine Technology Program. Leier already had completed his undergraduate education, so he received a certificate in the program rather than a bachelor’s degree.

“Classmates who came to the program directly from college initially may have better understood the science we learned in the first half of the program, but highly educated Mayo doctors presented to us and were great at explaining tough concepts,” says Leier. “Within a short time we were all at the same level of understanding.” Leier says that everyone in the program was wonderful at answering questions and helping students stay on track. “It was important for me to stay on top of assignments and my schedule while also working around my family’s schedule,” he says.

Leier and his wife, Sarah Leier, CNP, have children, ages 5, 3 and 1. Sara is a nurse practitioner at Mayo Family Clinic Northwest in Rochester. “I did homework after the kids went to sleep,” he says. “My oldest son would ask me what I did at school every day just like I asked him what he did in preschool.”

Leier graduated in August 2017 and now works as a nuclear medicine technologist at Mayo Clinic. “Mayo treats employees well, and we enjoy living here,” he says.

## Volunteer for MCSHS Alumni Association Board of Directors

More than two dozen Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences alumni volunteer to serve on the Alumni Association Board of Directors.

To volunteer, here's what you need to know:

- Board members provide direction for Alumni Association programming and activities.
- Board terms are three years.
- Board members return to Mayo Clinic in Rochester each spring for an annual meeting.
- To apply, complete the nomination form on the Alumni Association website, and submit a letter indicating your interest to the MCSHS Alumni Association at [mshsaa@mayo.edu](mailto:mshsaa@mayo.edu).
- A committee considers applications to ensure a broad representation of MCSHS programs.

Questions? Call the Alumni Association at 507-284-2317 or learn more at <https://mshsalumni.mayo.edu>.

## Seeking alumni for outstanding contribution recognition

The Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences Alumni Association honors one or two graduates each year with the Recognition of Outstanding Contribution award.

Graduates who are considered for the award:

- Are dedicated to the service of patients
- Promote the art and science of medicine through education of students
- Participate in or encourage research
- Are leaders in their fields
- Are involved in community service
- Contribute to underserved populations or provide service in challenging situations
- Are involved with the Alumni Association

Nominate a colleague, former classmate, or yourself. The nomination deadline is Jan. 31, 2018. Learn more at <https://mshsalumni.mayo.edu/people/awards>.

# Meet board member Chelsey Hoffman

## CHELSEY HOFFMAN, RD, PA-C

Physician assistant

Division of Pain Medicine, Department of Anesthesiology  
Mayo Clinic, Rochester

## Education and career path

Bachelor of Science: Nutrition, Minnesota State University, Mankato, Minnesota

Dietetic Internship: Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences

Physician Assistant Program: University of Wisconsin-La Crosse/Gundersen La Crosse Hospital/Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences

Master of Science: Physician assistant studies, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

## Why did you choose MCSHS?

Mayo Clinic is known for providing the highest level of education. After pursuing a career in dietetics and completing the Dietetic Internship at MCSHS, there was no question in my mind that I wanted to come back to Mayo to pursue a second degree as a physician assistant.

## What's a valuable lesson you learned at Mayo Clinic?

At Mayo Clinic we see complex patients from all over the world. Learning how to interact with patients from different countries in a polite, professional and respectful manner while understanding their goals has been invaluable.

## What do you like best about your work?

Variety! I work in the outpatient setting and in both hospitals on the Rochester campus. I perform injections and manage intrathecal pain pumps. I learn or see something new almost every day.

## How do you contribute to the Alumni Association?

After benefiting from two MCSHS programs, I felt the desire to give back. I applied to join MCSHS Alumni Association Board of Directors so I can help improve current programs in any way possible. I also have encouraged MCSHS student learners to shadow in our pain clinic.



# 2017 GRADUATES

MAYO CLINIC SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

## Audiology Externship — Arizona

### PROGRAM UPDATE

The Audiology Program marked its 30th year on the Arizona campus. Jaclyn Moor and Rozela Melgoza completed clinical fellowships as part of their doctorate of audiology training. Clinical rotations focused on cochlear implants, vestibular testing, hearing aids and diagnostic testing. The students also participated in research projects that were presented at national audiology conferences.

### WITH DISTINCTION

Laurie Davis, AuD, CCC-A, was honored with the 2016 Distinguished Allied Health Educator of the Year Award. This award is given to a clinical allied health professional who has made outstanding contributions to education at Mayo Clinic in Arizona.



Rozela Melgoza, AuD, student; Sarah Oakley Holbert, AuD, CCC-A, program director; Jaclyn Moor, AuD, student

## CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Jaclyn Moor

Clinical audiologist  
Stanford Ear Institute  
Stanford Health Care  
Palo Alto, California

Rozela Melgoza

Research audiologist  
The Geneva Foundation  
San Antonio, Texas



Katherine Cardona, AuD, student; Greta Stamper, AuD, PhD, program director

## Audiology Externship — Florida

### PROGRAM UPDATE

Katherine Cardona completed the Audiology Externship as part of her clinical doctorate training in audiology through East Tennessee State University in Johnson City, Tennessee. Clinical rotations in adult patients included diagnostic audiology, vestibular and balance assessment, comprehensive hearing aid and cochlear implant services, and aural rehabilitation.

### CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Katherine Cardona  
Ear, Nose and Throat  
Specialists of Florida  
Fort Myers, Florida



Janalene Niichel, program director; Kathryn Kerst, associate program director; Weston Adkins, student; Neil Shepard, medical director

## Audiology Externship — Rochester

### PROGRAM UPDATE

This Audiology Externship marked its 12th year. Clinical rotations included newborn hearing screening, pediatric and adult diagnostic audiology, vestibular and balance assessment, cochlear implant evaluation and programming, and hearing aid selection and fitting. For the 2017-2018 academic year, the program has expanded to include two externs.

### WITH DISTINCTION

Extern Weston Adkins, AuD, received his clinical doctorate in audiology from the University of Iowa in Iowa City on May 12, 2017. His capstone project was titled “Measuring MOCR Effects Using High Intensity Contralateral Acoustic Stimulation in Humans: A Study of MEMR Influences Observed with Wideband Pressure Reflectance.”

Adkins presented a poster at the American Auditory Society annual meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona, titled “Does Angular Depth of Insertion Predict Benefit from Temporal Fine Structure Processing in Cochlear Implant Users?”

Program Director Kathryn Kerst, MA, transitioned to associate program director. Janalene Niichel, AuD, is the new program director.

Devin McCaslin, PhD, is the new section leader of the Vestibular/Balance Laboratory.

Thank you to Neil Shepard, PhD, medical director, who retired in 2017. Cynthia Hargenrader, PhD, section leader of the Hearing Aid Program, is the new Audiology Externship medical director.

### CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Weston Adkins  
Cochlear Implant Program  
Mayo Clinic, Rochester

# Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist

## CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Ashley Bunting  
Sanford Health  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Genevie Echols  
Heart Rhythm Services  
Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Jasmina Habibovic  
Heart Rhythm Services  
Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Mallory Meyer  
University of Wisconsin Hospital  
and Clinics  
Madison, Wisconsin

Matthew Seehusen  
Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory  
Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Mark Waananen  
University of Virginia  
Charlottesville, Virginia



Mark Waananen, Matthew Seehusen, Mallory Meyer, Jasmina Habibovic, Ashley Bunting, Genevie Echols, students; Lee Meyer, program director

# Clinical Neurophysiology Technology

## PROGRAM UPDATE

The Clinical Neurophysiology Technology Program class of 2017 graduated on Aug. 9. Graduates received a certificate of completion from Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences and an Associate in Applied Science degree from Rochester Community and Technical College.

All students passed the EEG Part 1 registry exam. The program's job placement rate is 100 percent.

## WITH DISTINCTION

Jan Buss, R NCS T R EP T, program director, was presented the Excellence in Teaching Award.

Elizabeth Kennebeck, R EEG T, clinical neurophysiology technologist, EEG Laboratory, Mayo Clinic, was honored with the Outstanding Technical Mentor award.

Student Olivia Redd received the ASET Foundation tuition grant.

## CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Clinical neurophysiology technologist  
Department of Neurology,  
Neurodiagnostic Laboratories  
Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Caitlin Albers  
Madeleine Fernald  
Sam Johnson  
Lauren Marty

### Other

Aspen Hanson  
EEG/NCS technologist  
Neurology Department  
HealthPartners,  
Park Nicollet Clinic  
St. Louis Park, Minnesota

Olivia Redd  
Electroneurodiagnostic  
technologist  
Primary Children's Hospital  
Salt Lake City, Utah

Abigail Wilke  
Nerve conduction study  
technologist  
Noran Neurological Clinic  
Blaine, Minnesota





Front row: Sarah Berini, MD, medical director; Jan Buss, program director. Back row: Caitlin Albers, Olivia Redd, Abigail Wilke, Sam Johnson, Madeleine Fernald, Aspen Hanson, Lauren Marty, students



Front row: Kara Hansing, MS Ed, SCT(ASCP)CM, program director; Michael Henry, MD, medical director; Ashley Pongratz, M Ed, SCT(ASCP)CM, faculty. Back row: Ashley Wzientek, Nichole Jacques, Quentin Tradup, Adam Prevost, Haley Heintz, Amanda Eiler, students



# Cytotechnology

## PROGRAM UPDATE

Six students were awarded certificates from the Cytotechnology Program on June 23, 2017. The students completed a one-year internship at Mayo Clinic as part of a four-year degree program or as postbaccalaureate work in cytotechnology. All six students successfully passed their board exams and received certification in cytotechnology from the American Society of Clinical Pathology. This program maintains a first-time national certification pass rate of 100 percent.

## WITH DISTINCTION

Haley Heintz was awarded the Minnesota Society of Cytology Carol Kanneberg Memorial Merit Scholarship.

## CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Amanda Eiler

Haley Heintz

Nichole Jacques

Adam Prevost

Quentin Tradup

Ashley Wzientek

# Dietetic Internship — Florida

Four students completed the Dietetic Internship on Mayo Clinic's Florida campus in 2017. The internship focuses on clinical nutrition therapy and offers interns the opportunity to practice in a variety of settings in the Jacksonville area. They completed rotations in food service and clinical and community settings.



Brittany Baerlocher



Allison Gregg



Olivia Keck



Jill Van Bergen



Paige Briggs, Allison Scott, Carlissa Diedrich, Kristi Spencer,  
Alexandra Butterbrodt, Molly Kunde, Christine Holm, Deanna Nelson



# Dietetic Internship — Rochester

## PROGRAM UPDATE

Eight students completed the Dietetic Internship on the Rochester campus in 2017.

The Dietetic Internship Program was started by Sister Mary Victor Fromm in 1930, making it one of the oldest programs in the country. It was the first 12-month program to be accredited by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics in 1933. The program has 1,231 graduates.

The program was granted continued accreditation for 10 years by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) in 2010.

## CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Paige Briggs

Women, Infant and Children's nutrition  
program supervisor  
Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic  
Grandview, Washington

Alexandra Butterbrodt

Dietitian, United Hospital District  
Blue Earth, Minnesota

Carlissa Diedrich

Seeking employment

Christine Holm

Dietitian, Rutherford Regional Medical Center  
Rutherfordton, North Carolina

Molly Kunde

Seeking employment

Deanna Nelson

Dietitian and foodservice manager, long-term care  
Healthcare Services Group  
Des Moines, Iowa

Allison Scott

Seeking employment

Kristi Spencer

Glencoe Regional Health Services Hospital  
Glencoe, Minnesota



**Arizona** — Nicole Serrano, Zachary Barrett-O'Keefe, students; Rochelle Tyler, RDCS, FASE, program director; David Pacheco, RDCS, faculty; Shannon Smith, student

## Echocardiography

### PROGRAM UPDATE

Ten students received certificates in Adult Echocardiography on May 12, 2017.

### WITH DISTINCTION

Students recognized Sarah Dunn, RDCS, Rochester campus, and Rose Simpson, RDCS, Arizona campus, with Clinical Instructor Awards. The class honored Sorin Pislaru, MD, PhD, Rochester campus, and Susan Wilanksy, MD, Arizona campus, with Physician Recognition Awards.

Zachary Barrett-O'Keefe was a co-author on the paper, "Plaque and Intima-Media Thickness, Arterial Stiffness and Stress Echocardiography for Cardiovascular Risk Stratification," published in the *Journal of the American Society of Echocardiography*, June 2017.

### CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

#### Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Tracy Clasemann

Lauren Emerson

Anna Groebner

Hannah Hansen

Allison Huver

#### Mayo Clinic, Arizona

Nicole Serrano

Shannon Smith

#### Other

Zachary Barrett-O'Keefe  
Indiana University  
Health Methodist  
Hospital  
Indianapolis, Indiana

Alysa Gewerth  
Park Nicollet Clinic  
St. Louis Park,  
Minnesota

Elaine Kouzas  
Employed in Fargo,  
North Dakota



**Rochester** — Front row: Tracy Clasemann, Lauren Emerson, Anna Groebner, Alysa Gewerth, students  
 Second row: Daniel Borgeson, MD, medical director; Allison Huver, Elaine Kouzas, Hannah Hansen, students  
 Back row: Sally Miller, BS, RT(R), RDCS, FASE, program director; Katie Mancl, BS, RDCS academic coordinator;  
 Abby Biers, RDCS, clinical coordinator

# Emergency Medicine Paramedic

## PROGRAM UPDATE

Eleven students graduated from the Emergency Medicine Paramedic Program on May 19, 2017. The graduates received a certificate of completion from Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences. Students who had not previously attained a college degree graduated with an Associate of Science degree from Rochester Community and Technical College.

## WITH DISTINCTION

Honorees were selected by students and program staff.

Joe Temeyer and Emily Swoboda, paramedics with Gold Cross Ambulance, each were honored with the Preceptor Award of Excellence.

Daniel Anger, program director, and paramedic preceptor Thom Linville, were presented the Taryn Budach Award of Inspiration.

## CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

### Gold Cross Ambulance

Lindsey Derby  
Rochester, Minnesota

Bradley Jeanson  
Rochester, Minnesota

Bryan Koster  
Austin, Minnesota

Kelly McKenzie  
Rochester, Minnesota

Leah Satele  
Rochester, Minnesota

Shawn Smith  
Owatonna, Minnesota

Teresa Swenson  
Rochester, Minnesota

Andrew Torres  
Rochester, Minnesota

### Other

Kyle Halseth  
North Memorial Health Ambulance  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Rodney Keyzer  
MedicWest Ambulance  
Las Vegas, Nevada

Kimberly Olander  
Winona Area Ambulance Service  
Winona, Minnesota





Front row: Rodney Keyzer, Lindsey Derby, Leah Satele, Kelly McKenzie, Kimberly Olander, Teresa Swenson, Bradley Jeanson, students. Second row: Andrew Torres, Shawn Smith, Bryan Koster, Kyle Halseth, students. Back row: Dustin Meyer, instructor; Jeffery Schultz, instructor; Daniel Anger, program director; Anuradha Luke, MD, medical director



**Rochester, cohort 1** — Michelle Nelsen, program director; Kelly Klein, faculty; Valerie LaDue, Meagan Bodin, Christine Raymond, Di Zhou, Penny Dahlen, students; Blake Cappell, faculty; Tien Tran, faculty

## Histology Technician

### PROGRAM UPDATE

In 2017, 12 students graduated from the Histology Program — 11 from the Rochester campus and one from the Arizona campus. Five students were awarded certificates at the graduation ceremony held on May 19, and seven students were awarded certificates at the graduation ceremony on Oct. 6.

All graduates passed the American Society for Clinical Pathology Board of Certification exam on the first attempt, with average scores well above the national average.

### WITH DISTINCTION

Students honored these clinical instructors for outstanding contributions to the learning

experience and dedication to student success:

#### Clinical Instructor Award

Ashley Wannigman,  
HT(ASCP)CM — Rochester

Katie Krause,  
HT(ASCP)CM — Rochester

Mary (Mo) Gagnot,  
HT(ASCP) — Arizona

#### Enrichment Clinical Instructor Award

Denise Hopkins  
Rochester campus

Scott Gamb  
Rochester campus

### CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

#### Cohort 1: Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Meagan Bodin  
Muscle Biopsy Laboratory

Penny Dahlen  
Frozen Section Laboratory

Valerie LaDue  
Histology Laboratory

Christine Raymond  
Frozen Section Laboratory

Di Zhou  
Histology Laboratory



**Rochester, cohort 2** — Front row: Blake Cappell, faculty; Iskra Yovcheva, Ashley Mattson, Cory Vielhauer, Hula Taha, students; Tien Tran, faculty  
Back row: Loren Herrera Hernandez, MD, medical director; Jacob Conway, Jennifer Fishbaugher, students; Michelle Nelsen, program director

#### Cohort 2: Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Jacob Conway  
Muscle Biopsy Laboratory

Jennifer Fishbaugher  
Histology Laboratory

Thomas Martini  
Histology Laboratory

Ashley Mattson  
Histology Laboratory

Hula Taha  
Research trainee

Cory Vielhauer  
Histology Laboratory

Iskra Yovcheva  
Histology Laboratory



**Arizona, cohort 2** — Thomas Martini, student; Anita Jennings, histology supervisor; Michelle Nelsen, program director; Ellen LeGere, clinical instructor



Front row: Alexa Goodman, Nicolette Reker, Alyce Adesso, Katrina Henn, Katie Riese  
 Second row: Jennifer DeGrave, Rebecca Eron. Third row: Alyssa Fedie, Taylor White,  
 Taylor Ashworth, Kate McKeown. Fourth row: Miah Blomquist, Jasmin Applen, Emmarie Heacox,  
 Steven Brady, Cory Hayden. Fifth row: Montana Smith, Tara Schroeder, Ryan Leveque, Kyle Ritscher  
 Back row: Alexander Harker, Brent VanAcker, Nicholas Bryce. Not pictured: Shamaco Green



# Medical Laboratory Science

## PROGRAM UPDATE

The ninth Medical Laboratory Science Program class graduated May 25, 2017. The program continues its strong track record for graduate employment and high national certification exam pass rates.

## CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Mayo Clinic, Rochester, laboratories

Alyce Adesso  
Cell Kinetics

Jasmin Applen  
Human Cell Therapy

Taylor Ashworth  
Molecular Genetics

Steven Brady  
Neuroimmunology

Nicholas Bryce  
Bacteriology

Rebecca Eron  
Metals

Alyssa Fedie  
Bacteriology

Katrina Henn  
Mycology

Alexa Goodman  
Bacteriology

Shamaco Green  
Clinical Mass Spectrometry

Emmarie Heacox  
Cell Kinetics

Ryan Leveque  
Molecular Hematology

Kate McKeown  
Bacteriology

Katie Riese  
Bacteriology

Kyle Ritscher  
Special Coagulation

Tara Schroeder  
Clinical Immunoassay

Montana Smith  
Hospital Clinical

Brent VanAcker  
Bacteriology

### Other

Miah Blomquist  
UnityPoint Health  
Rock Island, Illinois

Jennifer DeGrave  
Gundersen Health System  
La Crosse, Wisconsin

Alexander Harker  
Froedtert & the Medical College  
of Wisconsin  
Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

Cory Hayden  
Northwestern Medicine  
Chicago, Illinois

Nicolette Reker  
University of Minnesota  
Medical Center  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Taylor White  
Seeking employment



Amy Geyer, student; Edward Clouser Jr., MS, TRP(ABR), program director;  
Cassandra Stambaugh, student



# Medical Physics Residency

## PROGRAM UPDATE

Expanded curriculum for the Medical Physics Residency now includes the study of equipment in the Proton Beam Therapy Program. The general structure of the residency and rotations remain the same, but the curriculum now encompasses all aspects of the Department of Radiation Oncology.

## WITH DISTINCTION

Program graduates Daniel Harrington and Alison Arnold passed the American Board of Radiology part III exam for Therapeutic Medical Physics, joining alumnus Sharif Elguindi, who passed the exam on the first attempt last year. Nationally, the exam has a first-time pass rate between 60 and 75 percent.

Amy Geyer and Cassandra Stambaugh, 2017 graduates, along with current residents Arielle Uejo and Steve Ellefson, shared their research via posters and presentations at both the national and Arizona meetings of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine:

“Determining the Effectiveness of the Initial Physics Chart Check with the Use of an Electronic Checklist.”  
Authors: A Geyer, E Clouser

“The Dosimetric Capabilities of Intensity Modulated Proton Therapy in Hippocampal Avoidance Whole Brain Radiotherapy.” Authors: A Uejo, B Allred, M Bues, M Buzan, T Daniels, S Keole, W Liu, J Shen, T Vern-Gross, J Stoker

“A Retrospective Analysis of Isocenter Coincidence between ExacTrac and MV delivery On a Varian 21iX.”  
Authors: S Ellefson, E Clouser

“A Clinically Relevant IMRT QA Workflow: Design and Validation.”  
Authors: C Stambaugh, G Ezzell

“Use of a Semi-Automated Electronic Chart-Review Checklist for Identifying and Prioritizing Practice Quality Improvement Projects.” Authors: E Clouser, D Harrington, J Gagneur, M Fatyga

“Defining a Methodology for Creating Consistent Resident Oral Exams to Aid in Assessment of Progress Using Principles from Bloom’s Taxonomy.” Authors: E Clouser, J Gagneur, D Harrington

This work was a finalist for the Innovation in Medical Physics Education Award at the American Association of Physicists in Medicine 2017 meeting in Denver, Colorado.

## CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Amy Geyer  
St. Luke’s Mountain States  
Tumor Institute  
Boise, Idaho

Cassandra Stambaugh  
Tufts Medical Center  
Boston, Massachusetts



Ethan Montgomery, Susan Sherali, Catherine Ducatt



Tifani Kellogg

## Molecular Genetics Technology Internship

### Northern Michigan University, Diagnostic Genetics Baccalaureate

#### PROGRAM UPDATE

For the 22nd time, the Molecular Genetics Technology Internship accepted students from Northern Michigan University, Marquette. In 2016, Tifani Kellogg was enrolled from July 5 to Dec. 16. As part of her experience in the Genomics Laboratory-Molecular, Kellogg was asked to develop the C9orf72 Expansion Detection System by Southern Blot Chemiluminescence. A hexanucleotide expansion in the C9orf72 gene is associated with an increased risk for frontotemporal dementia (FTD) and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

#### CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Tifani Kellogg  
Clinical technologist, Genomics Laboratory-Molecular  
Mayo Clinic, Rochester

### Texas Tech University — Master of Science, Molecular Pathology

#### PROGRAM UPDATE

The 14th class of students from Texas Tech University, Lubbock, participated in the Molecular Genetics Technology Internship — from March 20 to May 10, 2017. Texas Tech students are enrolled in its Master of Science, Molecular Pathology Program. A one-week experience in the Clinical Genome Sequencing Laboratory was added to the curriculum.

#### CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Clinical technologist, Genomics Laboratory-Molecular  
Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Ethan Montgomery

Catherine Ducatt

Susan Sherali

Applying to medical school, Lubbock, Texas

# Nuclear Medicine Technology

## PROGRAM UPDATE

The Nuclear Medicine Technology's 41st class graduated on Aug. 18, 2017. All seven students passed the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification board exam.

## WITH DISTINCTION

All students submitted research abstracts to the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (SNMMI) for presentation at the 2017 Annual Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging Meeting. All of their abstracts were accepted, and the students presented their research on June 12, 2017, in Denver, Colorado.

Craig Leier received the third place Technologist Student Oral Abstract Award for his work, titled

"Comparison of White Blood Cell and Platelet Counts Between Ficoll-Paque and Standard In-111 WBC Labeling Techniques." Co-authors and research preceptors were Tiffinee Swanson, Nicole Fischer, Andrew Paulsen, PharmD, RPh, and Stephen Broski, MD, all members of the program faculty.

Six SNMMI Annual Meeting Travel Awards were presented to students on behalf of the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging Technologist Section. Awards are based on the quality of the written abstract and help students cover travel expenses. Recipients were Michael Bornholdt, Alex Koenen, Alana Kraft, Craig Leier, Carol Lewis and Krystal Mackereth.



Alana Kraft, Craig Leier, Kayla Woelfel, Michael Bornholdt, Krystal Mackereth, Carol Lewis, Alex Koenen, students

# Nurse Anesthesia

## PROGRAM UPDATE

The 23 members of the Class of 2017 graduated on March 11, 2017. Keynote speaker was Julie Johnson, CRNA, DNP.

This was the last class of Master of Nurse Anesthesia graduates. The program has transitioned to Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice (DNAP).

Several 2017 graduates published research in peer-reviewed journals. All students presented their research results via poster or oral presentations at one or more of the following venues:

- Annual American Association of Nurse Anesthetists Congress
- Minnesota Association of Nurse Anesthetists State Meeting
- 42nd Annual Mayo Clinic Seminar for Nurse Anesthetists

In 2017, the Nurse Anesthesia Program ranked 10th in the *U.S. News & World Report* ranking of nurse anesthesia programs across the country.

## WITH DISTINCTION

### Faculty Awards

- Nurse Anesthetist Educator Award:
- Saint Marys Campus:  
Ann Brink, APRN, CRNA, MNA
  - Rochester Methodist Campus:  
Matthew Dyer, APRN, CRNA, MNA
  - Physician Educator Award:  
Edward Frie, MD

### Student Awards

- Robert R. Johnson  
Achievement Award: Jenna Smith
- Gilles, Nelson, Torrance  
Alumni Award: David La Tarte
- Rebecca S. Finley Alumni  
Award: Christie Tatsuyama
- Virginia B. Hartridge  
Achievement Award:  
Lauren Price
- Robert A.E. Devloo Book  
Award: Jenna Smith

## CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

### Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Amanda Fjerstad  
Brittany Loken  
Travis O'Brien  
Andrea OByrne  
Heather O'Neil  
Justin Robinson  
Holly Sebesta  
Jonathan Turner  
Gulshat (Joy) Walters

### Other

Travis Behrens  
Anesthesiology Associates  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

John Brennan  
Guardian Anesthesia  
Good Samaritan Medical Center  
Brockton, Massachusetts

Daniel Clark  
Anesthesia Associates of Boise  
Boise, Idaho

Alexandra Cohen  
Oregon Health & Science  
University  
Portland, Oregon

Eric DeGraff  
University of Kansas  
Medical Center  
Kansas City, Kansas

David La Tarte  
SSM Health  
St. Mary's Hospital  
Madison, Wisconsin

Tamara Moore  
Bellin Hospital  
Green Bay, Wisconsin

Lauren Price  
Anesthesia Associates of Boise  
Boise, Idaho

Hunter Schulz  
University of Washington  
Medical Center  
Seattle, Washington

Kristen Selleck  
BayCare Clinic, Aurora BayCare  
Green Bay, Wisconsin

Jenna Smith  
Mayo Clinic Health System  
Mankato, Minnesota

Anastasia Talarico  
Midwest Anesthesiologists  
Coon Rapids, Minnesota

Christie Tatsuyama  
Kaiser Permanente Santa Clara  
Medical Center  
Santa Clara, California

Joni Whipple  
UnityPoint Health  
Trinity Regional Medical Center  
Fort Dodge, Iowa



Front row: Gulshat (Joy) Walters, Christie Tatsuyama, Travis Behrens, Daniel Clark, John Brennan, Holly Sebesta, Anastasia Talarico, Jenna Smith. Second row: Heather O'Neil, Joni Whipple, Jonathan Turner, Eric DeGraff, Amanda Fjerstad, Alexandra Cohen, Brittany Loken. Third row: Hunter Schulz, Andrea OByrne, Kristen Selleck, Lauren Price. Back row: Tamara Moore, Travis O'Brien, Justin Robinson, David La Tarte



**Mayo Clinic Health System** — Lea Harel, Barbara Eliason, Sarah Lundblad Medrano, Liana Reiland, Brandy Zimmerman, students; Sarah Strahm, CNP, assistant program director. Not pictured: Becky Komro, Christin Radtke

## Nurse Practitioner

### PROGRAM UPDATE

The Nurse Practitioner Clinical Residency awarded certificates to 38 students. Seven of the students were based at Mayo Clinic Health System, Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

Many of the students rotated to Mayo Clinic Health System sites, allowing them to have a comprehensive and diverse clinical experience and seek job placement in Mayo Clinic Health System.

### WITH DISTINCTION

Program leaders recognized three people with the Outstanding Clinical Preceptor Award.

- Lynn Borkenhagen, APRN, DNP, CNP, Mayo Clinic, Rochester
- Gregory Angstman, MD, Mayo Clinic Health System, Austin, Minnesota
- Benjamin Nesseim, MD, Mayo Clinic Health System, Waukon, Iowa

### CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Jennifer Anderson  
Dermatology

Karissa Besemer  
Hospital Internal Medicine

Jessica Brunner  
Family Medicine

Rachael Guenzel  
Radiation Oncology

Stephanie Hall  
Family Medicine

Josie Hayes  
Endocrinology-Diabetes  
Consulting Service

Pam Haala  
Colorectal Surgery

Jordan Karow  
Palliative Care

Carolyn Klampe  
Medical Oncology

Lindsey Kluck  
Hematology

Jaclyn Novak  
Hematology

Lindsey Prodoehl  
Hematology, Inpatient

Joy Richardson  
Orthopedics-Podiatry

Leah Tucker  
Hospital Internal Medicine

Bethaney Wescott  
Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition

Mayo Clinic Health System

Lea Harel  
Critical Care Unit  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin

Mackenzie Johnson  
Critical Care Unit  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin

Jinette Lais  
Urgent Care  
Mankato, Minnesota

Sarah Lundblad Medrano  
Family Medicine  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin

Melinda Mallory  
Internal Medicine  
Owatonna, Minnesota

Liana Reiland  
Family Medicine  
Mondovi, Wisconsin

Emma Verdeja  
Emergency Department  
Red Wing and Rochester,  
Minnesota

Brandy Zimmerman  
Family Medicine  
Bloomer, Wisconsin

#### Other

Michelle Benish  
Rochester, Minnesota

Rachel Beukema  
Seeking employment

Barbara Eliason  
Geriatric Department  
Amery Hospital and Clinics  
Amery, Wisconsin

Andrea Erdmann  
PICU /Transport team  
Children's Hospital  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Julie Everson  
NICU, University of Minnesota  
Masonic Children's Hospital  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Jennifer Hust  
Rochester, Minnesota

Kendra Joswiak  
Electrophysiology Department  
Regional Heart Doctors  
Rapid City, South Dakota

Kayla Kappel  
Rochester, Minnesota

Becky Komro  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin

Joseph Kuzma  
Lake City, Minnesota

Carol Ludeking  
Family Medicine/Urgent Care  
Winneshiek Medical Center  
Decorah, Iowa

Carrie Martinson  
Rochester, Minnesota

Francis Owusu  
Rochester, Minnesota

Christin Radtke  
Minneapolis, Minneapolis

Meghann Ryan  
Rochester, Minnesota



**Rochester** — Front row: Sally Heusinkvelt, CNP, assistant program director; Danika Nelson, CNP, assistant program director; Stephanie Hall, Jordan Karow, students; Claudia Swanton, DNP, program director; Barbara Timm, DNP, associate program director. Second row: Lindsey Prodoehl, Jaclyn Novak, students. Third row: Carrie Martinson, Francis Owusu, Andrea Erdmann, Carol Ludeking, Meghann Ryan, students. Fourth row: Pam Haala, Rachel Beukema, Rachael Guenzel, Bethaney Wescott, Michelle Benish, students. Fifth row: Carolyn Klampe, Jinette Lais, Jennifer Anderson, Kayla Kappel, Lindsey Kluck, students. Back row: Joseph Kuzma, Emma Verdeja, Jessica Brunner, Joy Richardson, students. Not pictured: Becky Komro, Christin Radtke



Leah Chasm-Velasco, MSN, AGACNP, fellow; Michelle Alland, associate program director; Marci Farquhar Snow, program director; Jayna Ling, MSN, AGNP, fellow

## Cardiology Nurse Practitioner

### PROGRAM UPDATE

Reza Arsanjani, MD, FACC, is the new medical director. Alumna Michelle Alland, MSN, RN, FNP-C, is the new associate program director.

### WITH DISTINCTION

Fellow Leah Chasm-Velasco presented at the Individualizing Medicine Conference at Mayo Clinic in Rochester in October 2017.

Alumna Christen Waddell, FNP, won first place honors for a presentation at the American College of Cardiology (ACC) Cardiovascular Team event. She also presented a poster at the ACC 17 Conference in Washington, D.C., and received third place for an oral presentation at the First Annual Arizona ACC Cardiovascular Team Conference in Phoenix. She is the new research advisor for the fellowship program.

Michelle Alland received second place for a poster at the 1st Annual Arizona ACC Cardiovascular Team Conference in Phoenix.

Program Director Marci Farquhar-Snow, MN, RN, CCRN, CMC, ACNP-BC, AACC, was awarded the 2017 Arizona ACC CVT Member of the Year. She became

a Practice Transitions Accreditation Program (PTAP) Appraiser for the American Nurses Credentialing Center and continues to serve as a Senior Beacon Award Reviewer for the American Critical Care Nurses.

Michelle Alland, Christen Waddell and Marci Farquhar-Snow were recognized by Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) for a research project and will present at the STTI International Research Conference in Dublin, Ireland.

Five faculty members achieved academic promotions: Michelle Alland, instructor; Dondii Delgado PA-C, instructor; Barbara Novais, ANP, assistant professor; Tamara Redden, FNP, instructor; and Linda Schwartz, RN, instructor.

### CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Leah Chasm-Velasco  
Cardiac Care Unit  
Hartford Medical Center  
Hartford, Connecticut

Jayna Ling  
Arizona Arrhythmia Associates  
Phoenix, Arizona

# Nursing Practice Academic Support

## PROGRAM UPDATE

Nine students graduated from the Doctorate of Nursing Practice Academic Support Program in 2017. The program is open to nurses on Mayo Clinic's Florida campus and provides them with the opportunity to complete clinical and residency hours to achieve a doctorate in nursing. Each student is paired with a volunteer preceptor to guide the selection of clinical rotations and evidence-based practice projects.

Larry Lundy, MD, is the new medical director for the program.

## CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Mayo Clinic, Florida

Pamela Bennett  
Cardiovascular nursing

Amanda Chaney  
Department of Transplantation  
Assistant professor of medicine  
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

Kari Ebeltoft  
Cardiovascular nursing

Veronica Lacambra  
Plummer Project Team

Jacqueline LaCouture  
Perianesthesia nursing

Ilana Logvinov  
Anesthesia/Clinical Studies Unit  
Instructor in anesthesia,  
assistant professor of nursing  
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine  
and Science

Allyson McNally  
Cardiovascular nursing

Marissa Trino  
Intensive Care Unit

Other

Elizabeth Gatch  
University of Florida



Pamela  
Bennett



Amanda  
Chaney



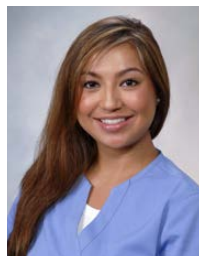
Kari  
Ebeltoft



Elizabeth  
Gatch



Veronica  
Lacambra



Jacqueline  
LaCouture



Ilana  
Logvinov



Allyson  
McNally



Marissa  
Trino



Alexandra Graves, BSN, RN, Brittany Walton, RN, Ashley Flatness, RN, students;  
Bradley Haase, program director; Ryan Ormsby, BSN, RN, Breanne Burry, BSN, RN, students

## Perioperative Nursing

### PROGRAM UPDATE

Faculty additions include Carole Ritchie, MSN, RN, CNOR, unit-based educator for Surgical Services; and Jacque Crosson, MSN, RN, CPAN, unit-based educator for Pre-Op and Post-Anesthesia Care Unit, who completed the Perioperative Fellowship in 2000.

### CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Mayo Clinic, Arizona

Spring 2017

Ryan Ormsby  
Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Brittany Walton  
Department of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck  
Surgery/Audiology

Fall 2016

Breanne Burry  
Department of Urology

Ashley Flatness  
Department of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck  
Surgery/Audiology

Alexandra Graves  
Division of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery

# Pharmacy Residency — Florida

## PROGRAM UPDATE

Cher Enderby, PharmD, BCPS, BCNSP was named program director of the Postgraduate Year 1 (PGY-1) Pharmacy Residency Program in September 2016.

In 2017, the program marked its 15th year on the Florida campus. Residency graduates, preceptors and administrative staff attended a reunion on June 24, 2017.

The Postgraduate Year 2 (PGY-2) Solid Organ Transplant Residency accepted its first student in July 2017. Matthew Soto-Arenall, PharmD, MS, BCACP, BCPS AQ-Cardiology, is the PGY-2 program director.

## WITH DISTINCTION

Residents honored Hesham Mourad, PharmD, BCPS, BCCCP, CPHIMS, as Preceptor of the Year.

## CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Hiba Ahmad  
PGY-2 Oncology Residency  
Yale New Haven Health  
New Haven, Connecticut

Stephanie Doleman  
Seeking employment

David Lee Veasey  
PGY-2 Oncology Residency  
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center  
Los Angeles, California

Jacqueline Walker  
Clinical pharmacist  
Orange Park Medical Center  
Orange Park, Florida



Stephanie Doleman, Hiba Ahmad, Jacqueline Walker, David Lee Veasey

# Pharmacy Residency — Rochester

## PROGRAM UPDATE

The 2016-2017 Pharmacy Residency Program graduation was June 30, 2017. The commencement address was delivered by alumna Laura Richardson, PharmD, BCPS. The event included postgraduate residents from Rochester and Mayo Clinic Health System in Mankato, Minnesota, and Eau Claire and La Crosse, Wisconsin.

Many graduates presented at state or national professional meetings and served in key leadership roles within and outside of the institution. In addition to obtaining teaching certificates, graduates completed quality improvement projects, presented continuing education sessions for interdisciplinary staff, served on various committees and further developed skills as clinical pharmacists.

## WITH DISTINCTION

Janelle Poyant, PharmD, David Roy, PharmD, Alexander Olinger, PharmD, and Kristen Knoph, PharmD, obtained board certification in pharmacotherapy specialties (BCPS) prior to or during their PGY-2 residencies.

Rilwan Badamas, PharmD, became a certified associate in healthcare information and management systems (CAHIMS) during his residency training.

Alexandra Quinn, PharmD, received the 2017 Minnesota Society of Health-System Pharmacists (MSHP) Outstanding PGY-2 Resident Research Award. Kristen Knoph, PharmD, BCPS, and Logan Olson, PharmD, were recognized as PGY-2 and PGY-1 finalists, respectively, for the 2017 MSHP Resident Research Award.

The Pharmacy Residency class of 2016-2017 selected these award recipients:

Stacy Crow, PharmD, BCPS, PGY-1  
Preceptor of the Year for 2016-2017

Evan Draper, PharmD, BCPS, PGY-2  
Preceptor of the Year for 2016-2017

Brianne Ritchie, PharmD, BCPS, BCCCP,  
New Preceptor of the Year for 2016-2017

Laura Richardson, PharmD, BCPS, class of 2003,  
Distinguished Alumnus Award

Patti Lund, Outstanding Service Award

## CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

### PGY-1 Pharmacy Residency, Mayo Clinic, Hospital — Rochester

Joshua Arnold  
PGY-2 Critical Care Pharmacy Residency  
Wake Forest Baptist Health  
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Melissa Laub  
PGY-2 Solid Organ Transplant Pharmacy Residency  
Duke University Hospital  
Durham, North Carolina

Logan Olson  
PGY-2 Critical Care Pharmacy Residency  
The Ohio State Wexner Medical Center  
Columbus, Ohio

Patrick Wieruszewski  
PGY-2 Critical Care Pharmacy Residency  
Mayo Clinic, Rochester

### PGY-1 Residency, Mayo Eugenio Litta Children's Hospital

Laura Steinauer  
PGY-2 Pediatric Pharmacy Residency  
Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital  
St. Petersburg, Florida

### PGY-2 Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Residency, Mayo Clinic

Alexandra Quinn  
Clinical pharmacist, General Internal Medicine Clinic  
Mayo Clinic, Rochester

### PGY-2 Critical Care Residency

Janelle Poyant  
Clinical pharmacy specialist, critical care  
Tufts University Medical Center  
Boston, Massachusetts

### **PGY-2 Emergency Medicine Residency**

David Roy  
Emergency medicine clinical pharmacist  
Baptist Health  
Louisville, Kentucky

### **PGY-2 Oncology Residency**

Alexander Olinger  
Inpatient hematology/oncology clinical pharmacist  
University of Nebraska Medical Center  
Omaha, Nebraska

### **PGY-2 Pharmacotherapy Residency**

Kristen Knoph  
Clinical pharmacist  
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center  
Boston, Massachusetts

### **PGY-2 Pharmacy Informatics Residency**

Rilwan Badamas  
Informatics pharmacist  
National Institutes of Health Clinical Center  
Bethesda, Maryland



Front row: Alexander Olinger, Melissa Laub, Alexandra Quinn, Laura Steinauer, Kristen Knoph, Joshua Arnold  
Back row: Rilwan Badamas, Logan Olson, David Roy, Patrick Wieruszewski, Janelle Poyant

# Phlebotomy Technician

## PROGRAM UPDATE

From January to July 2017, Mayo Clinic hired 81 percent of program graduates.

Almost all students received their phlebotomy certificates from the National Healthcareer Association. In 2018, the program will be condensed to nine weeks instead of the previous 10-week program.

## CLASS NOTES

### STUDENTS AND HOMETOWNS

#### August – October 2016

Abdihakim Abdi  
Somalia

Rasha Al-Salehy  
Bagdad, Iraq

Jessica Carr  
Chatfield, Minnesota

Delanie Davis  
Canton, Minnesota

Breanna Douglas  
Stewartville, Minnesota

Shelby Gosse-Gram  
Rochester, Minnesota

Inga Jentsch  
Zumbrota, Minnesota

Senait Mengesha  
Hawasa, Ethiopia

Haley Nelson  
Zumbrota, Minnesota

Vandana Sharma  
Yamuna Nagar, India

#### October – December 2016

Melissa Brunkhorst  
Rochester, Minnesota

Patrick Cascino  
Rochester, Minnesota

Sarah Ellefson  
Rochester, Minnesota

Jennifer Hernandez  
Rochester, Minnesota

Kimberly Hernandez  
Rochester, Minnesota

Brittney Jahnz  
Rochester, Minnesota

Erykah Kirksey  
Mankato, Minnesota

Mitsy King  
St. Elizabeth, Jamaica

Wayne Miller  
Sterling, Virginia

Zeinab Mohamed  
Mogadishu, Somalia

Madison Sipe  
Rochester, Minnesota

Etsegenet Yigletu  
Nazeret, Ethiopia

#### August – October 2016



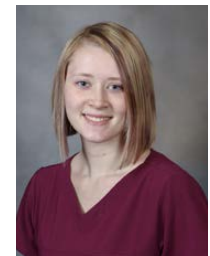
Abdihakim Abdi



Rasha Al-Salehy



Jessica Carr



Delanie Davis



Breanna Douglas



Shelby Gosse-Gram



Inga Jentsch



Senait Mengesha



Haley Nelson



Vandana Sharma



**October – December 2016** — Front row: Jennifer Hernandez, Wayne Miller, Mitsy King, Etsegenet Yigletu, Kimberly Hernandez, Melissa Brunkhorst. Back row: Madison Sipe, Sarah Ellefson, Brittany Jahnz, Zeinab Mohamed, Patrick Cascino, Erykah Kirksey



January – March 2017 — Aynslea Kern, Abdizamad Mohamoud , Silvia (Vanessa) Lozoya, Hanadi Al Shaikhli

## Phlebotomy Technician

### CLASS NOTES

### STUDENTS AND HOMETOWNS

#### January – March 2017

Aynslea Kern  
Dover, Minnesota

Abdizamad Mohamoud  
Mogadishu, Somalia

Silvia (Vanessa) Lozoya  
Rochester, Minnesota

Hanadi Al Shaikhli  
Baghdad, Iraq

#### March – May 2017

Amanda Amofa  
Ghana, West Africa

Michael Deyo  
Albert Lea, Minnesota

Habtamu Ewunetu  
Hareto, Ethiopia

Ilhan Osman  
Cumiana, Italy

Norma Osterman  
San Juan, Puerto Rico

Ana Reboloso  
Eagle Pass, Texas

Baihley Thiemann  
Dodge Center, Minnesota

Abdilecadir Yassin  
Mogadishu, Somalia

Essa Yusuf  
Liben, Ethiopia

#### May – July 2017

Rahma Adan  
Rochester, Minnesota

Salar Al Hachami  
Rochester, Minnesota

Janaki Burlet  
Delano, Minnesota

Gallad Gudlawe  
Rochester, Minnesota

Jordan Hagmann  
Appleton, Wisconsin

Paul Kumbo  
Tambura, South Sudan

Jolene Lane  
Rochester, Minnesota

Nita Martinez  
Eagle Pass, Texas

Allison Niemi  
Winona, Minnesota

Ana Ortiz Pano  
La Paz, Bolivia

Arlena Schmidt  
Pine Island, Minnesota

Habso Sharif  
Sanaa, Yemen

Karen (Elaine) Stocum  
Arcadia, Missouri



**March – May 2017** — Front row: Essa Yusuf, Michael Deyo, Norma Osterman, Amanda Amofa, Habtamu Ewunetu  
Back row: Ilhan Osman, Abdilcadir Yassin, Ana Reboloso. Not pictured: Baihley Thiemann



**May – July 2017** — Front row: Ana Ortiz Pano, Rahma Adan, Arlena Schmidt, Janaki Burlet, Nita Martinez  
Back row: Gallad Gudlawe, Salar Al Hachami, Karen (Elaine) Stocum, Allison Niemi, Habso Sharif, Jordan Hagmann, Jolene Lane, Paul Kumbo

# Physical Therapy

## PROGRAM UPDATE

The commencement ceremony for the Physical Therapy class of 2017 was May 26. This year marked the 80th graduating class for the program and the 11th year in which graduates were awarded the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree.

James Youdas, PT, MS, associate professor, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science and faculty member in the Physical Therapy Program, gave the keynote address. Peter Johnson provided the student address.

Twenty-eight students earned the DPT degree. Since the first class in 1939, 2,583 students have graduated.

## WITH DISTINCTION

### Students

Tyler Berling received the Outstanding Clinical Performance Award, selected by clinical education faculty to recognize exceptional clinical performance by a graduating student.

Kendra Coleman received the Richard L. Beers Award, which honors the graduating student who wrote the most outstanding scholarly paper.

Nicole Veldkamp received the Gordon J. Branes Award, which honors the graduating student with outstanding academic achievement in the physical therapy curriculum.

Sara Balch received the Erik J. Aasen Award, which honors the graduating student who best embodies the spirit of Erik Aasen. A member of the class of 1995, Aasen was a dedicated student, compassionate humanitarian and selfless colleague who died in a 1994 Thanksgiving holiday traffic accident.

Megan McCarthy received the Outstanding Student Award from the Minnesota Chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA).

The award honors a graduating student who demonstrates strong academic performance, excellent clinical performance and professional leadership.

### Faculty

Several Physical Therapy Program faculty members earned recognitions and authored peer-reviewed publications in the 2016-2017 academic year:

Beth Cloud, PT, PhD, assistant professor of physical therapy, was appointed to a core faculty position in 2016. She authored a publication in *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*. Additionally, she was honored as the 2016 Outstanding Trainee Researcher from the Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals.

Darren Calley, PT, DSc, OCS, director of the physical therapy residency programs in the Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Department, led accreditation efforts for two residencies. Newly accredited by the American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education are:

-Physical Therapy Neurology Residency, coordinated by Deb Ness, PT, DSc, NCS, assistant professor of physical therapy

-Physical Therapy Sports Residency, coordinated by Cory Kunzer, PT, ATC

Nathan Hellyer, PT, PhD, assistant professor of physical therapy, authored a publication in *PM&R: The Journal of Injury, Function and Rehabilitation*.

John Hollman, PT, PhD, program director and professor of physical therapy, authored or co-authored publications in the *Journal of Strength & Conditioning Research*, *Clinical Biomechanics*, *Topics in Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation*, *Skeletal Radiology*, *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease*, *PM&R*, *Physiotherapy Theory & Practice*, *Clinical Journal of Sport Medicine*, *Journal of Orthopaedic*

*& Sports Physical Therapy*, and the *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*. He was a delegate to the American Physical Therapy Association's House of Delegates.

Dave Krause, PT, DSc, OCS, associate professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation, authored a publication in *Clinical Journal of Sport Medicine*. He also served as a delegate to the American Physical Therapy Association's House of Delegates.

Tim Madson, PT, MS, OCS, assistant professor of physical therapy, authored a publication in the *Journal of Orthopaedic & Sports Physical Therapy*.

Aaron Rindflesch, PT, PhD, NCS, assistant professor of physical therapy, co-authored a publication in *Spine*. He also authored a textbook chapter in "Teaching and Learning in Physical Therapy: From Classroom to Clinic," (2nd edition).

Jim Youdas, PT, MS, associate professor of physical therapy, authored or co-authored publications in *Spine*, the *Journal of Strength & Conditioning Research* and *Physiotherapy Theory & Practice*.

## CLASS NOTES

### Students and hometowns

Sara Balch  
Madison, Mississippi

Tyler Berling  
Sauk Centre, Minnesota

Kendra Coleman  
Pelican Rapids, Minnesota

Brianna Cooper  
Sauk Centre, Minnesota

Ellen Crum  
Great Falls, Montana

Kelin Dunfee  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Angela Fischer  
Fremont, Wisconsin

Stacey Glaess  
Cannon Falls, Minnesota

Rio Haack  
Stewartville, Minnesota

Ramy Hagen  
Britton, South Dakota

Erin Holstad  
Traverse City, Michigan

Justin Hubble  
Eagan, Minnesota

Connor Johnson  
Colfax, North Dakota

Peter Johnson  
Lakeville, Minnesota

Andrew Kleven  
Wayzata, Minnesota

Stephanie Long  
Lake Oswego, Oregon

Megan McCarthy  
Woodbury, Minnesota

Mary McPartlin  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Kelsie Miller  
Urbandale, Iowa

Jason Niemann  
Foley, Minnesota

Jasmine Peterson  
Santa Barbara, California

Brittany Sellman  
Waconia, Minnesota

Brent Simmons  
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

Jessica Strikwerda  
Holland, Michigan

Adam Urick  
Woodbury, Minnesota

Nicole Veldkamp  
Flandreau, South Dakota

Natalie Woodberry  
White Bear Lake, Minnesota

Michelle Yancey  
Wayzata, Minnesota



Front row: Natalie Woodberry, Ramy Hagen, Michelle Yancey, Stephanie Long, Jessica Strikwerda. Second row: Brianna Cooper, Ellen Crum, Stacey Glaess, Kendra Coleman, Rio Haack. Third row: Justin Hubble, Mary McPartlin, Sara Balch, Kelsie Miller. Fourth row: Tyler Berling, Erin Holstad, Megan McCarthy, Brent Simmons, Jasmine Peterson. Fifth row: Kelin Dunfee, Nicole Veldkamp, Brittany Sellman, Angela Fischer. Back row: Andrew Kleven, Connor Johnson, Adam Urick, Peter Johnson, Jason Niemann



Sarah Cooper, PT, DPT, student; Kathryn Brewer, PT, DPT, GCS, MEd, CEEA, program director

## Physical Therapy Geriatric Residency

### PROGRAM UPDATE

The 12-month Physical Therapy Geriatric Residency includes acute/critical care, acute rehab and outpatient care rotations on the Mayo Clinic campus in Arizona. New in 2017, the resident completed a rotation at Covenant Alliance Rehabilitation in Phoenix. This organization provides therapy services in skilled nursing and long-term care, home health, outpatient, memory care, and palliative and hospice care services. The residency continues to expand didactic curriculum to reflect the broadening scope of physical therapy practice. New topics include nutritional issues, management of patients with low vision, frailty/geriatric syndrome, psychosocial issues in aging, end-of-life issues and the genitourinary system.

The board exam pass rate continues to be 100 percent. Hannah Schonau-Taylor, PT, DPT, GCS, 2016 resident, received board certification in geriatric physical therapy. She works at Kaiser-Permanente, Geriatric Outpatient Clinic, Portland, Oregon.

### WITH DISTINCTION

Program faculty members were involved in research and presentations:

Brewer K, Eikenberry M. Revisiting the ICF Model. Applications in Clinical Education. *GeriNotes* 2017;24(2):18-20.

Brewer K. Geriatric Residency: A Call to Action for Students, Clinicians and Educators. APTA Combined Sections, San Antonio TX; Feb 2017.

Eden M. Comparison of 4 Shoulder-Related Outcome Measures in Individuals with Head and Neck

Cancer using Rasch Analysis. Platform presentation. APTA Combined Sections, San Antonio TX; Feb 2017.

Eikenberry M, Brewer K, Burke H. Use of an Evidence-Based Circuit Training Program for a Patient with Myasthenia Gravis: A Case Study. Poster. APTA Combined Sections, San Antonio TX; Feb 2017.

Eikenberry M, Holzer J. Use of a Nursing Mobility Education Program to Improve Nursing Confidence with Patient Mobilization in Acute Care Practice. Poster. APTA NEXT Conference, Boston, MA; June 2017.

### CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Sarah Cooper  
Genesis Rehabilitation  
Services  
Fountain Hills, Arizona

# Physical Therapy Neurologic Residency

## PROGRAM UPDATE

The first graduation for the Physical Therapy Neurologic Residency was July 21, 2017. Kathy Cieslak, PT, DScPT, OCS, MEd, assistant professor, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science, presented the keynote address.

The new Neurology Residency offers neurologic physical therapy experiences in inpatient and outpatient settings on the Mayo Clinic Rochester campus. Residency faculty, including 26 instructors and six mentors, developed the curriculum, including

more than 115 didactic hours and 200 hours of clinical mentoring.

## WITH DISTINCTION

The Mayo Clinic Physical Therapy Neurologic Residency was accredited by the American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education in 2017.

Resident Hannah Von Arb presented a poster at Combined Sections Meeting of the American Physical Therapy Association in San Antonio, Texas, titled, "The Role of the Physical Therapist in Health Promotion as Perceived by Patients

with Neurological Conditions, a Descriptive Study."

Debra Ness, program coordinator, co-authored an article on fractal dynamics in treadmill ambulation in *Clinical Biomechanics*.

## CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Hannah Von Arb  
Neurologic physical therapy  
Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Sarah Yonkovich  
Neurologic care  
North Memorial Hospital  
Robbinsdale, Minnesota



Sarah Yonkovich, PT, DPT, resident; Debra Ness, PT, DScPT, NCS, program coordinator; Hannah Von Arb, PT, DPT, resident



Rebecca Gusmer, resident; Darren Calley, PT, DScPT, OCS, program director; Adam Squires, resident

## Physical Therapy Orthopaedic Residency

### PROGRAM UPDATE

The fourth class of the Physical Therapy Orthopaedic Residency graduated July 21, 2017. Kathy Cieslak, PT, DScPT, OCS, MEd, assistant professor, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science, presented the keynote address. Graduates have continued to achieve 100 percent first-time pass rates on the orthopaedic specialty exam.

Residency graduates Aaron Hellem, PT, DPT, OCS, SCS, and Ryan Buus, PT, DPT, OCS, joined the faculty.

### WITH DISTINCTION

Rebecca Gusmer, PT, DPT, presented at the Minnesota Physical Therapy Association 2017 annual conference on management of cycling injuries and at the 26th Annual Mayo Clinic Symposium on

Sports Medicine on treatment of swimmer's shoulder.

Adam Squires, PT, DPT, presented at the Minnesota Physical Therapy Association's 2017 annual conference on management of lumbar stenosis.

Gerad Donahue, PT, DPT, OCS, and Joel Narveson, PT, DPT, OCS, 2016 graduates, received board certification in orthopaedic physical therapy from the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialists. Narveson authored a publication in the *Journal of Orthopaedic & Sports Physical Therapy* on physical therapy management of labral tears.

Faculty certifications

- Ryan Buus and Bryan Sorenson, PT, DPT, OCS, were presented with board certification in orthopaedic physical therapy from the

American Board of Physical Therapy Specialists.

- Aaron Hellem was presented with board certification in sports physical therapy from the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialists, and authored a publication in the journal *PMR* on ultrasound evaluation of the lower trapezius in adolescent baseball pitchers.

### CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Rebecca Gusmer  
Outpatient Orthopedics and Sports Medicine  
Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Adam Squires  
Body in Motion Physical Therapy  
Twin Falls, Idaho

# Physical Therapy Sports Residency

## PROGRAM UPDATE

The first commencement ceremony for the Physical Therapy Sports Residency was July 21, 2017. Kathy Cieslak, PT, DScPT, OCS, MSED, assistant professor, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science, presented the keynote address.

The curriculum provides experiences in sports medicine and in the Hand Clinic on the Rochester campus as well as at Mayo Clinic Square in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Residency faculty, including 21 instructors and six mentors, developed the sports residency curriculum, which includes more

than 200 didactic hours, 200 hours of clinical mentoring and 200 hours of athletic event coverage.

## WITH DISTINCTION

The Mayo Clinic Physical Therapy Sports Residency was accredited by the American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education in 2017.

Resident Anthony Thompson presented at the Minnesota Physical Therapy Association's annual conference on management of lumbar stenosis. Resident Paul Yerhot also presented on management of cycling injuries.

Both residents presented at the 15th Annual ACL Workshop at Mayo Clinic Square on neuroplastic changes following anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction.

## CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Anthony Thompson  
Outpatient sports  
physical therapy  
Divine Savior Healthcare  
Portage, Wisconsin

Paul Yerhot  
Sports Medicine and  
Hand Clinic  
Mayo Clinic, Rochester



Paul Yerhot, PT, DPT, resident; Corey Kunzer, PT, DPT, SCS, program coordinator; Anthony Thompson, PT, DPT, resident

# Physician Assistant

In 2017, the Physician Assistant Program marked its 20th year. The program is a tri-partnership through the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, Gundersen La Crosse Hospital and Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences.

Every year, all graduates of the program have passed the national certification exam. This year's graduates have secured positions in specialty medicine, hospital internal medicine, surgery and cardiology.

# Physician Assistant Fellowship

## Hospital Internal Medicine

### PROGRAM UPDATE

The program marked its 10th anniversary on Mayo Clinic's Arizona campus.

All fellows presented posters at Academic Excellence Day on Mayo Clinic's Arizona campus and at the American Academy of Physician Assistants Annual Conference.

### WITH DISTINCTION

Michael Sharp won the Association of Postgraduate Physician Assistant Programs Poster Award for outstanding poster by a physician assistant in a postgraduate program.

### CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Kevin Davis  
Department of Cardiology  
Section of Advanced Heart Failure and Heart Transplant  
Mayo Clinic, Arizona

Brianna Laartz  
Division of Pulmonary Medicine  
Mayo Clinic, Arizona

Michael Sharp  
Department of Critical Care Medicine  
Mayo Clinic, Rochester



Kevin Davis, student; Jennifer Palermo, associate program director; Amber Brooks-Gumbert, program director; Brianna Laartz and Michael Sharp, students



Anthony Mendez, MMS, PA-C, program director; Chelsea Aldridge, student; Carlene Donald, PA-C, associate program director

## Physician Assistant Fellowship

### Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery

#### PROGRAM UPDATE

This 12-month Physician Assistant Fellowship at Mayo Clinic in Arizona is the only accredited post-graduate program for physician assistants who wish to

specialize in otolaryngology/head and neck surgery. Fellow Chelsea Aldridge, PA-C, rotated through 12 subspecialty areas associated with otolaryngology. This is the 12th year of the fellowship.

#### CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Chelsea Aldridge  
Department of Otolaryngology  
– Head & Neck Surgery/  
Audiology  
Mayo Clinic, Arizona



Karolyn Tuhy, Anna Cummings, Rashad Momoh, Brittany Howard, Nicole Starkson

## Radiation Therapy

### PROGRAM UPDATE

The 37th Radiation Therapy class received Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences certificates on August 16, 2017. This cohort of students is the second class to participate in structured rotations through the proton beam therapy treatment area. All graduates passed the board exam.

Members of the class volunteered in the community at the National Cancer Survivors Day event and at Camp Angel, a camp for children of patients with cancer. They also baked cookies and served root beer floats at Sandra J. Schulze American Cancer Society Hope Lodge in Rochester.

### WITH DISTINCTION

Brittany Howard and Karolyn Tuhy were recognized for graduating with a 4.0 GPA. Rashad Momoh and Nicole Starkson were recognized for graduating with GPA of greater than 3.75.

Graduating students honored Tonya Steckman, radiation therapist, with the Clinical Educator Award and Andrew Veres, MS, medical physicist, with the Didactic Faculty Award.

### CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Radiation Therapy Proton Beam Program  
Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Anna Cummings

Brittany Howard

Rashad Momoh

Nicole Starkson

Other

Karolyn Tuhy  
Sanford Health  
Fargo, North Dakota

# Radiography Internship — Arizona

## PROGRAM UPDATE

The Arizona Radiography Internship Class of 2017 celebrated commencement on May 12 at the North Phoenix Baptist Church. Students also were honored at an awards banquet May 5 and at the MCSHS graduation ceremony on May 31 at Juanita Waugh Education Center, Phoenix campus.

The internship, in affiliation with the Medical Radiography Program at Gateway Community College, Phoenix, is in its 16th year at Mayo Clinic's Arizona campus.

## WITH DISTINCTION

Amy Suban passed the national boards, graduated with honors and was on the dean's list at Northern Arizona University while completing clinical courses at Gateway Community College.

Bethany West passed the national boards and graduated with honors.

## CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Amy Suban  
Scottsdale Medical Imaging  
Scottsdale, Arizona

Bethany West  
Department of Radiology  
Mayo Clinic, Arizona



Amy Suban, student; Kerry Knodel, RT(R), program director; Bethany West, student



Front row: Sarah Johnson, Rachel Nguyen, Myranda Quinn, Karyn Pfeifer, Caitlyn Gengler, Stacia Lebeck. Second row: Austin Giordano, Melissa Stellenberg, Kristen Dezell, Theodore Kryzer, Emily Kramer, Charlotte Krecke, Alexander Kehren. Back row: Paige Lindrud, Taylor Raymond, Haylie Noha, Siraya Kaiser

## Radiography — Rochester

### PROGRAM UPDATE

The commencement ceremony for the Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences Radiography Program Class of 2017 was May 11. Forrest Hayden, RT(R), retired assistant supervisor, Mayo Clinic Department of Radiology, gave the commencement address. Jill Tryon, MBA, RT(R)(M)(CT), program director, moderated the evening.

All graduates passed the registration examination administered by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologist.

Thirteen graduates accepted

employment in the Mayo Clinic Department of Radiology. One graduate is working elsewhere. Three graduates are continuing their education in the Radiation Therapy Program.

### WITH DISTINCTION

The graduating class honored Elizabeth Hennessey, RT(R), and Michael Feakes, RT(R), with Outstanding Clinical Educator awards.

Emily Kramer was selected by program faculty as Outstanding Clinic Student. In addition, she was recognized as Outstanding

Academic Student based on grade point average.

Kristen Dezell was selected by faculty for the Outstanding Student Achievement award for her commitment to professional and personal growth.

### CLASS NOTES

#### Students and hometowns

Kristen Dezell  
Rochester, Minnesota

Caitlyn Gengler  
Prior Lake, Minnesota

Austin Giordano  
Rochester, Minnesota

Sarah Johnson  
Lake City, Minnesota

Siraya Kaiser  
Claremont, Minnesota

Alexander Kehren  
Zumbrota, Minnesota

Emily Kramer  
Nora Springs, Iowa

Charlotte Krecke  
Rochester, Minnesota

Theodore Kryzer  
Rochester, Minnesota

Stacia Lebeck  
Albert Lea, Minnesota

Paige Lindrud  
Farmington, Minnesota

Rachel Nguyen  
St. Cloud, Minnesota

Haylie Noha  
Baldwin, Wisconsin

Karyn Pfeifer  
Brainerd, Minnesota

Myranda Quinn  
Truman, Minnesota

Taylor Raymond  
St. Peter, Minnesota

Melissa Stellenberg  
Rochester, Minnesota



Front row: Stan Olejniczak, program director; Hillary Garner, MD, medical advisor; LaRissa Adams, clinical coordinator. Back row: Morgan Rhodenhizer, Jarrod Robinson, Taylor Bauer, students

## Radiography — Florida

### PROGRAM UPDATE

Three students graduated from the Radiography Program on Mayo Clinic's Florida campus on Aug. 25, 2017. Radiography Program Medical Advisor Hillary Garner, MD, welcomed students and guests. Mayo Clinic Radiologist David DiSantis, MD, was the keynote speaker, and Nell Robinson, Mayo Clinic Florida Education chair, provided closing remarks.

Shaun Harrell is the new Radiography Program coordinator. Stan Olejniczak retires at the end of 2017 after nine years as program director.

### WITH DISTINCTION

Taylor Bauer was presented the Award for Student Excellence in Radiography. She was selected

by faculty and Department of Radiology leads and supervisors.

Program faculty honored James Barlow with the Program Director's Award

Ashley Nelms was selected by students for the Outstanding Clinical Educator Award.

### CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Taylor Bauer  
Seeking employment

Morgan Rhodenhizer  
Medical missionary, Haiti

Jarrod Robinson  
Vascular Interventional  
Radiologic Technology  
Internship  
Mayo Clinic School of Health  
Sciences, Florida



Front row: Jonathan Dabadji, student; Anna Marie Spartz, clinical coordinator; Kari Kalthoff, student; James Findlay, MD, medical director; Vanessa King, program director; William Letourneau, faculty; Jenna Miller, student; Mindy Eickhoff, clinical lead. Back row: Omar Mohamed, Christopher Acker, Andrea Schouweiler, Salahudiin Abdullahi, students

## Respiratory Care

### PROGRAM UPDATE

On May 13, 2017, program graduates were presented Bachelor of Science in Health Profession degrees at the University of Minnesota Rochester commencement ceremony.

### WITH DISTINCTION

Kari Kalthoff graduated with high distinction, achieving a grade point average of 3.9 or higher. Her other achievements include:

- Recipient of the Minnesota Society for Respiratory Care H.F. Helmholz Jr. Award for a literature review, “The Need for Change in the Monitoring of Endotracheal Tube Cuff Pressures.”
- Presenting her abstract poster at the American Association

for Respiratory Care Congress in San Antonio, Texas. Her poster was titled “Performance Evaluation of Automated Endotracheal Tube Cuff Pressure Regulators.”

- Recipient of the Allina Leadership Scholarship, which is awarded to a respiratory care student for exceptional leadership that benefits the profession.

Christopher Acker graduated with distinction, achieving a grade point average of 3.75 or higher.

Jonathan Dabadji was awarded the Shirley Johnson Scholarship, presented to a respiratory care student for outstanding professional growth.

Faculty member William Letourneau was elected to the

board of the Minnesota Society for Respiratory Care

### CLASS NOTES AND EMPLOYMENT

Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Christopher Acker

Kari Kalthoff

Jenna Miller

University of Minnesota  
Medical Center  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Salahudiin Abdullahi

Jonathan Dabadji

Omar Mohamed

University of Minnesota Masonic  
Children’s Hospital  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Andrea Schouweiler

# Social Work

## PROGRAM UPDATE

The Social Work Internship Program was established at Mayo Clinic in 1926 and became part of Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences in 1995. In 2016, the program was integrated across the Midwest region, which allows students opportunities to rotate between Mayo Clinic in Rochester and Mayo Clinic Health System locations.

Fifteen social work students completed their internships between August 2016 and July 2017.

## WITH DISTINCTION

Mayo Clinic was awarded the American Cancer Society Masters Training Grant in Clinical Oncology Social Work for 2016-2018.

## CLASS NOTES

### Students and hometowns

Stephanie Denzer  
Madison, Wisconsin

Whitney Farr  
Blooming Prairie, Minnesota

Amanda Gronner  
Winona, Minnesota

Kaitlyn Jewison  
Waseca, Minnesota

Nicole Lidstrom  
Mankato, Minnesota

Rachel Mattick  
Wells, Minnesota

Kimberly Moeller  
Chatfield, Minnesota

Rebecca Nixon  
Rochester, Minnesota

Kristine Olson  
Spring Green, Wisconsin

Lori Rhodes  
Rochester, Minnesota

Jamie Schuller  
Janesville, Minnesota

Kali Shae  
Owatonna, Minnesota

Amanda Smith  
Mankato, Minnesota

Mercades Stark  
Onalaska, Wisconsin

Julia Wanke  
Madison, Wisconsin



Rebecca Nixon, Kaitlyn Jewison, students; Benjamin Mohr, LICSW, program director; Lori Rhodes, Stephanie Denzer, Kimberly Moeller, students. Not pictured: Whitney Farr, Amanda Gronner, Nicole Lidstrom, Rachel Mattick, Kristine Olson, Jamie Schuller, Kali Shae, Amanda Smith, Mercades Stark, Julia Wanke

# Sonography

## PROGRAM UPDATE

The graduation ceremony for the Sonography Program Class of 2017 was May 15 in Phillips Hall, Siebens Building, on the Rochester campus with live video connection to the Walker Auditorium on the Jacksonville campus.

## WITH DISTINCTION

Program faculty honored Kristen Smith with the Outstanding Student Achievement award.

Students recognized these sonographers and vascular technologists for outstanding clinical education: Mandy Hanson, Tracy Heaser, Crystal Koski, Kristi Lahmann and Amber Marroquin.

## CLASS NOTES

Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Abby Schrandt

Cassandra Schue

Caitlin Wille

Kyle Womeldorff

Mayo Clinic, Florida

Kristen Smith

Other

Madison Bongard

Seeking employment

Ashlyn Sorensen

Regions Hospital

St. Paul, Minnesota



Florida — Francis St George, clinical coordinator; Kristen Smith, student





**Rochester** — Front row: Madison Bongard, Kyle Womeldorff, Caitlin Wille, Cassandra Schue, Abby Schrandt, Ashlyn Sorensen, students. Back row: Diane Youngs, program director; Rebecca Maderly, academic coordinator; Douglas (Rusty) Brown, MD, medical director; Laura Schmalz, clinical coordinator



Front row: Ashley Moore, Kaylin Matos, Susan Jiang, Layla Salim  
Back row: Allison Lund, Brianna Allen, Casey Kunkel

## Surgical First Assistant

### PROGRAM UPDATE

Commencement for the 2017 graduating class was Aug. 4. The welcome address was given by Michael Silber, MB, ChB, dean, Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences. Allison Lund provided the student address. Luis Aragon, president, National Surgical Assistant Association, was the guest speaker.

### WITH DISTINCTION

All graduating students passed the National Commission for the Certification of Surgical Assistants exam.

Students honored preceptor Eric Maxson, CSA, with the Appreciation Award for his contributions to the educational

growth of surgical first assistant students.

Students also honored outstanding preceptors for strong teaching, student support and demonstration of characteristics graduates desire to emulate as certified surgical assistants. Outstanding Preceptor Awards were presented to William Manansala, CSA, and Cassandra Momoh, CSA.

Students Brianna Allen, Susan Jiang, Casey Kunkel, Allison Lund, Kaylin Matos, Ashley Moore and Layla Salim participated in a research paper titled, "The Application of Mental Toughness for Certified Surgical Assistants." It has been accepted for publication in *National Surgical Assistant Association (NSAA) Node*.

### CLASS NOTES

Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Brianna Allen

Casey Kunkel

Allison Lund

Kaylin Matos

Ashley Moore

Other

Susan Jiang  
American Surgical  
Professionals  
Chicago, Illinois

Layla Salim  
Seeking employment

# We welcome alumni and student news

Your comments, academic and career news, and story ideas are welcome. Email: [connectionsmanager@mayo.edu](mailto:connectionsmanager@mayo.edu)

## About *Connections* and MCSHS

*Connections* is published three times a year and mailed free of charge to alumni, students and friends of Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences (MCSHS).

MCSHS has a distinguished history of preparing students for successful careers in the health sciences. Mayo Clinic has been training allied health professionals for more than 100 years.

Nearly 1,700 students are enrolled in more than 128 MCSHS programs and rotations representing more than 68 health sciences careers. Programs are available at Mayo Clinic campuses in Arizona, Florida and Rochester.

## Enrollment information [www.mayo.edu/mayo-clinic-school-of-health-sciences](http://www.mayo.edu/mayo-clinic-school-of-health-sciences)

507-284-3678 or  
1-800-626-9041 (toll-free)  
[young.jolene@mayo.edu](mailto:young.jolene@mayo.edu)

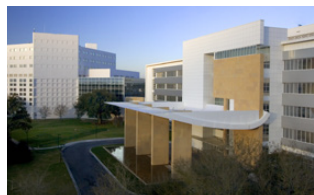
## Alumni information <https://mshsalumni.mayo.edu>

Deborah Oscarson,  
Alumni relations  
business analyst  
507-284-2317  
[mshsaa@mayo.edu](mailto:mshsaa@mayo.edu)

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**PLAN TO ATTEND**

# Medical marijuana: What's legal — and what's not!

J. Michael Bostwick, MD, Department of Psychiatry & Psychology at Mayo Clinic in Rochester and professor of psychiatry, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science, will speak about the legal issues of medical marijuana.

MCSHS Alumni Association Annual Meeting  
Saturday, April 21, 2018  
Rochester Marriott Hotel  
101 First Ave. SW | Rochester, Minnesota

5:30 p.m. Reception  
6:15 p.m. Program  
7:15 p.m. Dinner  
8 p.m. Presentation of awards, installation of new president

The evening is free for MCSHS alumni and a guest.  
Reserve your spot by April 14, 2018,  
at [2018mshsaadinner.eventbrite.com](https://2018mshsaadinner.eventbrite.com)

