



# Connections

MAYO CLINIC SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WINTER 2019





# FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION president



Pamela Lovett, APRN, CRNA, DNP (NA '03)  
Certified registered nurse anesthetist  
Department of Anesthesiology and  
Perioperative Medicine  
Assistant professor of anesthesiology  
Mayo Clinic in Florida

Congratulations, MCSHS graduates.  
Welcome to the Alumni Association!

As you search for your new professional positions, remember that the Alumni Association has a mentorship program that can be accessed through our website. It allows you to reach out to other alumni in the same or similar specialty. It's always beneficial to touch base with people already in practice to gather information about interviewing and get valuable tips about your profession. Once you're established in your profession, don't forget the importance of mentoring and precepting. Nothing is more fulfilling than seeing someone succeed through your assistance.

New in 2019, the Alumni Association Board is asking for voluntary annual dues at a minimum of \$10 per person. Thirty-three members have paid dues, and others have made unsolicited contributions, totaling more than \$1,500. The Alumni Association also has taken in more than \$1,800 from our limited-edition apparel sales. We need many more of you to get involved — don't hesitate to pay your dues online and purchase alumni apparel. We can do more when we have more.

A reminder of some of the activities the Alumni Association undertakes:

- DNP graduates' recognition dinner on Florida campus
- New annual Alumni Day on Florida campus; hoping to extend this event to all sites
- Annual award program for alumni — Recognition of Outstanding Contribution
- Alumni Association annual meeting and dinner on April 17 (see back cover)

Feel free to reach out with questions or ideas as we move the Alumni Association toward bigger and better things.

Good luck — never quit inspiring!



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On the cover:

A few Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences 2019 graduates from Florida: Thomas Bishop, RT(R) (RAD '19), Radiography Program (page 86); Gabriella Massoglia, PharmD (APPE '17, PHSR '19), Pharmacy Residency (page 61); and Daniel Silva (ADMN '19), Administrative Internship.



# Highlights 2019



## 21,638 alumni strong

Connect with alumni in your community or profession via the MCSHS Alumni Association website. Complete your alumni profile, [mshsalumni.mayo.edu](https://mshsalumni.mayo.edu), so others can connect with you.



## No. 1 in the nation

Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences students learn and train at the No. 1-ranked hospitals on all three Mayo Clinic campuses. Once again Mayo Clinic was named the best hospital in the *U.S. News & World Report* annual list of top hospitals. Mayo Clinic ranked No. 1 in Minnesota and Arizona, and No. 1 in the Jacksonville, Florida, metropolitan area.

Mayo Clinic has more No. 1 rankings in medical subspecialty areas than any other U.S. medical center.





## New programs

MCSHS launched 19 new internships, externships, fellowships, clinical rotations or programs in 2019.

### Arizona campus:

- Exercise Physiology, clinical rotation
- Integrated Behavioral Health, clinical rotation
- Medical Assistant, externship
- Nurse Anesthesia Student Registered (SRNA/CRNA), clinical rotation
- Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant, Palliative Medicine and Hospice Care, fellowship
- Physician Assistant, Advanced Heart Failure/Transplant, fellowship
- Physician Assistant, Neurosurgery, fellowship

### Florida campus:

- Biotechnology, internship
- Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant, Cardiology, fellowship
- Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant, Critical Care, fellowship
- Ophthalmic Technician, clinical rotation
- Physical Therapy, Orthopedics, residency
- Sterile Processing Technician, clinical rotation

### Minnesota campus:

- Humanities in Medicine, internship
- Medical Examiner Office, Forensic Science, internship
- Medical Physics, Radiation Oncology, residency
- Pharmacy, HS Administration/MS, PGY1/PGY2 residency
- Pharmacy, Solid Organ Transplant, PGY2 residency
- Pharmacy Technician Program









Preceptors Gina Kesselring, PA-C;  
Sally Heusinkvelt, APRN, CNP, DNP; and  
Rena Kane Laughlin, APRN, CNP, MSN.

# Filling a void

## NEW ONLINE NPPA PRECEPTOR EDUCATION PROGRAM

Mayo Clinic physician assistant Gina Kesselring, PA-C, has precepted more than 100 trainees in the last 18 years without significant formal education in how to precept. “I precept because I want to make sure our students succeed, but there’s been a void in training,” says Kesselring. “I emulate how I was trained, and I deduce what doesn’t work with students.”

Nurse practitioner Rena Kane Laughlin, APRN, CNP, MSN (NP ‘19), has precepted for a handful of years and, like Kesselring, has had no instruction in precepting. “It’s challenging to know the best way to teach,” says Laughlin. “A lot of trial and error has been involved in figuring out which techniques work best with each student.”

Enter Sally Heusinkvelt, APRN, CNP, DNP, assistant program director for the MCSHS Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Program. She identified the need for a formal nurse practitioner/physician assistant (NP/PA) preceptor education program. The program comes just in the nick of time. Over the next several years, MCSHS NP and PA student populations will grow from 65 to 90, and 12 to 36, respectively. It’s anticipated MCSHS will need more than 500 preceptors per year for rotations ranging from four to 12 weeks.

“We need to formally prepare our NP and PA preceptors to teach at the patient’s bedside,” says Dr. Heusinkvelt. “When MCSHS leadership surveyed NPPAs systemwide in 2017 about incentives and barriers to serving as clinical preceptors to NPPA students, one identified barrier was not feeling prepared to precept.

“Precepting is an excellent way to learn from eager students, grow professionally and contribute to one’s own academic advancement, but it’s voluntary. In today’s health care environment with higher-acuity patients, many colleagues don’t feel prepared to teach while simultaneously caring for patients. I was hopeful to provide a solution to this dilemma.”

Over nine months, Dr. Heusinkvelt developed the “Nurse Practitioner and Physician Assistant Preceptor Clinical Education” online course comprised of eight modules — MCSHS’s first online NPPA preceptor education program. Modules take 30 to 60 minutes each to complete, and address communication and feedback, expectations for assessment and evaluation, pedagogy, time management and efficiency, goal setting and coaching, working with the struggling or at-risk student, legal and ethical considerations, and teaching procedures. The course combines new content with previously developed content from Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science.





Gina Kesselring, PA-C

Thirty NPPAs in the Division of Hospital Internal Medicine at Mayo Clinic in Rochester participated in a monthlong pilot of the program. Participants who completed the course were eligible for five hours of CME credit. Results of the pilot showed that preceptor knowledge, self confidence in precepting and willingness to precept increased.

Experienced preceptor Kesselring found value in measuring her skills against those recommended in the program, assigning labels to techniques she already uses and getting new ideas. “When students do well, it’s easy to precept,” she says. “The new education program offers techniques for dealing with challenging students, including avenues I hadn’t considered.

“This development should be celebrated — we now have a framework for a vetted skill set that will help prepare preceptors in a more formal way. If you complete the modules and feel comfortable with them, you’re ready to precept.”



Sally Heusinkvelt, APRN, CNP, DNP

Laughlin concurs. “You can do the program at your own pace and learn from video lectures with Mayo’s experts in NPPA education. The material is easy to understand and will impact your daily life with students. I learned how to better structure my day in terms of time management and how to better communicate with students. I want to give my best educator self to students and give them the best possible experience, and this new clinical education program enables me to do that even better than I have so far.”

MCSHS NPPA leadership is so pleased with program results that they plan to offer it to other Mayo NPPAs.

Dr. Heusinkvelt says she’s honored to have played a part in creating a much-needed tool for NPPA colleagues and students. “Providing a strong clinical education for NP and PA students is essential to prepare them for practice in our complex health care system. Preceptors are the link between academia and clinical practice. I hope that by supporting the preceptor role, our increasingly confident





Rena Kane Laughlin, APRN, CNP, MSN

and satisfied preceptors will continue to provide a strong clinical training ground for MCSHS NP and PA students.”



**If you're interested in precepting, talk to your clinical supervisor.**

## Vetting

In addition to being vetted by MCSHS NPPA and Mayo Clinic education experts, pilot program content was reviewed by collaborating NP programs at Viterbo University (La Crosse, Wisconsin), Winona State University (Winona, Minnesota), the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, the University of Minnesota and Minnesota State University, Mankato.



## It's awards season!

The Alumni Association is looking for nominations for MCSHS Alumni Association awards.

### Recognition of Outstanding Contribution

Honors alumni who excel in one or more of these areas:

- Clinical care
- Research
- Mentoring and education
- Humanitarian endeavors

Recent recipients include: Sarah Oakley Holbert, CCC-A (AUDX '08), Stephen Klinkhammer, CRNA, DNP (NA '95), Kevin Seisler, RT(R) (RAD '84), and Eugene Anderson, PT (PT '69).

### Champion of Allied Health Award

Honors individuals who meet one or more of these criteria:

- Serves as role model, mentor and leader in their professional organization or community
- Supports and contributes to interprofessional learning
- Endorses and works toward enhancement of multidisciplinary practice initiatives
- Promotes professional growth, autonomy and career development
- Sponsors and facilitates programs or projects that lead to improvements within allied health professions
- Participates in or encourages clinical research among colleagues to promote allied health
- Creates and fosters a vision for future of allied health professions

Visit [mshsalumni.mayo.edu/people/awards](https://mshsalumni.mayo.edu/people/awards) to see past recipients.

Deadline: Feb. 28, 2020

# KNOW YOUR BOARD

7 questions with MCSHS Alumni  
Association Board members

- 1. How did you become interested in health care?**
- 2. What drew you to your current role in health care?**
- 3. What valuable lesson did you learn at Mayo Clinic?**
- 4. How do you contribute to the MCSHS Alumni Association?**
- 5. What advice do you have for MCSHS students?**
- 6. What do you do in your spare time?**
- 7. What would people be surprised to know about you?**

## Alexandria Cable, PA-C (PA '16)

Physician assistant, Department of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery / Audiology, Mayo Clinic in Arizona; instructor in otolaryngology, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science.

### Education & career path:

MCSHS PA fellowship, otorhinolaryngology (2015-2016); PA studies, Northern Arizona University, Phoenix (2013-2015); bachelor of science in life sciences, Arizona State University, Glendale

Physician assistant, Mayo Clinic in Arizona (2016-present)

1. I was interested in health care since I was little. I was raised by altruistic parents who enjoy helping others and rescuing stray animals. That influenced me to pursue careers where I could make the biggest impact to help others. As college neared, I considered other fields, but I appreciated the dynamic quality of medicine and felt like it fit the lifestyle I envisioned.
2. I learned about the physician assistant profession at a career day in eighth grade. I researched and did a presentation about it. As I got closer to college age, I looked at health care careers that I thought would be a good fit. I liked that a PA was hands-on with patients, could diagnose and manage patients while working as part of a team, and could work in various specialties.

In PA school, I leaned toward emergency medicine until I did an ENT rotation. I loved it and wanted a stronger foundation in ENT. I'm from Arizona, so applying to the MCSHS PA fellowship in ENT made sense. I like that ENT PAs get to do a variety of procedures and work with patients on health matters that affect important parts of their lives — disorders and diseases that affect hearing, speaking and swallowing.

3. I learned how to effectively collaborate in health care teams by communicating well. It takes a high-functioning team to care for patients with complex medical problems.
  4. I precept PA students because I appreciated my mentors during training and want to give back. I also want to stay connected with other alumni and find ways to promote the many educational opportunities MCSHS offers. I hope the Alumni Association will offer those opportunities.
  5. Develop good time-management strategies, and get organized from the start of your program. Planning out your day ahead of time and reviewing patients not only prepares you for the day but also frees up your mind and allows you to spend more time learning instead of trying to stay on top of things as the day goes on. I think having a set place where you keep journal articles, notes and interesting cases logged is also an excellent organizational practice.
  6. I like new experiences and endeavors. The latest is a garden I started on my 3-by-6 patio. Using small containers and trellises, I'm growing squash, cucumbers, watermelon and carrots. The garden is generating more produce than I expected; I'm learning as I go along.
- I also like spending time with my family, who live in the area, and my significant other, who also is in health care.
7. Since I was a kid, I've loved trying new things. My dad asked if I was interested in playing softball. I said yes. I didn't know the rules of the game and ran to third base after hitting the ball at my first practice. I joined the ceramics club in sixth grade. I played basketball and ran track. My dad asked if I wanted to try out for golf. I didn't know how to play. He bought me clubs, and I became obsessed with golf, and our team went to the state championship in my final year.

I've been wanting to learn to play a musical instrument. I have a trip planned to Spain and want to relearn how to speak Spanish. I'll try anything once!











## Know your Board continued

### Rochelle Forsyth, PharmD, BCPS (PHCL '11, PHRM '13)

Clinical pharmacist, Ascension St. Vincent's Riverside, Jacksonville, Florida

#### Education & career path:

PGY1 Pharmacy Residency, MCSHS, Jacksonville, Florida; doctor of pharmacy, Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, Bradenton, Florida; bachelor of science in exercise science, Florida State University, Tallahassee

Clinical staff pharmacist, lead heart failure pharmacist, medical/surgical pharmacist, 6 years

1. As a child, I knew I'd do something in health care. My stepmom is a psychiatrist at the VA in San Juan, Puerto Rico. I admired her vast clinical knowledge and passion to help and heal others.
2. As a teen, I narrowed down my choice of health care profession to pharmacy after seeing my dad struggle with several chronic medical conditions. I was interested in the molecular level of things — how the chemical structure of drugs helps cure the body.

When I was going through pharmacy school and setting up rotation sites, I read about the Mayo brothers, the three shields and the primary value of the needs of patients coming first. I felt they aligned with how I wanted to focus my career.

My school didn't have Mayo Clinic set up as an educational site, so I got assistance to establish that link. I was the first student from my pharmacy school to rotate at Mayo.

I then did my residency at Mayo and got to see types of patients you see once in a blue moon anywhere else. Treating such high-acuity patients helps you learn what you can bring to the table.

3. I treat each patient as if they were my own family member and devote as much time to them as I can.
4. I'm really proud to be associated with Mayo Clinic and grateful for that experience, which launched my career. It's a privilege to pay it forward — mentoring future generations and enlightening them about the opportunities Mayo provides. I'm an advocate for achieving a higher level of involvement in the Alumni Association and promoting its mission.
5. Stay open minded. I knew I wanted to be a pharmacist, but I had no idea of the career opportunities for a pharmacist other than a retail setting. By focusing yet allowing myself to explore options within pharmacy, I have had great experiences. As a clinical pharmacotherapy specialist, my job is more rewarding and impactful than I had ever imagined. And opportunities remain to allow my career to evolve.

6. I spend time outdoors with my dog, Aspen, a mutt I rescued from Puerto Rico 11 years ago. We go to the beach and nature trails. I like to travel. I went to Australia and New Zealand last year, and to Greece and France the year before that. I enjoy learning and exploring new things.
7. My dad and his family are from Puerto Rico and still live there. I've traveled between Jacksonville and San Juan my entire life, went to school in both places and consider both places home. I grew up in a bilingual household. The music, food and culture of Puerto Rico have a special place in my heart. Because I went back and forth so much, I'm flexible in new environments and make friends easily.

I went to an arts high school and was focused on ballet and modern dance. I danced in "The Nutcracker" and traveled for competitions. However, I knew I didn't have the longevity to make a career out of dance.



#### Want to get involved with the Alumni Association?

Think about being an Alumni Association Board member.

- Help provide direction for Alumni Association programming and activities, including serving on committees and work groups.
- Attend a spring annual meeting at Mayo Clinic in Rochester.

*"I'm interested. What's the next step?"*

1. Complete the nomination form: [mshsalumni.mayo.edu/about/board-of-directors/nominate](https://mshsalumni.mayo.edu/about/board-of-directors/nominate).
2. Submit a letter about yourself and your interest to [mshsaa@mayo.edu](mailto:mshsaa@mayo.edu).

Questions? Call the Alumni Association, 507-284-2317, or contact any Board member listed in the back of the magazine.



# 2019

## MEET THE GRADUATES

Meet some of the remarkable graduates of 2019. They share their career journeys, motivation and aspirations.



# Anissa Bradley on stress patrol

Anissa Bradley (RAD '19) felt quite stressed during her first year in the MCSHS Radiography Program at Mayo Clinic in Florida. She had a one-hour commute each way from her home in Kingsland, Georgia, had to work harder than usual to master her physics class and was new to a hospital environment. And her husband was deployed in the U.S. Navy. When Bradley wasn't at school, she was home alone with two dogs, studying.

Bradley was elected class president. "I remembered how I'd felt in my first year and wanted to help the newer students with stress relief," she says.

During Mental Health Awareness Week, Bradley organized bags for students that included chocolate, stress-release hand sanitizer, face masks, popcorn, bubble wrap, funny quotations and other goodies. Local businesses donated movie tickets and cupcake gift certificates. Bradley wrote inspirational messages on the whiteboard to motivate students. Bradley kept a list of these activities to share with the junior class president to consider establishing a new tradition.

"Helping other students relieved some of my stress even though it added to my load," says Bradley, who mentions that her program director and clinical coordinator facilitated her efforts.

Bradley loves being a radiologic technologist and interacting with patients but would like to further her education to become a clinical coordinator or program director. "I like teaching and want to help people learn new things," she says.

Bradley has begun to pursue a bachelor's degree in supervision and management at Florida State College in Jacksonville. She'll have to complete her degree online. Her husband will be stationed in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Bradley is looking for an X-ray technologist job in that area.

**"I remembered how I'd felt in my first year and wanted to help the newer students with stress relief."**

Anissa Bradley

Relocating for military service isn't new to Bradley. Both of her parents were in the military, and she spent much of her childhood moving between military bases in Texas and Illinois.

"It's hard to leave Mayo," says Bradley. "It will be challenging to be at a different hospital if their expectation isn't that we give our all. I'll always have my 'Mayo personality' with me — doing my best for patients 100% of the time."

# Stephanie Carmon on learning opportunities

Stephanie Carmon, APRN, (NPPA '19), became interested in health care and helping others when she was 6 years old and a drive-by shooting unfolded in front of her house in Jacksonville. Her stepfather, a licensed practical nurse, performed CPR on the victim, who did not survive.

"I felt helpless just watching," says Carmon. "I saw my stepdad give orders to others who were nearby, and I wanted to be involved. He talked to me about it afterward, including what to do if I ever saw someone down. He said the more I learned, the more I could help others. That started an ongoing career conversation between us."

Carmon received her bachelor's degree in nursing a decade ago and worked first in long-term care and then in a hospital setting. She took a surgical nursing job at Mayo Clinic in Florida in 2012 and returned to school in 2015 for a family nurse practitioner degree. She jumped at the chance to apply for the 12-month MCSHS Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant Critical Care Fellowship and was only the second student in the program.

"I wanted to do more in hospital care with the highest acuity of patients and training from the very best," says Carmon. "I interviewed for the program on a Friday and was told I'd get a phone call if I was accepted. I waited all weekend for the phone to ring. I was elated when I got the call. The program turned out to be everything I expected and more. It gave me a broad range of education and knowledge in critical care and beyond so I can provide better care for patients."

Carmon says many staff who work in critical care thrive on adrenaline. "We help people who are on the verge of death," she says. "It's rewarding to see a septic or transplant patient recover and live."

Perhaps making up for the helplessness she felt as a child during the traumatic incident, Carmon received the first annual Mayo Clinic Unsung Hero Award on the Florida campus in 2017. The award recognizes exceeding job expectations and reflecting the Mayo/Franciscan values of "the needs of the patient come first" as well as respect, integrity, compassion, healing, teamwork, innovation, excellence and stewardship.

**"The program turned out to be everything I expected and more. It gave me a broad range of education and knowledge in critical care and beyond so I can provide better care for patients."**

Stephanie Carmon, APRN

"I was shocked to receive the award," she says. "I do what I do for patients and make sure those around me enjoy their jobs. I know they'll do the same for me. Each day at Mayo Clinic is a new learning opportunity."

Carmon accepted a nurse practitioner position in the Department of Critical Care Medicine at Mayo Clinic in Florida. She plans to pursue a doctorate in nursing practice within the next two years.











# David Lucas on the best part of his job

When David “Woody” Lucas, PT, DPT (PT ‘18, PTR ‘19), was in his first year of college, he considered going to medical school. He changed his mind in favor of physical therapy school because he wanted a career that allowed him more time with patients. He says his instincts served him right.

“The best part of my job is building relationships with patients and helping them get back to the things they enjoy, whether that’s household tasks and gardening or high-level athletic events,” says Dr. Lucas. “I wake up every day excited about the joy of working with patients. I take it one patient at a time, listen to and invest in that person, and don’t get caught up in anything else that’s going on. I think this approach, infused with compassion and empathy, will serve me well and optimally serve patients.”

Dr. Lucas chose the MCSHS doctorate of Physical Therapy Program for the small class size, availability of professionals to interact with, and values. “The program’s and Mayo Clinic’s values fit well with my own,” he says.

After completing that program, he opted for the yearlong Physical Therapy Orthopedic Residency Program to advance his skills. “Toward the end of PT school, I looked at job opportunities and saw other clinicians who practiced at a much higher level than I was at as a new graduate,” says Dr. Lucas. “I wanted to work toward that and get additional mentorship. Among the skills I gained during residency were communicating with patients more artfully and being more efficient and judicious. Every patient

doesn’t need every exam. I want to do what’s necessary but not over-examine.”

Dr. Lucas says clinical opportunities in the residency are second to none. “We get experience in multiple settings and are well prepared for practice.”

**“The best part of my job is building relationships with patients and helping them get back to the things they enjoy.”**

David “Woody” Lucas, PT, DPT

Residency program director Darren Calley, PT, DScPT, OCS (PT ‘96), says Dr. Lucas is being modest. “Woody is a great representative of the Physical Therapy Program. He has a strong passion for helping others and is a shining star of our residency.”

“Shining star” Dr. Lucas returns the compliment: “I owe a lot to people like Darren who have invested in me along the way. The people around me have helped me perform as well as I could.”

Dr. Lucas accepted a position at Active PT and Sports Physical Therapy in Rochester, Minnesota. A native of Hobart, Indiana, Dr. Lucas says he feels at home in his new state, after being in the Land of 10,000 Lakes for four years. “In true ‘Minnesota nice’ fashion, I now smile at and wave to people when I’m out. I think that qualifies me as a Minnesotan.”

# Linh Mai on feeling complete

Linh Mai, HT(ASCP) (HT '19), owes a lot to her grandmother. Mai's grandparents came to the U.S. from Vietnam in 1993, initially to Chicago. They went to Lake City, Minnesota, to visit relatives and decided to stay.

"My grandmother liked the countryside in Lake City," says Mai. "She found a job in food service at Mayo Clinic and drove back and forth between Lake City and Rochester. She worked mornings in Lake City and evenings at Mayo Clinic for 10 years."

Mai is a histology technician in the Histology Laboratory at Mayo Clinic in Rochester after completing the nine-month MCSHS Histology Program.

"When I passed the exam to be a histology technician, I felt like my chest wasn't heavy anymore," says Mai. "I felt free — I'd accomplished my goal."

If her grandmother hadn't been taken by the southern Minnesota countryside, who knows where Mai would be. She and her parents and brother journeyed to Rochester from Vietnam in 2012 to reunite with the grandparents. Mai was 18 and had completed high school in Vietnam but repeated three years in Rochester.

"I learned some English in Vietnam but mostly vocabulary words," she says. "Initially in high school in the U.S., I went to English as a second language classes. After about a year I was able to go to English class with everyone else."

From there she went to Rochester Community and Technical College for three years, where she told a counselor about her interest in health care, laboratory work and helping others. The counselor suggested MCSHS. Mai

researched programs on the MCSHS website and zeroed in on histology.

"I was happy to get accepted to the Histology Program," she says. "It's competitive, and I was one of only six students in my class. Cutting tissue samples and putting them on slides is an art. It takes a lot of patience and care."

**"I want to go further and reach higher. I don't want to feel settled. I'll keep setting goals so I can accomplish more."**

Linh Mai, HT(ASCP)

Mai plans to get her bachelor's degree to advance her career. "I want to go further and reach higher," she says. "I don't want to feel settled. I'll keep setting goals so I can accomplish more."

As Mai applied to the Histology Program, she says she felt like something was missing from her life. "I wanted to be an official U.S. citizen so I could vote and give back to the community." She and her parents and brother applied for citizenship. A year passed before they were interviewed and took the test. "I didn't sleep the night before the test — I was so excited."

Mai became a citizen on May 13 and graduated from the Histology Program four days later. "I feel like a complete American now," she says. "I can share my story with other Vietnamese people who come to the U.S. and tell them, 'If you make efforts and don't give up, you can do it.'"











# Charline Nguimatsa Donnang on starting over

Charline (Stephanie) Nguimatsa Donnang, RT(R) (RAD '19), says coming to the U.S. and going to school was the best choice of her life. But it wasn't easy. Nguimatsa Donnang is from Cameroon, Africa, where she was a hospital nurse. Her education credits didn't transfer to the U.S., so she had to start all over. And she didn't speak English.

Nguimatsa Donnang studied English and trained as a nursing assistant for two months at the International Institute of Minnesota in St. Paul, which provides services and resources to help people new to the U.S. transition to a new life, leading to economic self-sufficiency. After that, Nguimatsa Donnang attended Inver Grove Community College in Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota, and received an associate's degree.

Nguimatsa Donnang says she decided to pursue a different area of health care so it felt more like exploring. She'd had a little bit of exposure to radiography and liked it. She took prerequisite courses at Metropolitan State University in St. Paul and applied to MCSHS's 24-month Radiography Program. She was one of 17 students in the class and the only one with a baby. Her son, Joel, is now 3.

"Starting over was very, very hard," she says. "It wasn't just a matter of learning the language and going to school. I had to learn the culture, too. I don't always understand others' jokes, and they don't get mine. I have to learn to blend."

Nguimatsa Donnang says her journey in the U.S. has involved living one day at a time, praying each day to make it to the next. "I don't regret it — I'd do it all over again."

She's been hired as a radiologic technologist at Mayo Clinic, working in outpatient care. Nguimatsa Donnang's success has inspired others to pursue education.

"Where I'm from, after high school, women are expected to learn how to sew, do hair and get married. A woman's role is to take care of the family," she says. "I didn't want to go that way. It's not easy to go to school or get a job back home, so I came to the U.S. I want to show others that education doesn't have to stop after high school. My sister who is married with two kids in St. Paul is planning to go to college in the fall. She believes she can do more than stay home and clean. My cousin back home is planning to go to school, too. I'm an example to them that it can be done if you want a career."

**"It's not easy to go to school or get a job back home, so I came to the U.S. I want to show others that education doesn't have to stop after high school."**

Charline (Stephanie) Nguimatsa Donnang, RT(R)

Nguimatsa Donnang plans to work in general radiography for a few years and then pursue CT or interventional radiology specialization. Next on her list is to apply for U.S. citizenship.

"I'm in a country where you can be anything you want to be," she says. "I want to be a citizen."

# Liza Sherretta on finding joy

Liza Sherretta (OT '19) started dancing when she was 6 or 7. By the time she was 15, she attended high school online and trained full time in classical ballet. She was in the dance studio from 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. every day.

"Dance was my love and my life," says Sherretta. "I never considered anything else."

When she was 18, she started to fall out of love with dancing and the dance environment. "I struggled with the competition among dancers and felt like I was going to crumble. I didn't feel like I could be myself and began searching for something that made me feel like dancing had."

Sherretta, whose mother was a speech and language pathologist, explored health care careers. Occupational therapy clicked with her. "OT has a harmony I appreciate," she says. "It's science-based but is holistic and humanistic. I want those qualities in my career and life. Working with people to help them gain independence or quality of life to be able to participate in the things they love to do is a joyous professional opportunity."

A student in the occupational therapy doctorate program at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Sherretta is required to complete two three-month field work internships. She was accepted in the MCSHS Occupational Therapy Internship on the Rochester campus.

"The MCSHS internship has a 3:1 model — one supervisor to three OT students," says Sherretta. "We were exposed to as much as Mayo has to offer, including burn care and the vestibular clinic, hyperbaric chamber and lymphedema clinic."

"The program staff created a dynamic environment from day one to nurture me and allow me to spread my wings. We all became a team and lifted each other up to learn and grow. My success speaks loudly about the program MCSHS provides for OT field work."

Occupational therapy clinical education coordinator Leah Struss, OT, BCPR, says Sherretta is the most outstanding student the program has had. "We truly believe she will change the profession of occupational therapy for the better."

While she was learning from us, we learned so much about advocacy and empathy from her."

Struss refers, in part, to an in-service training Sherretta provided to the team as part of her internship. She focused on being an LGBTQ advocate and supportive health care professional.

"Increasingly people are given opportunities to be themselves, and we in health care have a tremendous opportunity to support that and make them feel safe," says Sherretta. "I'm in the first generation of OT students to have diversity education included in our curriculum. I feel a big responsibility to share this information."

**"Working with people to help them gain independence or quality of life to be able to participate in the things they love to do is a joyous professional opportunity."**

Liza Sherretta

"I had a class last year back in Philly where members of the community came to talk to us about their lives, including people affected by homelessness, addiction and stroke. One was a transgender woman who had struggled with not being able to be who she was. She wanted to trust and rely on health care providers, but that hadn't been her experience as a transgender woman. Rather than her needing to teach her health care providers about transgender life and appropriate care, it's our responsibility to take on that learning, remove the burden from her, and make her feel safe and accepted."

Sherretta is back in Philadelphia and has begun the residency phase of her doctorate program, working with the refugee population at the Nationalities Service Center. When she completes her program in 2020, she hopes to work in a community-based setting serving the underserved — perhaps a women's shelter.

"Those who are in underserved populations could be anyone," says Sherretta. "I've found what brings me as much joy as dancing did."











# Stephanie Welle on keeping calm and carrying on

Stephanie Welle, APRN, CNP (NP '19), seriously considered two careers when she was in college: nursing and mortuary science.

"I wanted to help people through their most difficult times," she says, ultimately choosing nursing because it offered more opportunities.

Her life experiences shed light on the careers she considered and her desire to help others during the worst times of their lives.

When Welle was 4 years old, her father died from a brain aneurysm. Her mother was widowed at 26 with children aged 8, 6, 4 and 2. She went to work to support her family — as a nursing assistant at a nursing home and, later, a school paraprofessional. The young children were assigned chores to help on the family's farm.

"My mom, who hadn't previously had a job, worked at night so she could be home with us and take care of the household during the day," says Welle. "She was stoic and hard working. She stayed calm and kept her emotions in check. I never saw her break down while she supported us through a difficult time. I aspired to work as hard as my mom did in supporting the family and helping others. She's always been an excellent role model."

Welle has been a registered nurse since 2006 and an advanced practice nurse since 2010 — the same year she joined the Mayo Clinic Health System staff in Mankato, Minnesota. She spent several years as a nurse leader overseeing the ICU and cardiac medical units, and starting the progressive care unit. When she covered another ICU nurse practitioner's maternity leave, Welle realized how much she missed patient care — and how much she liked the provider role in the ICU. Welle recognized that her training hadn't prepared her for everything the ICU demanded, so she sought the NP education and certification that would prepare her to take care of medically complex and acutely ill patients.

In 2018 and 2019 Welle worked full time as a clinical nurse specialist in the ICU at Mayo Clinic Health System in Mankato while completing the post-master's Adult/Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Program through Winona State University and her clinical experiences through the MCSHS Nurse Practitioner Clinical Education Collaboration. Her children were 6, 4 and 2. "I didn't have more than a handful of days off for a year," she says. "I got through the challenging times by staying calm, working hard and focusing on one day at a time. I can see my mom's hand in that. I also am lucky to have had my husband's support on the home front."

**"I got through the challenging times by staying calm, working hard and focusing on one day at a time."**

Stephanie Welle, APRN, CNP

Welle says her motivation is her love of patients. "Everyone in the ICU is going through an unforeseen, unwanted time in their life. No one wants to be there. These patients require compassion and kindness because the outcome may not be what was hoped for. By spending time with patients and their family members and learning about their lives, I can help them through a very difficult time.

"ICU patients are complex and require attention to detail to maximize the likelihood of recovery. Although the pace is fast and it's important to react quickly, it is just as important to remain calm and focused. To prevent chaos, you need to prioritize tasks and work as a team to ensure all aspects of the patient's care are addressed. I thrive in that environment. Watching my mom navigate after having a major obstacle thrown in her young life was the best example I could have for both my professional and personal life. I love being able to have an impact at work every day."

# John Yang on brotherly love

The parents of John Yang, MLS(ASCP) (MLS '19), immigrated to the U.S. from Laos, Thailand, and instilled in their children, including five sons and one daughter, that one person's success is everyone's success. That lesson is manifested in John Yang's story.

He completed the 10.5-month MCSHS Medical Laboratory Science Program in May and began working in the Human Cell Therapy Laboratory in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology at Mayo Clinic in Rochester in June.

Three of his brothers work in other Mayo Clinic laboratories in the same department, and two of them work in the same building as John: Peter Yang, MLS(ASCP), in Mycology / Mycobacteriology, and Joshua Yang, MLS(ASCP) (MLS '16), in Bacteriology. Comsee Yang works in the Clinical and Forensic Toxicology Laboratory. The fifth brother, Simon, is in school for a medical assistant degree as part of his plan to become a laboratory scientist, too. As is his wife, Gohly. And Joshua's wife, Pachia, works in Mayo Clinic's Linen and Central Services.

Peter and Joshua have completed their MBAs, and Comsee's MBA is in progress. John also plans to pursue an MBA. "My brothers told me to get an MBA to be well set up for management," says John, who would like to work in laboratory science education, perhaps as a program director. "I tutored high school students in English, math and ACT prep this year and loved passing on what I've learned."

The Yang family has an unusual arrangement. The brothers who are established at Mayo gladly support the brothers who are still in school. John lived with Joshua and his wife and son while he was in school. Simon and his wife and three children moved to Rochester to attend Rochester

Community and Technical College and moved in with Joshua, too. Before that, Comsee and Joshua lived with Peter so they could concentrate on school without having to work and worry about living expenses.

"We had four boys age 4 and younger in the house in addition to the three brothers and two wives," says John. "In our culture, the older brothers pave the way for the others to follow. We are each other's friends and resources. We do this to honor the sacrifices our parents made to get here. We take care of them and each other. If anyone needs anything, they just ask and we'll help. My dad has a saying: 'It may feel crowded in the house, but people are never crowded — we'll always find room.'"

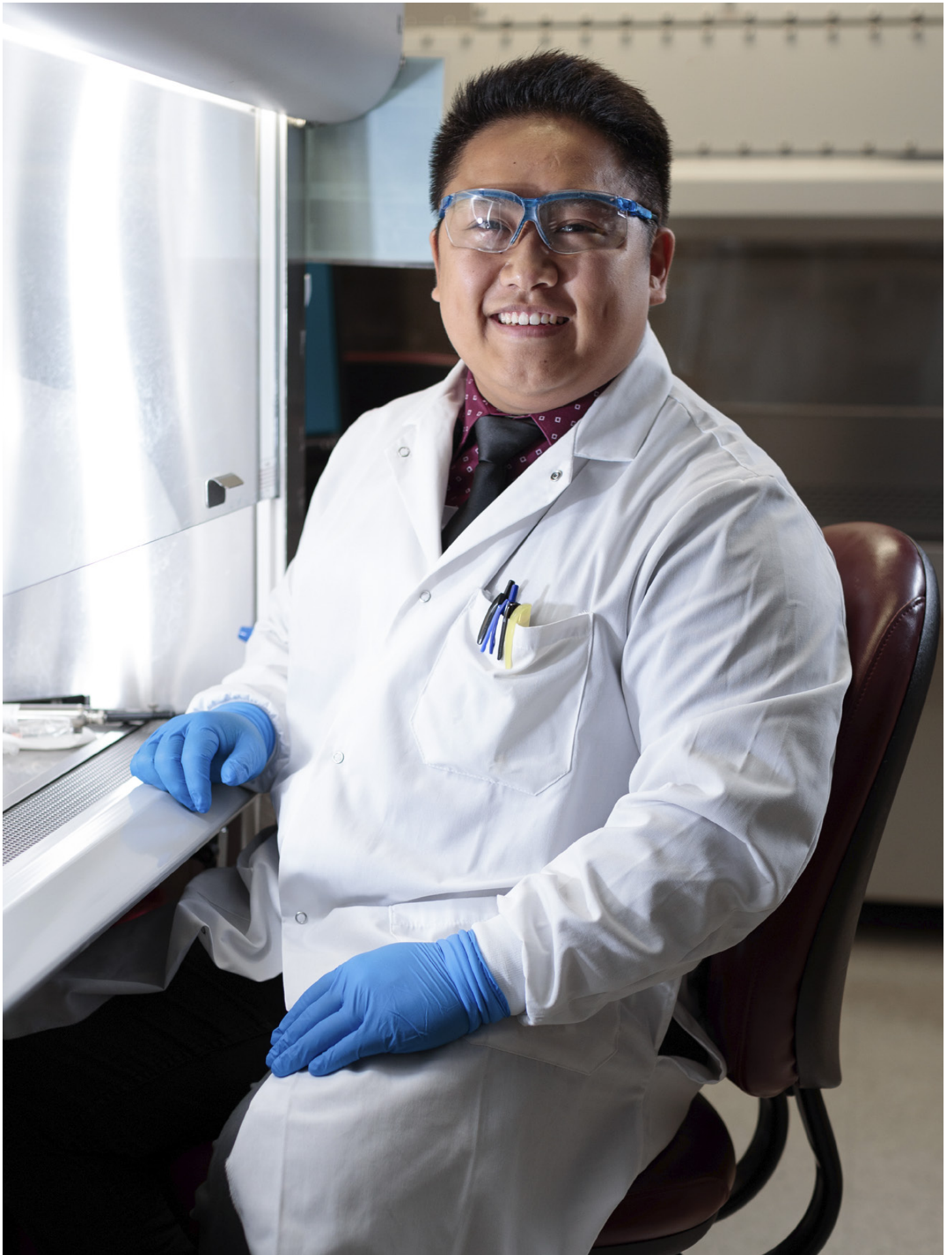
**"You get to see things you wouldn't see at other places. The Medical Laboratory Science Program does a phenomenal job preparing us. I love it here."**

John Yang, MLS(ASCP)

In addition to a new job, John now has some breathing room. He got married in May and moved to Winona, Minnesota. His wife, Bethany, is a second-year occupational therapy graduate student at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. She commutes 40 minutes each way to school, and John commutes an hour and 15 minutes to Rochester. They plan to move to Rochester when she completes school and has secured a job.

"As a lab scientist, this is the pinnacle of where you want to work," says John. "You get to see things you wouldn't see at other places. The Medical Laboratory Science Program does a phenomenal job preparing us. I love it here."





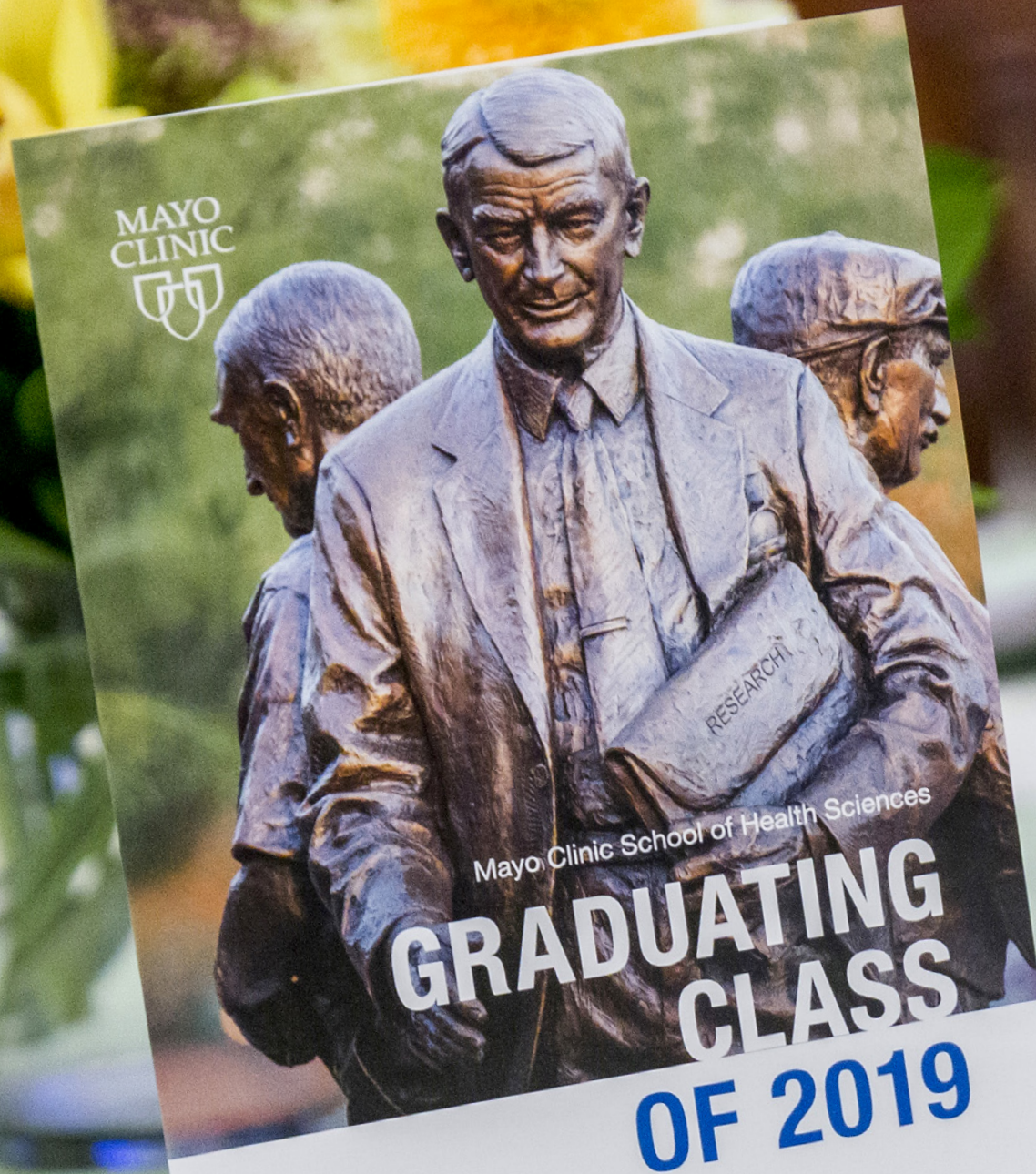
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**Mayo Clinic**  
**School of Health Sciences**

# 2019 graduates









# Audiology – Arizona

Duration: 12-month externship | Graduating students: 4 | Program started: 1988

## Program update

Externs' clinical rotations focused on cochlear implants, vestibular testing, hearing aids and diagnostic testing. They presented their research at national audiology conferences.

## With distinction, faculty & staff

- Sarah Oakley Holbert, CC-A (AUDX '08), program director: 2019 Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences Alumni Association Recognition of Outstanding Contribution award

## Class notes & employment

Colton Clayton, AuD  
PhD student  
Arizona State University  
Tempe, Arizona

Alexa Patton, AuD  
Happy Ears Hearing Center  
Mesa, Arizona

Elizabeth Marler, AuD  
Hearing and Balance  
Specialists of Kansas City  
Kansas City, Kansas

Nicole Wong, AuD  
OSF Medical Group  
Phoenix, Arizona



Nicole Wong, AuD, Elizabeth Marler, AuD, Michael Cevette, PhD (medical director), Sarah Oakley Holbert, CC-A (program director), Alexa Patton, AuD, Colton Clayton, AuD



# Audiology – Florida

Duration: 12-month externship | Graduating students: 1 | Program started: 2002

## Program update

Alexandra Brockner completed the externship as part of clinical doctorate training in audiology through Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. Clinical rotations in the adult population included diagnostic audiology, vestibular/balance assessment, comprehensive hearing aid and cochlear implant services, and aural rehabilitation.

## Class notes & employment

Alexandra Brockner, AuD  
PhD program in Communication Sciences and Disorders  
Northwestern University  
Evanston, Illinois

## With distinction, students

- Alexandra Brockner: Presented research poster “Comorbidities, Environmental Risk Factors, and High Frequency Hearing Loss,” American Academy of Audiology Convention, with Greta Stamper, AuD, PhD (AUDI '09), Razan Al Fakir, MD, PhD, and David Zapala, PhD



Greta Stamper, AuD, PhD (program director), Alexandra Brockner, AuD

# Audiology – Rochester

Duration: 12-month externship | Graduating students: 2 | Program started: 2005

## Program update

Externs gained clinical experience through rotations with newborn hearing screening, pediatric and adult diagnostic audiology, vestibular and balance assessment, cochlear implant evaluation and programming, and hearing aid evaluation and programming.

Jill Gruenwald, AuD (AUDI '08), is the new associate program director.

## With distinction, students

- Dennell Benson: Received clinical doctorate in audiology, University of Colorado Boulder; presented research posters at American Auditory Society National Meeting and MCSHS poster event; presented research project at ENT Resident Research Day, Mayo Clinic in Rochester
- Bethany Watson: Received clinical doctorate in audiology, University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis; presented research posters at American Auditory Society National Meeting and MCSHS poster event; presented research project at ENT Resident Research Day, Mayo Clinic in Rochester; received Wayne Olsen Audiology Award at ENT Resident Research Day for best audiology project and presentation



Cynthia Hogan, PhD (medical director), Dennell Benson, AuD, Bethany Watson, AuD, Janalene Jacobson, AuD, CCC-A (program director), Jill Gruenwald, AuD (associate program director)



# Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist – Rochester

Duration: 21-month program | Graduating students: 4 | Program started: 2003

## Program update

Lee Meyer retired as program director. Kevin Mulligan, RCIS (CVIS '11) was named program director, and Thomas Michnowski, RCIS (CVIS '13), was named clinical coordinator.

The program is undergoing improvements to curriculum and content delivery in a blended learning format.



Row 1: Namie Chaoua, Travor Slifka  
Row 2: Nicole Heining, Claire Redd

# Child Life – Rochester

Duration: 4-month internship | Graduating students: 1 | Program started: 1998

## Program update

The internship received accreditation from the Association of Child Life Professionals.

## Class notes & employment

Brittany Heilman  
La Crosse School District  
La Crosse, Wisconsin



Brittany Heilman



# Clinical Neurophysiology Technology – Rochester

Duration: 24-month program | Graduating students: 2 | Program started: 1991

## Program update

The program's job placement and board exam pass rates are 100%.

## With distinction, faculty & staff

- Sarah Berini, MD: Excellence in Teaching Award
- Brett Lehnertz, R EP T, RNCST (CNT '95): Outstanding Technical Mentor Award
- Emily Scanlan, R EEG T (CNT '06): Outstanding Educator Award

## Class notes & employment

**Mayo Clinic in Rochester**  
Ashley Landsverk  
Christian Vermeersch



Jan Buss, R EP T, RNCST (program director), Ashley Landsverk, Christian Vermeersch, Sarah Berini, MD (medical director)

# Clinical Pastoral Education — Rochester

Duration: 11-week internship | Graduating students: 4 | Program started: 2019

## Program update

The internship provides seminary students with a taste of spiritual care in the hospital setting. This is the first clinical pastoral education program at MCSHS since 2013.



Jonathan Grzywa, Karen Heistand (program director), Jeramy Girard, Mark Kormann, Rise Thew Forrester



# Clinical Pastoral Education — Rochester

Duration: 1-year residency | Graduating students: 4 | Program started: 1982

## Program update

The residency added Research Literacy Day, inviting chaplaincy researchers to teach about research interpretation. Eleven clinical pastoral education residents from area centers participated.

Residents generally go on to work as board-certified chaplains in hospitals and hospices around the country.



Lucas Shurson, Karen Heistand (program director), Paul Cochran, David Streed, Madeline Burbank

# Cytogenetic Technology – Rochester

Duration: 12-week internship | Graduating students: 1 | Program started: 2018

## Program update

The internship is offered in affiliation with the Northern Michigan University Diagnostic Genetics Baccalaureate Program. The internship covers all aspects of cytogenetic testing with a focus on culture and harvest techniques, chromosome analysis, fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH), clinical microarray and other molecular cytogenetic processes.



Michelle Gerdorn



# Cytotechnology – Rochester

Duration: 12-month program | Graduating students: 5 | Program started: 1977

## Program update

The program continued a strong track record of graduate employment in the profession. Four graduates accepted positions in the Mayo Clinic in Rochester Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, and one accepted an external offer.

## With distinction, students

- Leslie Stoy: Carol Kanneberg Memorial Merit Scholarship, Minnesota Society of Cytology

## Class notes & employment

### Mayo Clinic in Rochester

Sarah Munns  
Dylan Petrowiak  
Ashley Pomplun  
Leslie Stoy

### Other

Natalie Knox  
UW Health  
Madison, Wisconsin



Row 1: Ashley Pomplun, Sarah Munns

Row 2: Kara Hansing, MS (program director), Natalie Knox

Row 3: Jessica Otto, CT (ASCP), SCT(ASCP) (CYTO '14, program faculty), Michael Roh, MD, PhD (medical director), Leslie Stoy

Not pictured: Dylan Petrowiak

# Dietetics – Florida

Duration: 8-month internship | Graduating students: 5 | Program started: 1993

## Program update

The internship offers supervised experiences in food service management, advanced clinical nutrition and nutrition for the community. New skills included in the supervised practice are performing nutrition physical assessments and incorporating newly implemented malnutrition guidelines. Interns conducted a nutrition research project and developed business plans to use in a nutrition practice.

## With distinction, faculty & staff

- Mikel Bryant, RDN, LD/N: Outstanding Preceptor
- Erin Kerrigan, RDN, LD/N: Outstanding Preceptor



Hollon Livermore

Not pictured: Lexy DeSchepper, Suria Khurana, Jessica Schilz, Ranvir Teji



# Dietetics – Rochester

Duration: 11-month internship | Graduating students: 8 | Program started: 1930

## Class notes & employment

### Mayo Clinic in Rochester

Morgan Warner

### Other

Molly Stevenson

University of Virginia Health System  
Charlottesville, Virginia



Evan Stoecker, Morgan Warner, Laura Behler, Katherine Sherman, Molly Stevenson, Ashley Sammon, Caterina Taronna, Christopher Chargo



# Echocardiography – Rochester & Arizona

Duration: 21-month program | Graduating students: 10 | Program started: 1993/2007

## With distinction, students

- Graduated with honors: Macy Kalfs, Brooke Loftis, Hannah Steinbruckner, Natalie Terhark, Anna Wagner
- Noweeda Mirza, Arizona campus: American Society of Echocardiography 2019 Alan D. Waggoner Sonographer Student Scholarship Award in recognition of outstanding academic and personal accomplishment
- Natalie Terhark, Rochester campus: American Society of Echocardiography 2019 Katanick Scholarship Award to highest ranking student sonographer candidate nominated for ASE Foundations scholarship awards

## With distinction, faculty & staff

- Laurie Anderson, RDCS: Clinical Instructor Award, Rochester
- Hector Michelena, MD: Physician Recognition Award, Rochester
- Hemalatha Narayanasamy, MBBS, MD: Physician Recognition Award, Arizona
- Shannon Smith, RDCS (ECHO '17): Clinical Instructor Award, Arizona



Rochester

Row 1: Abby Biers, RDCS (ECHO '08, clinical coordinator), Macy Kalfs, Theresa Gehling, Aubrey Thompson, Hannah Steinbruckner, Sally Miller, RDCS (ECHO '03, program director)

Row 2: Katie Mancil, RDCS (academic coordinator), Natalie Terhark, Jeffery Burse, Anna Wagner, Malachi Arndt, S. Allen Luis, MBBS (medical director)



## Class notes & employment

### Mayo Clinic in Rochester

Malachi Arndt  
Jeffery Burse  
Macy Kalfs  
Noweeda Mirza

Hannah Steinbruckner  
Natalie Terhark  
Aubrey Thompson

### Other

Theresa Gehling  
Olmsted Medical Group  
Rochester, Minnesota

Anna Wagner  
United Hospital  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Brooke Loftis  
St. David's Medical Center  
Austin, Texas



### Arizona

David Pacheco, RDCS (ECHO '03, ACS '17, core faculty), Noweeda Mirza, John Lynch, MD (medical director), Brooke Loftis, Rochelle Tyler, RDCS (program director)



# Histology Technician – Rochester & Arizona

Duration: 9-month program | Graduating students: 9 | Program started: 2009

## Program update

All nine graduates did exceptionally well on the ASCP Board Certification exam with a 100% pass rate on the first attempt and an average score well above the national average. The program continued its strong employment placement rate, with all students gaining employment upon graduation.

## With distinction, faculty

- Julie Alexander, HT(ASCP) (HT '16): Clinical Instructor Award, Rochester campus
- Denise Hopkins, HTL(ASCP) (HT '09): Enrichment Clinical Instructor Award, Rochester campus
- Debra Keith, HT(ASCP): Clinical Instructor Award, Arizona campus
- Brooke McCann: Enrichment Clinical Instructor Award, Rochester campus
- Dianne Ruggeberg, HT(ASCP) (HT '16): Clinical Instructor Award, Rochester campus



Rochester cohort 1

Row 1: Linh Mai, Logan Bashaw, Rebecca Meyers, Andrea Greer

Row 2: Michelle Nelsen, MS (program director), Loren Herrera Hernandez, MD (medical director), Kelly N. Klein, MS (RAD '08, HT '10, faculty), Blake Cappell (faculty)



## Class notes & employment

### Mayo Clinic in Rochester

Logan Bashaw  
Andrea Greer  
Eileen Kokesh  
Linh Mai  
Rebecca Meyers  
Susan Nguyen

### Other

Colton Hegwood  
Oakleaf Clinics  
Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin  
  
Donna Vang  
Fairview Hospital  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

### Mayo Clinic in Arizona

Andres Rivera



Arizona  
Michelle Nelsen, MS (program director), Andres Rivera



Rochester cohort 2

Tien Tran (faculty), Kelly N. Klein, MS (RAD '08, HT '10, faculty), Susan Nguyen, Eileen Kokesh, Donna Vang, Colton Hegwood, Michelle Nelsen, MS (program director)

# Medical Dosimetry – Rochester

Duration: 12-month internship | Graduating students: 1 | Program started: 2018

## Program update

The Medical Dosimetry Internship, in collaboration with the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, completed its first year in 2018. Students started the didactic portion of the program with the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse in fall 2017 and began a concurrent 12-month clinical internship in January 2018 to fulfill the 16-month program.

Karen Lang, CMD, RTT, already a radiation therapist with Mayo Clinic Rochester and Mayo Clinic Health System in La Crosse, was the first student in the MCSHS internship. Lang trained in photon and proton beam external beam radiation therapy and brachytherapy. She also completed a capstone project abstract for publication in the *Medical Dosimetry Journal*.

## Class notes & employment

**Mayo Clinic in Rochester**  
Karen Lang, CMD, RTT



Karen Lang, CMD, RTT



# Medical Laboratory Science – Rochester

Duration: 10.5-month program | Graduating students: 24 | Program started: 2008

## Program update

The program continued a strong track record of graduate employment in the profession. Twenty-one graduates accepted positions in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, and others are at Mayo Clinic Health System and other institutions.

## Class notes & employment

### Mayo Clinic in Rochester

Abbie Anderson  
Elizabeth Atneosen  
Titus Dickinson  
Ciara Dollar  
Hayden Duncan  
Zoey Fountain  
Kathryn Frye  
Reilly Hannon  
Benjamin Johnson  
Amanda Kemper

Ryan Klabunde  
Adam Klein  
Lindsey Leadbetter  
Roy Montgomery  
Sarah Niebuhr  
Dustin Peskey  
Kylie Reising  
Olivia Rossi  
Joel Weller  
John Yang

### Mayo Clinic Health System, Eau Claire, Wisconsin

Carina Friend

### Other

Bridget Bellissimo  
Continuing education

Miranda Kapfer  
North Memorial Health Hospital  
Robbinsdale, Minnesota

Greer Vogl  
Colorado Children's Hospital  
Aurora, Colorado



Row 1: Kylie Reising, Carina Friend, Ciara Dollar, Elizabeth Atneosen, Bridget Bellissimo, Lindsey Leadbetter, Amanda Kemper  
Row 2: Zoey Fountain, Abbie Anderson, Olivia Rossi, Dustin Peskey, Sarah Niebuhr, Reilly Hannon, Greer Vogl  
Row 3: Joel Weller, Benjamin Johnson, Titus Dickinson, Roy Montgomery, John Yang  
Row 4: Miranda Kapfer, Hayden Duncan, Adam Klein, Ryan Klabunde, Kathryn Frye

# Medical Physics – Arizona

Duration: 24-month residency | Graduating students: 2 | Program started: 2012

## Program update

Justin Gagneur, MA, TRP(ABR), is the new program director.  
Daniel Robertson, PhD, is the new associate director.

## Class notes & employment

Evan Silverstein  
Arizona Oncology  
Tucson, Arizona

Lisa Taylor  
Vantage Oncology  
Indianapolis, Indiana



Evan Silverstein, Justin Gagneur, MA, TRP(ABR) (program director), Lisa Taylor



# Molecular Genetics Technology – Rochester

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

Duration: 8-week internship | Graduating students: 3 | Program started: 2004

### Program update

Students from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas, participated in the internship from March 18 to May 8. All students passed the American Society for Clinical Pathology molecular biology certification exam.

Linda Hasadsri, MD, PhD, is the new medical director.

### Class notes & employment

#### Mayo Clinic in Rochester

Desirae Aguilar  
Caressa Crawford

#### Other

Rebekah Salinas  
UT Health San Antonio, School of Dentistry  
San Antonio, Texas



Caressa Crawford, Rebekah Salinas, Desirae Aguilar

# Nuclear Medicine Technology – Rochester

Duration: 12-month program | Graduating students: 8 | Program started: 1976

## Program update

All graduates passed the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board exam on the first attempt.

## With distinction, students

For the first time, the entire cohort of students represented MCSHS at Central Chapter Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging Battle of the Minds Quiz Bowl in Oak Brook, Illinois. Four students earned first place: Makayla Anfinson, Kristi Monson, Momitul Talukdar, Angela Weiler. The program has competed five times (2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2019), earning first place four out of five years. By placing first this year, MCSHS is now the all-time winningest NMT program.

- All students' research abstracts were accepted for Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (SNMMI) Annual Meeting, Anaheim, California
- Students supported United Way of Olmsted County's Running Start for School, donating 21 backpacks with school supplies for students in need
- Makayla Anfinson, Margaret Cantlon, Eliza Dobbe, Dana Karlstad, Kristina Monson, Momitul Talukdar: SNMMI annual meeting travel awards, SNMMI Technologist Section
- Danielle Caine, Margaret Cantlon, Eliza Dobbe, Angela Weiler: Outstanding Academic Performance, 4.0 cumulative GPA
- Margaret Cantlon and Eliza Dobbe: Composing research manuscript
- Kristina Monson: Perfect attendance
- Momitul Talukdar, Angela Weiler: SNMMI Paul Cole Student Technologist Scholarship
- Momitul Talukdar: Day Foundation Scholarship and Burmester Scholarship, MCSHS
- Angela Weiler: Central Chapter SNMMI Student Excellence Award

## Class notes & employment

Five of eight graduates were hired by Mayo Clinic in Rochester; the others pursued CNMT opportunities externally.





Row 1: Kristina Monson, Momitul Talukdar, Margaret Cantlon, Danielle Caine  
Row 2: Eliza Dobbe, Angela Weiler, Dana Karlstad, Makayla Anfinson



# Nurse Anesthesia – Rochester

## Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice

Duration: 42-month program | Graduating students: 26 | Program started: 1889

### Program update

The program graduated its second class with Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice (DNAP) degrees, having transitioned from a master's degree program.

### With distinction, students

- Natalie Laska: Robert R. Johnson Achievement Award, Robert A.E. Devloo Book Award
- Mikayla Mohs: Gilles, Nelson, Torrance Alumni Award
- Sinokuthaba Sibanda: Rebecca S. Finley Alumni Award
- Katie Stinson: Virginia B. Hartridge Achievement Award

### With distinction, faculty & staff

- Adam Jacob, MD: Physician Educator Award
- Daniel Halvorsen, APRN, CRNA (NA '94): Nurse Anesthetist Educator Award — Rochester Methodist Campus
- Jenivee Muggli, APRN, CRNA (NA '08): Special Recognition Award
- Justin Robinson, APRN, CRNA (NA '17): Nurse Anesthetist Educator Award — Saint Marys Campus



Row 1: Sinokuthaba Sibanda, Mariah Kelly, Mikayla Mohs, Casandra Ahle, Kierstin Anderson, Haley Gaulke, Walter Berry, Timothy Casey, Stephen Brown, Lauren Easterbrook  
Row 2: Lisa Saunders, Kelsey Nelsen, Grace Angelondous, Sarah Gritzner, Amy Henderson, Lauren Elzen, Katie Stinson, Natalie Laska, Colin Patterson, Nicholas Bray  
Row 3: Kristin Dyer, Eric DuBois, Nolan Denny, Matthew Onofrio, Alan Hoeper, David Duranceau



## Class notes & employment

### Mayo Clinic in Rochester

Cassandra Ahle, APRN, CRNA, DNAP  
Grace Angelondous, APRN, CRNA, DNAP  
Walter Berry, APRN, CRNA, DNAP  
Nicholas Bray, APRN, CRNA, DNAP  
Stephen Brown, APRN, CRNA, DNAP  
David Duranceau, APRN, CRNA, DNAP  
Kristin Dyer, APRN, CRNA, DNAP  
Lauren Easterbrook, APRN, CRNA, DNAP  
Lauren Elzen, APRN, CRNA, DNAP  
Haley Gaulke, APRN, CRNA, DNAP  
Amy Henderson, APRN, CRNA, DNAP  
Natalie Laska, APRN, CRNA, DNAP  
Kelsey Nelsen, APRN, CRNA, DNAP

### Mayo Clinic Health System, Albert Lea, Minnesota

Mariah Kelly, APRN, CRNA, DNAP

### Mayo Clinic Health System, Austin, Minnesota

Colin Patterson, APRN, CRNA, DNAP

### Other

Kierstin Anderson, APRN, CRNA, DNAP  
St. Mary's Medical Center  
Duluth, Minnesota

Timothy Casey, APRN, CRNA, DNAP  
Eau Claire Anesthesiologists  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin

Nolan Denny, APRN, CRNA, DNAP  
Associated Anesthesiologists, P.A., United Hospital  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Eric DuBois, APRN, CRNA, DNAP

Associated Anesthesiologists, P.A., United Hospital  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Sara Gritzner, APRN, CRNA, DNAP

Marshfield Clinic Health System — Marshfield Medical Center  
Eau Claire, Wisconsin

Alan Hoepner, APRN, CRNA, DNAP

CentraCare Health  
St. Cloud, Minnesota

Mikayla Mohs, APRN, CRNA, DNAP

Sanford Medical Center  
Fargo, North Dakota

Matthew Onofrio, APRN, CRNA, DNAP

Associated Anesthesiologists, P.A., United Hospital  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Lisa Saunders, APRN, CRNA, DNAP

Associated Anesthesiologists, P.A., United Hospital  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Sinokuthaba Sibanda, APRN, CRNA, DNAP

Washington University, Barnes Jewish Hospital  
St. Louis, Missouri

Katie Stinson, APRN, CRNA, DNAP

Northwestern Memorial Hospital  
Chicago, Illinois

# Nurse Practitioner – Arizona

Duration: 12-month cardiology fellowship | Graduating students: 2 | Program started: 2009

## Program update

The fellowship achieved the 10-year milestone. The program has grown from one fellow to two, gained national accreditation through American Nurses Credentialing Center and implemented curriculum innovations.

In 2020 Mayo Clinic in Florida will introduce a Cardiology Nurse Practitioner Fellowship, and the two programs will collaborate.

## With distinction, students

- Megan Philbrick, AGACNP-BC: Won first place in case study category for poster on cardiac amyloidosis, Arizona chapter of American College of Cardiology Annual Meeting
- Yeimi Rivera, APRN, DNP, NP-C: Won second place in case study category for oral presentation on spontaneous coronary artery dissection, Academic Excellence Day, Mayo Clinic in Arizona

## With distinction, faculty & staff

- Michelle Alland, APRN, MSN, FNP-C (NP '14), program director: Received associate designation, American College of Cardiology; achieved associate rank, Mayo Clinic Academy of Educational Excellence
- Susan Halli Demeter, APRN, DNP, FNP-BC, program mentor: Promoted to assistant professor of medicine, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science; awarded fellow, Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association; awarded fellow, National Lipid Association
- Kathryn Lew, APRN, MSN, FNP-C (NP '13), program mentor: Outstanding Team Player award, Department of Cardiovascular Diseases
- Barbara Novais, APRN, ANP-BC, MSN, program mentor: Promoted to assistant professor of medicine, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

## Class notes & employment

### Mayo Clinic in Arizona

Yeimi Rivera, DNP

### Other

Megan Philbrick, AGACNP-BC  
Sharp HealthCare  
San Diego, California





Michelle Alland, APRN, MSN, NP-C (program director), Yeimi Rivera, APRN, DNP, NP-C, Megan Philbrick, MSN, AGACNP-BC, Christen Bird, APRN, DNP, NP-C (NP '16, associate program director)



# Nurse Practitioner – Rochester & Mayo Clinic Health System

Duration: 12- to 24-month residency | Graduating students: 30 | Program started: 1995

## Program update

Eight students in the residency were based at Mayo Clinic Health System in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

## With distinction, students

- As a community service requirement, residents participated in Bounce Day exercise that simulates components of community disaster and offers resilience learning modules in mixed-skill, community-based groups.

## With distinction, faculty & staff

- Mark Beahm, MD, Mayo Clinic Health System — Franciscan Healthcare, Onalaska, Wisconsin: Outstanding Clinical Preceptor Award
- Daniel DeSimone, MD, Rochester, Minnesota: Outstanding Clinical Preceptor Award
- Patrick Hassemer, APNP, RN, Mayo Clinic Health System, Eau Claire, Wisconsin: Outstanding Clinical Preceptor Award



### Rochester

Row 1: Whitney Ashland, DNP, RN, Winny Omwamba, DNP, RN, CMSRN, Ashley Huyser, MSN, RN, Carly Grassle, MSN, RN, Elizabeth Turba, MSN, RN, Courtney Beyer, DNP, RN, Rena Kane Laughlin, APRN, CNP, MSN, Leah Lindbeck, APRN, CNP, DNP

Row 2: Sarah Gerard, RN, Danielle Koenig, MS, RN, Alyssa Stratton, MSN, RN, Kelli Irwin, RN, Ashley Nelson, DNP, RN, PCCN, Kara Delger, APRN, CNP, DNP

Row 3: Sally Heusinkvelt, APRN, CNP (assistant program director), Danika Nelson, APRN, CNP (assistant program director), Barbara Timm, APRN, CNP, DNP (NP '99, associate program director), Claudia Swanton, APRN, CNP, DNP (NP '98, program director)

Not pictured: Jennifer Babcock, Ashley Bostyan, DNP, RN, BMT-CN, Maria Doran-Threat, MSN, RN, Korena Kemerling-Theobald, RN, Jason Lewis, Matt Mulvihill, APRN, CNP, DNP, Sara Persinger, RN, Stephanie Welle, APRN, CNP



## Class notes & employment

### Mayo Clinic in Rochester

Kara Delger, APRN, CNP, DNP  
Matt Mulvihill, APRN, CNP, DNP  
Ashley Nelson, DNP, RN, PCCN  
Winny Omwamba, DNP, RN, CMSRN  
Alyssa Stratton, MSN, RN

### Mayo Clinic Health System, Austin, Minnesota

Sarah Gerard, RN

### Mayo Clinic Health System, Cannon Falls, Minnesota

Leah Lindbeck, APRN, CNP, DNP

### Mayo Clinic Health System, Eau Claire, Wisconsin

Dana Carr, APNP, RN  
Jessica Day, APNP, RN  
Rachel Jack, APNP  
Mackenzie Johnson, APNP, RN  
Elizabeth Turba, MSN, RN

### Mayo Clinic Health System, Fairmont, Minnesota

Maria Doran-Threat, MSN, RN

### Mayo Clinic Health System, Mankato, Minnesota

Stephanie Welle, APRN, CNP

### Other

Jennifer Babcock, CNP  
Lancaster Behavioral Health Hospital  
Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Ashley Bostyan, DNP, RN, BMT-CN  
West River Health Services  
Hettinger, North Dakota

Amanda Crabb, MSN, RN  
Prevea Family Medicine  
Ladysmith, Wisconsin

Kelli Irwin, RN  
Texas Children's Hospital  
Houston, Texas

Jason Lewis  
Marshfield Clinic  
Marshfield, Wisconsin



### Eau Claire

Row 1: Sarah Davey, RN; Jessica Day, APNP, RN; Amanda Crabb, MSN, RN

Row 2: Sarah Strahm, APNP, RN (MBM '12, assistant program director, Eau Claire), Rachel Jack, APNP, Dana Carr, APNP, RN, Sarah Sward, RN, Jodi Hanson Rasmussen, RN

Not pictured: Mackenzie Johnson, APNP, RN



# Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant Critical Care – Florida

Duration: 12-month fellowship | Graduating students: 1 | Program started: 2017

## With distinction, faculty & staff

- Joshua Propst, PA-C (PA '11), associate program director:  
Distinguished Allied Health Educator of Year, Mayo Clinic in  
Florida

## Class notes & employment

### Mayo Clinic in Florida

Stephanie Carmon, APRN, MSN



Philip Lowman, MD (medical director), Ami Grek, APRN, DNP (NP '09, associate program director), Stephanie Carmon, APRN, MSN, Joshua Propst, PA-C (associate program director), Sarah Peacock, APRN, DNP (NP '12, program director)



# Perioperative Nursing – Arizona

Duration: 4-month fellowship | Graduating students: 9 | Program started: 1999

## Program update

More than 100 registered nurses have completed the fellowship since it began.

## Class notes & employment

All nine graduates from fall 2018 and spring 2019 are employed at Mayo Clinic in Arizona.



Row 1: Lora Martin, RN, Nicole Sowby, RN, Allison Gray, RN, Franciska Sayler, RN, Gabriel Rock, RN  
Row 2: Brien Rekuc, RN, Bradley Haase, MS, RN, CNOR (program director), Frank Amity, RN, David Levendoski, RN, CCRN  
Not pictured: Loredana Netotea, RN

# Pharmacy – Arizona

Duration: 12-month residency | Graduating students: 2 | Program started: 2017

## Program update

The PGY1 Pharmacy Residency continued a strong track record of hiring its graduates. Three of four residents who have completed the program have been hired.

Arthur (Travis) Shelton, PharmD (PHRM '09), is the new program director.

## With distinction, faculty & staff

Jenise Stephen, PharmD, BCPS (APPE '14): Preceptor of Year

## Class notes & employment

### Mayo Clinic in Arizona

Henry Ofori, PharmD

Jenna Reynolds, PharmD



Margaret McCallen, PharmD (assistant program director), Arthur (Travis) Shelton, PharmD (program director), Jenna Reynolds, PharmD, Henry Ofori, PharmD, Jenise Stephen, PharmD, BCPS (core faculty), Eric A. Nelson, MS (director of pharmacy)



# Pharmacy – Florida

Duration: 12-month residency | Graduating students: 5 | Program started: PGY1, 2002/PGY2, 2017

## Program update

PGY1 residents presented posters at American Society of Health-System Pharmacists Midyear Clinical Meeting in Anaheim, California, in December 2018.

The PGY2 Solid Organ Transplant Program graduated its second resident since program inception. The resident presented a poster at the International Society of Heart and Lung Transplantation Annual Meeting in April.

## With distinction, faculty & staff

- Brittany Bateh, PharmD: Preceptor of Year

## Class notes & employment

### Mayo Clinic in Florida

Gabriella Massoglia,  
PharmD

### Mayo Clinic in Rochester

Nathan T. Smith, PharmD

### Other

Haya Kaseer, PharmD  
PGY2 Critical Care  
Residency  
UF Health Shands Hospital  
Gainesville, Florida

Sara Sterling, PharmD  
PGY2 Solid Organ  
Transplant Residency  
Vanderbilt University  
Medical Center  
Nashville, Tennessee

Alicia Patel, PharmD  
University of Mississippi  
Medical Center  
Jackson, Mississippi



Haya Kaseer, PharmD, Nathan T. Smith, PharmD, Alicia Patel, PharmD, Gabriella Massoglia, PharmD, Sara Sterling, PharmD

# Pharmacy – Rochester

Duration: 12-month residency | Graduating students: 12

## With distinction, faculty & staff

- Caitlin Brown, PharmD (PHSR '16): New Preceptor of Year
- Kirstin Kooda, PharmD (PHARM '13, PHSR '14): Preceptor of Year
- Kristin Mara, Division of Biomedical Statistics and Informatics, Department of Health Sciences Research: Outstanding Service Award

## With distinction, alumni

- Seth Bauer, PharmD (PHRM '06), clinical coordinator, Critical Care Pharmacy, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio: Distinguished Alum, Mayo Midwest Pharmacy Residency for authoring or co-authoring more than 50 peer-reviewed manuscripts, 90 research abstracts and 20 book chapters; recognition as expert in critical care pharmacology; involvement in pharmacy and multidisciplinary organizations; and fellow status in American College of Clinical Pharmacy and American College of Critical Care Medicine

## Class notes & employment

### PGY1 (started 1972)

Abby Hendricks, PharmD  
Mayo Clinic in Rochester  
(PGY2 Internal Medicine Pharmacy Residency)

Mikaela Hofer, PharmD  
Barnes-Jewish Hospital  
St. Louis, Missouri  
(PGY2 Critical Care Pharmacy Residency)

Jade Kutzke, PharmD  
Mayo Clinic in Rochester  
(PGY2 Oncology Pharmacy Residency)

Victoria Milano, PharmD  
Mayo Clinic in Rochester  
(PGY2 Critical Care Pharmacy Residency)

Casey O'Connell, PharmD  
Mayo Clinic in Rochester

Hilary Teaford, PharmD  
Mayo Clinic in Rochester  
(PGY2 Pharmacy Informatics Residency)

### PGY1 Pediatrics (started 2003)

Catherine DeFino, PharmD  
Mayo Clinic in Rochester  
(PGY2 Oncology Pharmacy Residency)

### PGY2 Critical Care (started 1996)

Rachael Scott, PharmD  
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center  
Boston, Massachusetts

### PGY2 Emergency Medicine (started 2008)

Gabrielle Anderson, PharmD  
Sanford Medical Center  
Fargo, North Dakota

### PGY2 Internal Medicine (started 2017)

Jamie Reed, PharmD  
IU Health University Hospital  
Indianapolis, Indiana

### PGY2 Oncology (started 2003)

Rachel Bubik, PharmD  
Mayo Clinic in Rochester

### PGY2 Informatics (started 2015)

Diana Schreier, PharmD  
Mayo Clinic in Rochester





Row 1: Jade Kutzke, PharmD, Abby Hendricks, PharmD, Mikaela Hofer, PharmD

Row 2: Victoria Milano, PharmD, Gabrielle Anderson, PharmD, Hilary Teaford, PharmD

Row 3: Jamie Reed, PharmD, Rachel Bubik, PharmD, Diana Schreier, PharmD, Casey O'Connell, PharmD, Catherine DeFino, PharmD, Rachael Scott, PharmD



# Pharmacy – Eau Claire, Wisconsin

Duration: 12-month residency | Graduating students: 4 | Program started: 2009

## With distinction, faculty & staff

- Victor Warne, PharmD: Preceptor of Year

## Class notes & employment

### Mayo Clinic in Rochester

Amanda Schroeder, PharmD

### Mayo Clinic Health System - Red Cedar, Menomonie, Wisconsin

Benjamin Shaw, PharmD

### Other

Daniel Chen, PharmD

HSHS St. Elizabeth's Hospital

O'Fallon, Illinois

(PGY2 Pharmacy Informatics Residency)

Destiny Mishler, PharmD

CHRISTUS Trinity Mother Frances Health System

Tyler, Texas

(PGY2 Emergency Medicine)



Benjamin Shaw, PharmD, Amanda Schroeder, PharmD, Destiny Mishler, PharmD, Daniel Chen, PharmD



# Pharmacy – La Crosse, Wisconsin

Duration: 12-month residency | Graduating students: 1 | Program started: 2015

## With distinction, faculty & staff

- Richard Charles (Charlie) Kujak, PharmD: Preceptor of Year

## Class notes & employment

**Mayo Clinic Health System – Franciscan Healthcare,  
La Crosse, Wisconsin**  
Nathan Woolever, PharmD



Nathan Woolever, PharmD, Richard Charles Kujak, PharmD (Preceptor of Year)

# Pharmacy – Mankato, Minnesota

Duration: 12-month residency | Graduating students: 2

## With distinction, faculty & staff

- Emily Holm, PharmD, BCACP: Preceptor of Year

## Class notes & employment

### PGY1 (started 2009)

Sarah C. Smith, PharmD

### PGY2 Ambulatory Care (started 2018)

Amanda Janisch, PharmD

EvergreenHealth

Kirkland, Washington



Sarah C. Smith, PharmD



Amanda Janisch, PharmD



# Pharmacy Technician – Rochester

Duration: 20-week program | Graduating students: 13 | Program started: 2018

## Program update

All students from the first cohort of six graduates passed the national certification exam on the first attempt. Graduates of the second cohort will take the exam in the months ahead.

The program started with a strong track record of graduate employment in the profession. Ten graduates accepted positions at Mayo Clinic, and one accepted an external offer.

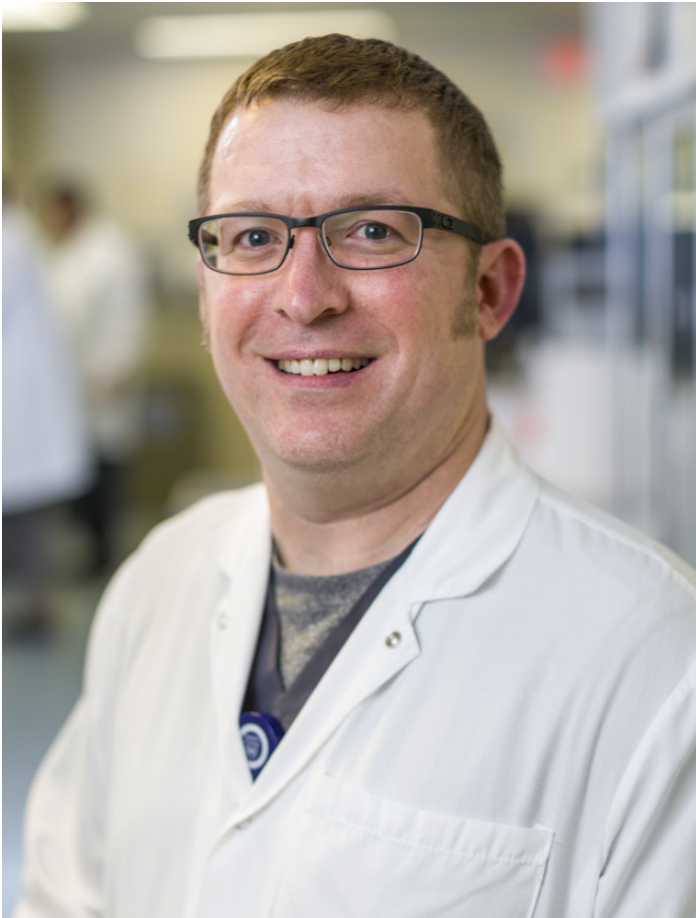
The program has been approved to expand to offer experiential rotations at Mayo Clinic Health System sites, and to operate on the Arizona and Florida campuses as a single integrated program.

## Class notes & employment

Mayo Clinic in Rochester	Other
Alexa Cutting, CPhT	Rihab Al Allo
Abraham Debeb, CPhT	Walmart
Katelyn DeWitt, CPhT	Rochester, Minnesota
Nathan Glasgow, CPhT	
Thourida Hang	
Joseph Kuykendall, CPhT	
Seema Sharma, CPhT	
Rersmey Siek	
Madelyn Smith, CPhT	



Katelyn DeWitt, CPhT



Nathan Glasgow, CPhT

Not pictured: Rihab Al Allo, Alexa Cutting, CPhT, Abraham Debeb, CPhT, Thourida Hang, Ryan Kenney, Joseph Kuykendall, CPhT, Monica Morales, CPhT, Seema Sharma, CPhT, Rersmey Siek, Madelyn Smith, CPhT, Claire Suda

# Phlebotomy Technician – Rochester

Duration: 9-week program | Graduating students: 55 | Program started: 2010

## Program update

92% of graduates who took the National Healthcareer Association certificate exam passed; one student took the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) certification exam and passed.

80% of graduates have been hired by Mayo Clinic.

## Class notes & employment

### Mayo Clinic in Rochester

Shukri Ali  
Seble Bizuayehu  
Joseph Carter  
Albina Ceric  
Madelyn Chick  
Alyssa Clement  
Kandice Cole  
Katherine Deeg  
Bronwyn Dodd  
Nicolle Erdelac  
Haley Fossum  
Tate Gahnz  
Mercedes Garza  
Cheyenne Gawne  
Ashley Glawe  
Asia Hassan  
John Helgeson  
Getachew Hundera  
Katelyn Kennedy  
Noor Khattab  
Peggy Kiehne  
Bailey Kruse

Debra Larson  
Jessica Lewis  
Jaretta Lindsey  
Janelle Malone  
Jacqueline Merten  
Marcela Montes  
Ana Natividad  
Brittany Nelson  
Alex Nett  
Monika Nichols  
Megan Pederson  
Zoe Richards  
Kennedy Schoenecker  
Calli Sparling  
Andre Stewart  
Tensaye Tadesse  
Selamwit Tamene  
Alexandria Van Allen  
Teshome Wakene  
Courtney Winkels  
Asha Yusuf  
Monica Zobitz

### Other

Anna De Mattos  
Olmsted Medical Center  
Rochester, Minnesota

Donna O'Brien  
Allina Health  
New Prague, Minnesota





Class of Oct. 15-Dec. 14, 2018

Row 1: Peggy Kiehne, Jessica Lewis, Tensaye Tadesse

Row 2: Debra Larson, Katelyn Kennedy, Alexandria Van Allen, Anna De Mattos, Vicky Bass



# Phlebotomy Technician – Rochester



Class of Jan. 8-March 8, 2019

Kandice Cole, Courtney Winkels, Calli Sparking, Alyssa Clement, Monica Zobitz, Bre Anna Ramont, Nicole Erdelac



Class of March 18-May 17, 2019

Row 1: Noor Khattab, Shukri Ali, Teshome Wakene, Bronwyn Dodd, Selamwit Tamene

Row 2: Katherine Deeg, Donna O'Brien, Kelli Taylor, Sheena Jones, Janelle Malone, Seble Bizuayehu





Class of May 28-July 26, 2019

Row 1: Alana Robinson, Delanie Otto, Megan Pederson, Brittany Nelson, Jacqueline Merten, Kennedy Schoenecker, Zoe Richards

Row 2: Miranda Reid, Marcela Montes, Andre Stewart, Alex Nett, Joseph Goettl, Bailey Kruse, Getachew Hundera, Haley Fossum



Class of Aug. 5-Oct. 4, 2019

Row 1: Ana Natividad, Jaretta Lindsey, Tate Gahnz, Amara Hart-Thomas, Asia Hassan, Madelyn Chick, Asha Yusul

Row 2: Ashley Glawe, Mercedes Garza, Albina Ceric, Joseph Carter, John Helgeson, Monika Nichols, Cheyenne Gawne

# Physical Therapy – Arizona

Duration: 12-month geriatrics residency | Graduating students: 1 | Program started: 2012

## Program update

Resident Zackary Kleven, PT, DPT, completed a one-year retrospective research study on fall outcomes after inpatient rehabilitation discharge.

Erin Van Buren, PT, DPT, GCS (PTR '15), is the new program director.

## With distinction, alumni

- Julie Sigler, PT, DPT, GCS (PTI '17, PTR '18), Mayo Clinic in Arizona: Passed geriatric specialty exam

## With distinction, faculty & staff

- Hannah Burke, PT, DPT, NCS (PTI '16), program faculty and mentor: Presented case study poster “The Impact of a Novel, Customized Orthosis on Pain and Function in a Patient Following an Internal Hemipelvectomy” at American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting, Washington, D.C.
- Sarah Cooper, PT, DPT (PTR '17), and Erin Van Buren, PT, DPT, GCS, program director: Presented “Pelvic Floor Training for the Older Adult” at American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting, Washington, D.C. — educational presentation sponsored by APTA Section on Women’s Health and Academy for Geriatric Physical Therapy
- Erin Van Buren, PT, DPT, GCS, program director: Received Mayo Clinic Academy of Excellence appointment for position of fellow; received Specialization Academy of Content Expert status from American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties

## Class notes & employment

### Mayo Clinic in Arizona

Zackary Kleven, PT, DPT





Zackary Kleven, PT, DPT, Erin Van Buren, PT, DPT, GCS (program director)

# Physical Therapy – Rochester

Duration: 33-month doctorate program | Graduating students: 28 | Program started: 1937

## With distinction, students

- Samuel Fischer: Minnesota Physical Therapy Association Outstanding Student Award to graduating student who demonstrates strong academic performance, excellent clinical performance and professional leadership
- Cassandra Lindstrom: Gordon J. Branes Award to graduating student with outstanding academic achievement in physical therapy curriculum
- Rachel Svendson: Erik J. Aasen Award to graduating student who best embodies spirit of Erik Aasen, member of class of 1995
- Stephen Thompson: Richard L. Beers Award to graduating student with most outstanding scholarly paper
- Whitney Walker: Outstanding Clinical Performance Award

## With distinction, faculty & staff

- Melissa Hake, PT, DScPT (PT '01): Co-authored publications in *Journal of Allied Health and Rehabilitation Oncology*
- John Hollman, PhD (PT '94), program director: Co-authored publications in *Journal of Allied Health*, *Journal of Gerontology Series A: Medical Sciences*, *Journal of Gerontology Series A: Biological Sciences*, *Rehabilitation Oncology* and *SportsHealth*
- David Krause, PT, DSc, OCS (PT '84): Authored or co-authored publications in *Current Sports Medicine Reports*, *Journal of Orthopaedic and Sports Physical Therapy* and *SportsHealth*
- Aaron Rindflesch, PT, PhD, NCS (PT '95): Authored publications in *Journal of Allied Health and Rehabilitation Oncology*





Row 1: Kaitlin Wohnoutka, Taylor Stecklein, Allison Reiplinger, Whitney Walker  
 Row 2: Rebecca Dykstra, Jessica Solfest, Mary Kleis, Sonya Blyakher, Jinise Trueblood  
 Row 3: Kelsey Hansen, Kelsey Harms, Megan Zimmerman, Rachel Svendsen, Kaitlyn Neville  
 Row 4: Taylor Kuhn, Cassandra Lindstrom, Matthew Hastreiter, Nicholas Beise, Molly Peichel  
 Row 5: Megan Pyrz, Samuel Weigel, Erik Krueger, Ashley Lahti  
 Row 6: Aaron Nissen, Michelle Fischer, Stephen Thompson, Sarah Costello, Samuel Fischer



# Physical Therapy – Rochester

Duration: 12-month neurologic residency | Graduating students: 2 | Program started: 2016

## Program update

The residency continued a strong track record of graduate employment in the neurology physical therapy specialty practice. Graduates have achieved a 100% first-time pass rate on the Neurology Specialty Exam.

## With distinction, students

- Allison Budreck, PT, DPT, and Allyson Muehlemann, PT, DPT: Outstanding Resident Final Project Award for “Fractal Dynamic Properties of Gait During Treadmill and Over Ground Walking in Parkinson’s Disease”

## With distinction, faculty & staff

- Aaron Hellem, PT, DPT (PT '13, PTR '14): Outstanding Residency Educator Award
- Kayla Johnson, PT, DPT, NCS: Outstanding Residency Mentor Award
- Hannah Von Arb, PT, DPT, NCS (PTR '17): Program mentor

## With distinction, alumni

- Rachelle Boettcher, PT, DPT, NCS (PTR '18): Received board certification in neurologic physical therapy, American Board of Physical Therapy Specialists
- Darcy Dalen, PT, DPT, NCS (PTR '18): Received board certification in neurologic physical therapy, American Board of Physical Therapy Specialists

## Class notes & employment

Allison Budreck, PT, DPT  
Rocky Mountain Physical Therapy  
Fort Collins, Colorado

Allyson Muehlemann, PT, DPT  
Strong Memorial Hospital, University of Rochester  
Rochester, New York



Allison Budreck, PT, DPT, Debra Ness, PT, DScPT, NCS, (SIP '88, PT '92, program coordinator), Allyson Muehlemann, PT, DPT



# Physical Therapy – Rochester

Duration: 12-month orthopaedic residency | Graduating students: 2 | Program started: 2013

## Program update

The residency continued a strong track record of graduate employment in the orthopaedic physical therapy specialty practice. Graduates have achieved a 100% first-time pass rate on the orthopaedic specialty exam. The residency welcomed American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education site visitors and successfully obtained reaccreditation through 2029.

## With distinction, faculty & staff

- Ryan Buus, PT, DPT, OCS (PT '14, PTR '15): Presented at Minnesota Physical Therapy Association Annual Conference on "Guiding Principles of Management for Patients with Joint Hypermobility;" appointed to assistant professor of physical therapy, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science
- Rebecca Gusmer, PT, DPT, OCS (PTR '17): Presented "Increased Step Rate in Runners Following an Independent Step-Rate Retraining Home Program: A Randomized Controlled Trial" at American Physical Therapy Association Combined Section Meeting; added as faculty member of orthopaedic and sports residencies; appointed as instructor of physical therapy, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science
- Aaron Hellem, PT, DPT, OCS, SCS (PT '13, PTR '14): Authored "Review of Shoulder Range of Motion in the Throwing Athlete: Distinguishing Normal Adaptations from Pathologic Deficits," *Current Reviews in Musculoskeletal Medicine* 2019; presented at

Minnesota Physical Therapy Association Annual Conference on "Exercise Prescription, Progression, and Periodization in Sports Physical Therapy" and at 2018 Mayo Clinic Symposium on Sports Medicine on "Return to Sport after Shoulder Injury"

- Joel Narveson, PT, DPT, OCS (PTI '15, PTR '16): Appointed as residency clinical coordinator, Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska
- Bryan Sorensen, PT, DPT, OCS, SCS (PTR '15): Presented at 2018 Mayo Clinic Symposium on Sports Medicine on "Lumbar Spine Rehab in Athletes;" appointed as instructor of physical therapy, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

## With distinction, alumni

- Donald (DJ) Ciancio III, PT, DPT, OCS (PTR '18): Received board certification in orthopaedic physical therapy, American Board of Physical Therapy Specialists
- Peter Johnson, PT, DPT, OCS (PT '17, PTR '18): Received board certification in orthopaedic physical therapy, American Board of Physical Therapy Specialists

## Class notes & employment

Cameron Bentz, PT, DPT  
Tria Orthopedics  
Woodbury, Minnesota

David (Woody) Lucas, PT, DPT  
Active PT and Sports Physical  
Therapy  
Rochester, Minnesota



Cameron Bentz, PT, DPT, Darren Calley, PT, DScPT, OCS (PT '96, program coordinator and director), David (Woody) Lucas, PT, DPT



# Physical Therapy – Rochester

Duration: 12-month sports residency | Graduating students: 1 | Program started: 2016

## Program update

The residency continues a strong track record of graduate employment in the sports physical therapy specialty practice. Graduates have achieved a 100% first-time pass rate on the sports specialty exam.

## With distinction, students

- Hailey Brinkman, PT, DPT, CSCS: Presented at Minnesota Physical Therapy Association Annual Conference on “Guiding Principles of Management for Patients with Joint Hypermobility”

## With distinction, faculty & staff

- Paul Yerhot, PT, DPT, SCS (PTI '14, PTR '17): Presented at Minnesota Physical Therapy Association Annual Conference on “Exercise Prescription, Progression, and Periodization in Sports Physical Therapy,” and at 2018 Mayo Clinic Symposium on Sports Medicine on “Evidence-Based Exercise Dosing;” appointed as instructor of physical therapy, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

## With distinction, alumni

- Robert Rodriguez, PT, DPT, SCS (PTR '18): Received board certification in sports physical therapy, American Board of Physical Therapy Specialists; completed Fairview Hockey Fellowship, St. Paul, Minnesota; authored “Measuring the Hip Adductor to Abductor Strength Ratio in Ice Hockey and Soccer Players: A Critically Appraised Topic,” *Journal of Sport Rehabilitation* 2019
- Owen Runion, PT, DPT, SCS (PTR '18): Received board certification in sports physical therapy, American Board of Physical Therapy Specialists

## Class notes & employment

Hailey Brinkman, PT, DPT, CSCS  
Private physical therapy practice  
Plymouth, Minnesota



Corey Kunzer, PT, DPT, SCS (program coordinator), Hailey Brinkman, PT, DPT, CSCS



# Physician Assistant – Arizona

Duration: 12-month advanced heart failure and heart transplant fellowship | Graduating students: 1 | Program started: 2018

## Program update

This is the inaugural year for the Advanced Heart Failure and Heart Transplant Physician Assistant Fellowship. Program director is Dondii Delgado, PA-C, MS.

## With distinction, students

- Kira Salmond, PA-C: Presented case study poster “Rapid Recovery of Acute Giant Cell Myocarditis with Hypereosinophilia with Combined Immunosuppression and Benralizumab” at Academic Excellence Day, Mayo Clinic in Arizona



Dondii Delgado, PA-C, MS (program director), Kira Salmond, PA-C

# Physician Assistant – Arizona

Duration: 12-month hospital internal medicine fellowship | Graduating students: 3 | Program started: 2007

## Program update

Two fellows completed the hospitalist track; one completed the critical care track.

## With distinction, students

- All fellows presented posters at Mayo Clinic Academic Excellence Day; one also presented at American Academy of Physician Assistants national conference



Jennifer Palermo, PA-C (PA '07, HIM '08, associate program director), Katarina Krstic, Cayley McDowell, Kylie Leffler, Adrijana Anderson, PA-C (PA '15, program director)



# Physician Assistant – Arizona

Duration: 12-month neurosurgery fellowship | Graduating students: 1 | Program started: 2018

## Program update

This was the first year of this fellowship — the only one of its kind.

## With distinction, students

- Kara Curley, PA-C: Presented case report “Metal Hypersensitivity in Anterior Lumbar Interbody Fusion,” NPAA fellow grand rounds

## Class notes & employment

**Mayo Clinic in Arizona**

Kara Curley, PA-C



Orland Boucher, PA-C (program director), Kara Curley, PA-C

# Physician Assistant – Arizona

Duration: 12-month otolaryngology/head and neck surgery fellowship | Graduating students: 2 | Program started: 2005

## Program update

Fellows rotate through 12 subspecialty areas associated with otolaryngology.



Anthony Mendez, PA-C, MS (PA '08, ENT '09, program director), Emily Wojtas, PA-C, MS, Carolyn Filarski, PA-C, Carlene Donald, PA-C, MS (PA '07, ENT '08, associate program director)



# Physician Assistant – Rochester

Duration: 24-month program | Graduating students: 18 | Program started: 1995

## Program update

All graduates passed the Physician Assistant National Certifying exam. This was the 22nd consecutive year that every graduating student passed the exam.

The program is a collaboration among MCSHS, the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, Gundersen La Crosse Hospital and Marshfield Clinic.



Row 1: Mariah Grant, Michelle Forsam, Jyoti Gautam, Elizabeth Hovden, Christina Lindemann, Alyssa Friesen  
Row 2: Lauren Gruber, Justine Reuter, Kelsey Alt, Beau Gerding, Elizabeth Rushing, Rebecca Bluhm, Jill Sanchez  
Row 3: Robert Adams, OPA-C (program director), Anna King, Luke Crance, Jacob McGrath, McKenna Gruber, Tayrn Ashley, Ashley Noelke, MBA (program director, Eau Claire)



# Radiation Therapy – Rochester

Duration: 12-month program | Graduating students: 5 | Program started: 1980

## Program update

The program continued a strong record of all graduating students gaining employment and passing the board exam.

## With distinction, students

- Mackenzie Breedon, Katelyn Grinsteinner, Madison Speltz, Brittany Stangl and Kirsten Wilcox: Recognized for graduating with High Distinction for completing program with GPA of 3.90 or higher

## With distinction, faculty & staff

- Malorie Veres, MS, TRP(ABR): Outstanding Didactic Faculty Award
- Amber Wolery (RTT '10): Outstanding Clinical Educator Award

## Class notes & employment

### Mayo Clinic in Rochester

Mackenzie Breedon  
Madison Speltz

### Mayo Clinic in Arizona

Kirsten Wilcox

### Other

Katelyn Grinsteinner  
Bismarck Cancer Center  
Bismarck, North Dakota

Brittany Stangl  
Whittingham Cancer Center  
Norwalk, Connecticut



Kirsten Wilcox, Madison Speltz, Katelyn Grinsteinner, Mackenzie Breedon, Brittany Stangl



# Radiography – Arizona

Duration: 17-month internship | Graduating students: 3 | Program started: 2002

## Program update

Students attained an Associate of Science degree from Gateway Community College.

The program continued a strong record of employment in radiology. One graduate accepted a position at Mayo Clinic in Arizona; two accepted external employment.

## With distinction, students

- Carolyn Hoang: Dean's List, graduated with distinction
- Mischa Lentz: One of 100 nationally selected students to participate in American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) Student Leadership Development Program; representative at ASRT National Delegates meeting; graduated with high distinction
- Lisa Mollet: Graduated with high distinction



Carolyn Hoang, RT(R), Kerry Knodel, RT(R) (program director), Lisa Mollet, RT(R)  
Not pictured: Mischa Lentz, RT(R)



# Radiography – Florida

Duration: 24-month program | Graduating students: 5 | Program started: 2000

## With distinction, students

- Anissa Bradley: Radiography Student Excellence Award

## With distinction, faculty & staff

- Marsha Lawrence, RT(R): Program Directors Award
- Jennifer Mendoza: Outstanding Clinical Educator Award

## Class notes & employment

### Mayo Clinic in Florida

Thomas Bishop  
Tanner Carman  
Shiran Moss



Row 1: Joiel Woods, RT(R) (RAD '10, clinical coordinator), Shaun Harrell, MEd, RT(R) (program director), Lauren Alexander, MD (medical director)  
Row 2: Lela Xhindoli, Anissa Bradley, Thomas Bishop, Shiran Moss, Tanner Carman



# Radiography – Rochester

Duration: 24-month program | Graduating students: 17 | Program started: 1982

## Program update

All members of the class passed the registration examination administered by American Registry of Radiologic Technologists.

## With distinction, students

- Raya Luebbe: Outstanding Academic Student, Outstanding Student Achievement
- Madison Roettger: Outstanding Clinical Student
- Shannah Sexton: Outstanding Academic Student

## With distinction, faculty & staff

- Caitlyn Heimerl, RT(R) (RAD '17): Outstanding Clinical Educator
- Paige Lindrud, RT(R) (RAD '17): Outstanding Clinical Educator

## Class notes & employment

Fifteen of 17 graduates accepted employment at Mayo Clinic in Rochester; one student is continuing education in the MCSHS Radiation Therapy Program.



Row 1: Isaiah Grafe, Madison Roettger, Haley Resutek, Raya Luebbe, Katherine Wolfrath, Kyle Dubbels  
Row 2: Charline (Stephanie) Nguimatsa Donnang, Kiana Leer, Skylar McConnell, Elizabeth Gran, Nikki Poetting  
Row 3: Gabriel Boehne, Kaitlyn Dawson, Shannah Sexton, Bailey Ullom, Zachary Nelson, Sarah Garrison



# Respiratory Care – Rochester

Duration: 21-month program | Graduating students: 7 | Program started: 1973

## Program update

Graduates received Bachelor of Science in Health Profession degrees at University of Minnesota, Rochester, commencement.

## With distinction, students

- Abdulahi Ahmed, Michael Edge, Samantha Linscheid and Tori Simonson: Represented Minnesota at American Association of Respiratory Care International Congress in New Orleans and competed in Sputum Bowl knowledge competition
- Samantha Linscheid received:
  - Bachelor of Science in Health Professions Patient Care Award at UMR Raptor Awards Ceremony for exemplifying personal and professional attributes needed to be an effective patient care provider
  - Scholarship from Pediatric Home Service, a children’s home health care agency
  - Hot Topic New Hope Award — Respiratory Care class of 2016 and alumna Amy Lee Tran, RRT, LRT (PHLB ’12, RTS ’18), are increasing awareness about suicide prevention; award was created to honor Maximilian (Max) Topic, RRT (RTS ’16), who died by suicide; award is given to respiratory therapy student who is humble and kind and cares for well-being of others

## With distinction, faculty & staff

- William LeTourneau II, RRT, LRT: Presented poster “Compliance of Distal Airway Volume Affects Secretion Mobilization Device Evaluation,” American Association for Respiratory Care Congress; presented “Graduate to Critical Decision Maker,” North Regional Respiratory Care Conference; presented “Does the Mode of Mechanical Ventilation Matter,” Minnesota Society for Respiratory Care Winter Forum; presented “Proning: An Interactive Exercise,” American Thoracic Society International Conference

## Class notes & employment

Mayo Clinic in Rochester	Other
Abdulahi Ahmed	Samantha Linscheid
Samuel Bennett	University of Wisconsin,
Katie Holtorf	University Hospital
Tori Simonson	Madison, Wisconsin
Mayo Clinic Health System, Mankato, Minnesota	
Adam Douangmala	
Jennifer Zabinski	



Row 1: Mindy Eickhoff, RRT, LRT (clinical lead), Jennifer Zabinski, Samantha Linscheid, Tori Simonson, Katie Holtorf, Vanessa King, RRT, LRT (program director)  
Row 2: Anna Marie Spartz, RRT, LRT (clinical coordinator), Samuel Bennett, Abdulahi Ahmed, Adam Douangmala, William LeTourneau II, RRT, LRT (associate program director)



# Social Work – Rochester & Mayo Clinic Health System

Duration: 12-32 week internship | Graduating students: 23 | Program started: 1926/1995



Summer 2018 cohort

Katie Ubl, Samantha Knight, Lorelei Tinaglia, Kailee Hrubetz, Jolene Baker, Benjamin Mohr, LICSW, MSW (program director)

Not pictured: Michelle Anklan, Erin O'Toole



Fall 2018-Spring 2019 cohort

Row 1: Caitlin Ternes, Angela Stehr, Teryn Coffman, Kelli Ray, Toria Lodzinski

Row 2: Mandy Doocy, Shakyla Udelhoven, Katlin Morse, Chantel Robertson

Not pictured: Ana Ely, Cassidy Fransen, Michelle Hostettler, Frances Klopffleisch, Miles Melton-Mraz, Olympia Smith, Amy Thorson



# Sonography – Rochester & Florida

Duration: 21-month program | Graduating students: 9 | Program started: 1990

## With distinction, students

- Kaylee Hanson: Outstanding Student Achievement Award

## With distinction, faculty & staff

- Outstanding Clinical Educator awards: Shaina Diskerud (Olmsted Medical Center); Tracy Heaser, RVT; Lisa Heimer, RVT, RDMS (RAD '99, SONO '01); Jeanie Otten, RVT, RDMS (SONO '12); Shannon Unz, RVT, RDMS (SONO '16); Vicki Warzala, RDMS (RAD '96, SONO '97)



Rochester

Row 1: Wendaline VanBuren, MD (medical director), Kendra Petersen, Courtney Dematteis, Lindsey Anding, Kaylee Hanson, Laura Schmalz, RVT, RDMS (clinical coordinator)  
Row 2: Nora Harer, RVT, RDMS (SONO '00, academic coordinator), Nicholas Wozniak, Cole Rokke, Mikaela Wilgus, Rebecca Madero, MEd, RVT, RDMS (program director)



## Class notes & employment

Eight of the nine graduates accepted employment at Mayo Clinic; one graduate was hired outside of Mayo Clinic.



Florida  
Kimberly Smith, Samantha Ghazanfari, RVT, RDMS (SONO '13, clinical coordinator), Alaina Doiron

# Surgical First Assistant – Rochester

Duration: 12-month program | Graduating students: 18 | Program started: 2012

## Program update

The class had a 100% pass rate for the Certified Surgical Assistant exam and a 100% job hire rate for the seventh consecutive year.

## With distinction, students

- The class won the MCSHS Blood Drive Challenge for the fourth consecutive year.

## Class notes & employment

### Mayo Clinic in Rochester

Paige Becher  
Mallory Cochran  
Bailey Dickman  
Jasmin Ejupovic  
Lauren Fugate  
Alejandra Galvan  
Austin Jentz  
Danielle Kocina  
Octuber Massaquoi

Alexandrea Peterson  
Holly Rusch  
Jason Ryu  
Zachary Schmidt  
Tatum Schulz  
Matthew Shedd  
Theodore Urch  
Elizabeth Wlodyga

Mayo Clinic Health System, Red Wing, Minnesota  
Amber Weber





Row 1: Amber Weber, Alejandra Galvan, Holly Rusch, October Massaquoi, Lauren Fugate, Elizabeth Wlodyga  
 Row 2: Paige Becher, Austin Jentz, Mallory Cochran, Danielle Kocina, Jasmin Ejupovic, Bailey Dickman  
 Row 3: Matthew Shedd, Alexandra Peterson, Zachary Schmidt, Theodore Urch, Yungil Ryu, Tatum Schulz









# News briefs

## Jana Raisner, PT, DPT, is physical therapist for figure skating's Team USA

Jana Raisner, PT, DPT (PT '18), a physical therapist at Mayo Clinic in Florida, is a Team USA physical therapist with U.S. Figure Skating. She traveled to Moscow, Russia, with the team for the Cup of Russia competition — an Olympic qualifying event. To prepare for her new role, she spent a week training in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and a week in Tampa, Florida. In this volunteer role, she provides physical therapy services to men's and women's singles skaters and ice dancing competitors.

"For so long, my dream was to compete internationally in skating and skate in the Olympics," says Dr. Raisner. "That dream was derailed by injury, but I still get to be part of it in a new role."

Dr. Raisner has worked with U.S. Figure Skating for five years, doing physical assessments of athletes, teaching injury prevention and serving as a Safe Sport representative in treatment rooms. She was profiled in the spring 2018 issue of *Connections*, focusing on how MCSHS worked with her to accommodate her cognitive disabilities caused by post-concussion syndrome.



## Awards & appointments

**Lauren Aziz (ADMIN '16)**, Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology at Mayo Clinic in Florida, received a Practice Innovation Award from the Mayo Clinic Robert D. and Patricia E. Kern Center for the Science of Health Care Delivery for her project "BMT/CAR-T Digital Transformation."

Award recipients will work with the Kern Center's multidisciplinary team of experts to identify complex care needs for patients, address unmet clinical needs, and improve the experience and delivery of health care.

**Michael Breunig, PA-C, MS (PA '12)**, clinical skills co-director for the MCSHS Physician Assistant Program, had a series of five articles published in the *Journal of the American Academy of Physician Assistants*, all focused on using point-of-care ultrasound in patient care. Breunig is an assistant professor of medicine in the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science.

**Ami Grek, APRN, DNP (NP '09)**,

Department of Critical Care Medicine at Mayo Clinic in Florida, received the appointment of associate. Associate status is granted to certain people who are not members of the physician or administrative staffs and who contribute on a continuing basis in important ways to the practice, research and educational activities at Mayo Clinic. Dr. Grek is an assistant professor of medicine in the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science.

**Shirley Wienk, APRN, CRNA (NA '90, NA '98)**,

Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, received the 2019 Nurse Anesthetist Recognition Award from the department. Wienk is an instructor in anesthesiology in the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science.



## Mayo Clinic receives gift for Center for Women's Health

Mayo Clinic received a \$5 million gift from Penny and Bill George and the George Family Foundation for its Center for Women's Health. The center is a destination where women can receive personalized, holistic health care that is tailored to meet their needs throughout their lives.

Stephanie Faubion, MD, the Penny and Bill George Director of the Mayo Clinic Center for Women's Health,

says the center will set a new national standard for women's health care, providing personalized care that considers women as partners in their health care. "The center's goal is to become a destination for women's health care where patients are not only treated for a specific condition but also empowered with the tools and knowledge they need to improve their overall health and wellness — mind, body and spirit."



## Mayo Clinic in Arizona transplant programs recognized as national leader

The heart, kidney and liver transplant programs at Mayo Clinic's Arizona campus have been ranked No. 1 in the U.S. by the Performance Modeling Program at Interlink Health's Centers of Excellence Networks & Programs.

Interlink Health has developed a performance modeling program that uses a combination of data from the Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients and its own outcome-weighting algorithms, allowing the organization to rank transplant programs using a more holistic approach than focusing on one-year survival rates.

Mayo transplant programs in Arizona, Florida and Rochester all have received recognition as Interlink Centers of Excellence.



## Mayo Clinic CARES program for diverse high school students debuts on Arizona campus

Mayo Clinic launched a high school diversity pipeline program, Mayo Clinic CARES (Career Advancement, Research, and Education Summer Program), on the Arizona campus in July.

The program prepares and inspires high school students of various backgrounds and potentials for a career in health care via a summer program with continuing, longitudinal mentorship. More than 70 faculty members were involved with presentations and activities.



## Integrated Education and Research building added to Phoenix campus expansion

The Mayo Clinic Board of Trustees approved an Integrated Education and Research building as part of the Phoenix, Arizona, campus capital expansion project. With this addition the expansion plan increases from a \$645 million project to a \$728 million project. What was once called Arizona Forward is now called Arizona. Bold. Forward.

The building will increase research capabilities including wet bench

laboratories, and provide more classroom and administrative space for Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science learners.

Education and research were identified as key differentiators in the naming of Mayo Clinic as *Newsweek's* "Best Hospital in the World," and this building accommodates the growth of both.







## **Integrated oncology facility with proton beam therapy planned for Mayo Clinic's Florida campus**

Mayo Clinic will construct an integrated oncology facility that includes proton beam therapy on its Florida campus. The 140,000-square-foot facility is expected to be completed in late 2023.

The facility will allow Mayo Clinic to offer patients on the Florida campus the full spectrum of cancer treatment options including chemotherapy, immunotherapy, CAR-T cell therapy, surgery, proton beam therapy, gamma knife radiosurgery and traditional radiotherapy. Patients will have access

to proton beam therapy clinical trials offered through Mayo's National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer center.

Mayo Clinic is investing \$233 million — \$211 million for the integrated oncology facility support tower and advanced radiation equipment, and \$22 million for parking and patient walkways. Mayo Clinic successfully introduced proton beam therapy at its campuses in Rochester, Minnesota, in 2015 and Arizona in 2016.



## Program updates

**Sally Alcott, MD**, was named medical director for the Physical Therapy Geriatric Residency program in Arizona.

**Patricia Best, MD**, Division of Interventional Cardiology, was named medical director of the Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist Program at Mayo Clinic in Rochester.

**Alan Brokenicky, MPA**, joined the Physician Assistant Program as academic co-director.

**Tava Buck, DPT, OCS, FAAOMPT**, Rehabilitation Services at Mayo Clinic, was named program director for the Occupational & Physical Therapy Clinical Rotation in Florida.

**Radhika Dhamija, MBBS**, Department of Clinical Genomics, was named medical director of the Genetic Counseling Clinical Rotation at Mayo Clinic in Arizona.

**Joaquin Garcia, MD**, Division of Anatomic Pathology, was named medical director of the Histology Technician Program at Mayo Clinic in Rochester.

**S. Allen Luis, MBBS**, was named medical director for the Advanced Cardiovascular Sonography Program in Rochester.

**Ashley Noelke** is operations specialist for the new MCSHS Physician Assistant Program.

**Jennifer L. Peterson, MD**, was named medical director for the Medical Physics-Radiation Oncology Program in Florida.

**LeeAnn Ranieri, APRN, DNP, FNP-BC**, was named program director for the Nurse Practitioner Clinical Rotation in Arizona.

**Carrie Rochester, APRN, CNM**, was named program director for the Nurse-Midwifery Program at Mayo Clinic in Rochester.

**Angela Vizzini, RDN, LD/N**, Nutrition Services, was named program director for the Dietetics Internship at Mayo Clinic in Florida.

**The Pharmacy Technician Program** has expanded to the Arizona and Florida campuses, with classes beginning in January 2020. Students who complete the program will be prepared as pharmacy technicians who can help pharmacists and other health care professionals obtain, prepare and distribute medications and pharmaceutical products in pharmacy settings.

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## Obituaries

**Thomas Bohlinger, PT** (PT '82), died Oct. 2, 2019.

**Samuel Daines, RN, CRNA** (NA '66), died Aug. 15, 2019.

**Scott Goble, PT** (PT '89), died Sept. 24, 2019.

**Lorna Graffius, PT** (PT '43), died March 22, 2017.

**Gary Haggerty** (RTS '75), died July 21, 2019.

**Catherine Hewitt, PT** (PT '70), died Aug. 24, 2019.



# Connections

*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).

Send comments, story ideas, academic and career news, and address changes to [mshsaa@mayo.edu](mailto:mshsaa@mayo.edu), or call 507-284-2317.

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## About MCSHS

Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences has a distinguished history of preparing students for successful careers in the health sciences. Mayo Clinic has trained allied health professionals for more than 100 years. Almost 1,700 students are enrolled in more than 135 MCSHS programs and rotations representing more than 55 health sciences careers. Programs are available at Mayo Clinic campuses in Arizona, Florida and Minnesota.

## Enrollment information

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**MCSHS Alumni Association**

## **2020 ANNUAL MEETING**

**Friday, April 17 | Rochester, Minnesota**

with concurrent events in Arizona and Florida

Reception, program, dinner, award presentation and  
installation of new president

**Keynote speaker Robyn Finney, APRN, CRNA, DNAP**

(NA '03, NA '18), Department of Anesthesiology and  
Perioperative Medicine, Mayo Clinic in Rochester, on  
"Second Victim Phenomenon"

The evening is free for MCSHS alumni and a guest.  
Reserve your spot by April 8: [annual2020mcshsaa.  
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