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THE PLEXUS POST

AN ALUMNI NEWSLETTER FROM THE
MODERN HUMAN ANATOMY PROGRAM

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***The MHA program
has 198 alumni
with more
graduates on the
way this spring!***

HELLO, MHA FAM!

The MHA program just completed our 5 Year Program Evaluation and it was a time of thoughtful reflection for the MHA team. Tracking the accomplishments of our alumni is one of our greatest joys and we celebrate your journeys both professionally and personally. We are humbled to be part of that journey and appreciate the contributions each of you made and continue to make to the MHA program and community.

WE DID A THING

Thanks to amazing videography and editing by Hanna Kim in the School of Dental Medicine and a team of MHA student and faculty volunteers, we have a new MHA promotional video! Check it out on our MHA homepage or on YouTube: **Link to MHA video**

Please share this video to help promote our program and to answer really pesky people who ask you, "Why is it called MODERN human anatomy?"

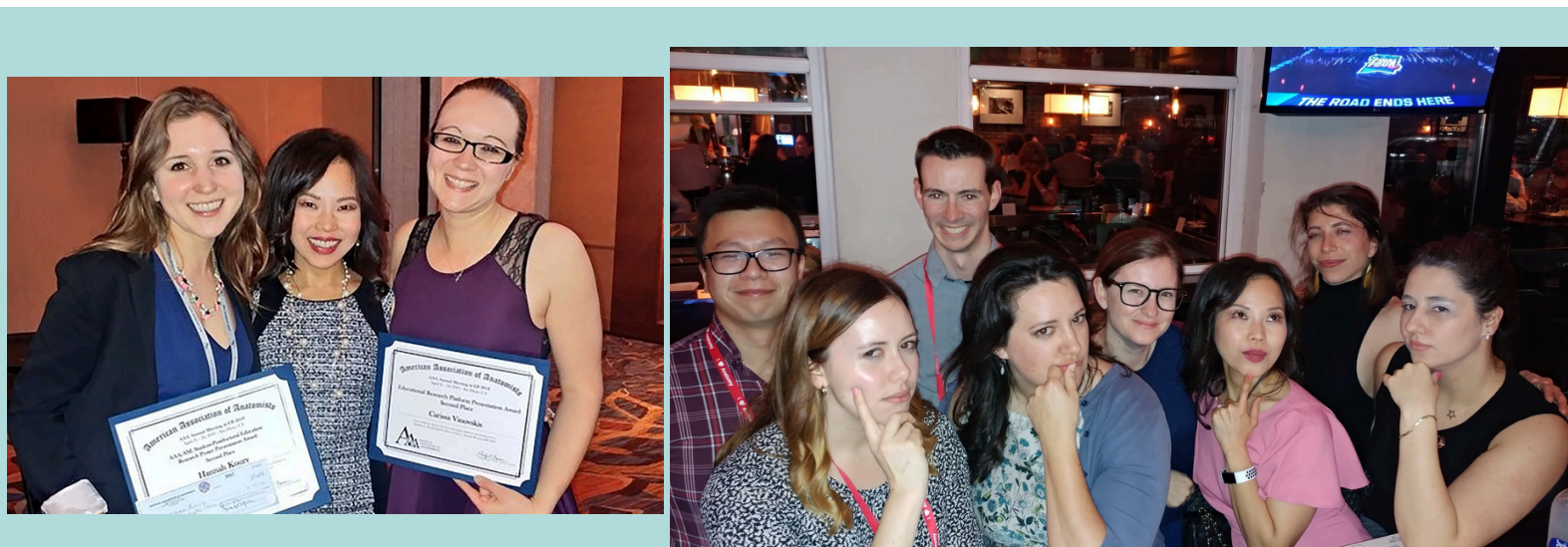
Congratulations!

Dr. Lee promoted to full professor!

Dr. Lee joined CU-Anschutz and the Modern Human Anatomy Program in August 2012. Dr. Lee likely didn't know what she was getting into! She was instrumental in shaping the MHA curriculum from the start, teaching core anatomical sciences courses, mentoring students, and mentoring MHA faculty. Can you believe that Dr. Lee has served on 32 capstone committees, sponsored 37 independent study projects, led the Curriculum Committee twice (and still is!), serves on the Finance Committee, AND maintains course directorship of Human Embryology and Advanced Teaching in Anatomical Sciences!?!? And this is just MHA stuff - this doesn't even take into account her extensive teaching in the medical school, her multiple book authorships, her DaVinci Academy Histology Course, Lee's Histology virtual histology guide, and even more - whew, it's exhausting just typing this! Needless to say, Dr. Lee is well deserving of her promotion to Professor and we celebrate all she has already accomplished!

From Dr. Lee

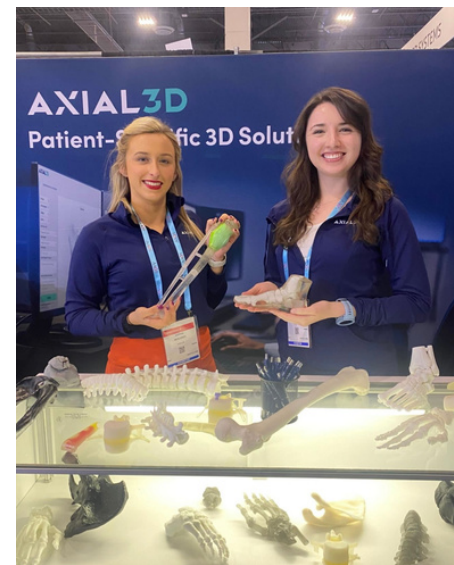
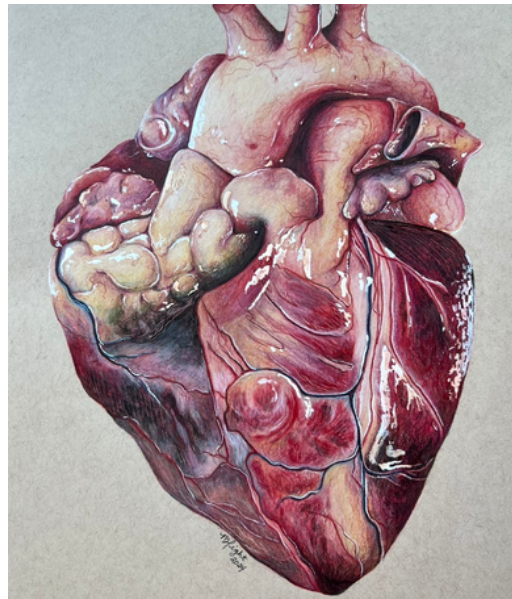
"This couldn't have been possible without the MHA and its incredible colleagues and students over the years, who have inspired and taught me to be a better version of myself every day. I am grateful for the privilege to enjoy my work, have fun doing it (most days), and operate in a community that values holistic human development. I wish the same fulfillment for everyone and hope to be a source of support in their pursuit. LFullProf 😊"



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: 5 QUESTIONS WITH OUR FEATURED ALUMNI

MARISSA HIGHT, CLASS OF 2021

Senior Medical Visualization Engineer, Axial3D



Images: original illustration by Marissa (top left), Marissa visiting Dublin "office" (top center), at conference with Axial 3D (top right), Marissa's models at Axial 3d (right sidebar)

What is your favorite memory from MHA?

Actually gross anatomy dissection during COVID! While it wasn't the same as before I loved being able to dissect with my best friends and learn alongside them both in the cadaver lab and the summer research we did together. The enjoyment became endless with Dr. Lohman, Dr. Lee, and our group and I will always cherish the knowledge I absorbed during that time.

How do you use anatomy in your current career/life?

EVERY day ALL day! I work with every anatomy anomaly/abnormality out there with my job and we see numerous new CTs/MRIs constantly that I know will never stop surprising me on how our bodies can adapt and change.

What is your current position/job and title and what do you love most about your career?

I work remotely as a Senior Medical Visualization Engineer for Axial3D based out of Belfast, Ireland. I lead our US production to create patient-specific 3D anatomy models whether that be 3D files like STLs/OBJs, animated/virtually painted, or 3D printed models to mimic the actual organ tissue. I adore my job! Each day is a new challenge with new complex anatomy and it's usually a time crunch to make it to the surgeon/medical device company on time. I am truly never bored and my coworkers are phenomenal.

What kind of changes do you anticipate in your field in the next 5-10 years?

I anticipate high levels of growth as the medical field expands even further to integrate 3D rendering/imaging of patient-specific anatomies as part of patient care, patient education, and pre-surgical planning.

If you could transport yourself to Denver/Aurora right now, what's the first thing you would do?

Pop in to see everyone I miss dearly! It's harder being further away now and missing out on all the fun and incredible resources that our professors were. I truly couldn't thank them enough for EVERYTHING they did. I wouldn't be anywhere I am without them <3





Good news!

"GOOD NEWS!" SECTION

EVEN MORE AMAZING NEWS TO SHARE



Rachel Klaus (Class of 2017) and Nicky Evans (Class of 2018) got engaged! Rachel just graduated from Physical Therapy School and Nicky completed his pediatric dentistry residency. They will be moving back to Colorado with their fluff-ball, Henle.



Cody Buongiorno (Class of 2020)

"I'm graduating medical school in May! My wife and I are excited to welcome our second daughter into the world!"

Cody is a medical student at Rocky Vista University.



Athena Clemens (Class of 2019)

"I have a daughter now - she is 18 months and the light of my life. ANNNND we are back in Colorado."

Athena is a Pediatric Neurology Resident Physician at Children's Hospital Colorado.

Angelique Dueñas (Class of 2018)

"My good news is I got engaged in December! We met in Chicago (our current home), where I'm working for Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine. He's a software engineer, but is always very cool with the anatomy / academic life (including letting my students call him Mr Dr D)!" Angelique is an Assistant Professor.



Marissa Hight (Class of 2021)

"I am still working in the same spot... BUT..... I got engaged! Wedding to come later this year!" Marissa is Senior Medical Visualization Engineer at Axial3D in Belfast, Ireland.

Good news!

"GOOD NEWS!" SECTION

EVEN MORE GOOD NEWS!

Laura Weinkle (Class of 2017)

"This summer I'm excited to be celebrating my seventh year working for Toltech. It's been an incredible opportunity to help (re)define the customer success experience with the Toltech suite of products, utilizing my masters of modern human anatomy and teaching track experiences in ways I never dreamed of. Added bonus: this summer, Toltech will host our annual user meeting with Dr. Stabio and the MHA program at CUAMC. So grateful to be part of this incredible community 😊"

Laura is Director of Customer Success & Anatomist at Toltech.



Wyatt Colloty (Class of 2020)

"I recently started my clinical year at Loma Linda University's Physician Assistant program! For my first rotation they threw me straight into surgery. I loved it! I got to use my anatomy knowledge almost every day and felt so confident in the OR. My classmates and I can't wait to graduate in December!"



Lisa Hirt (Class of 2020)

"I passed my comps exam last May! This means I am a PhD candidate and no longer a PhD student. AKA I basically passed my Master's portion of the PhD program and now I can go finish my PhD." And more heartwarming news, "The second year buddy I was paired with when I started MHA, Meredith, and I are still besties."

Lisa is a PhD candidate, in the Neuroscience program at CU Anschutz.

Sam Hunt (Class of 2018)

"I will start a pulmonary and critical care fellowship in Portland Maine!"

Sam is currently an Internal Medicine Resident with VA Pacific Islands at Tripler Army Medical Center.

Keanan Sather (Class of 2024)

"Started a position in October at UC Health as a Gross Room Technician Healthcare professional."



Good news!

"GOOD NEWS!" SECTION

EVEN MORE GOOD NEWS!



Lindsey Milgrom (Class of 2020)

I'm getting married on March 22! A few alumni will be in attendance. I couldn't be more grateful to have made lifelong friends at MHA (and to be marrying the love of my life)."
Lindsey is a Pathologists' Assistant (PA-ASCP) at Houston Methodist Hospital - Texas Medical Center.

Bethany Hayes, née Neighbors (Class of 2016)

My family and I moved back to Colorado last year, we are about to celebrate our twins' 5th birthday, and I am happily working as a Physical Therapist in Colorado Springs!"
Bethany is a Physical Therapist at Select Physical Therapy.



Canaan Kerr (Class of 2021)

"I'm finishing up my third year of medical school here at Loyola University Chicago and will be applying to residency in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation this fall! I'm excited to apply my love for anatomy every day of my career to support patients in recovering from serious injuries/illnesses, managing their pain, and optimizing their function. Thank you MHA for sparking the passion I didn't know I had!"

Tyler Johnson (Class of 2020)

"Finishing medical school in Oregon in May. Matched into a general internship next year at Travis Air Force Base/UC Davis in Northern California!" Tyler is a 4th year medical student/Air Force 2nd Lieutenant (soon to be Captain).





Good
news!

"GOOD NEWS!" SECTION

EVEN MORE GOOD NEWS!



Conner Secora (Class of 2021)

"Applied to Internal Medicine, waiting for Match Day! Been doing a fair amount of tutoring during the weirdly spacious second half of 4th year, and have been using SO MUCH of what I learned in the teaching track of MHA that is not taught in med school!" Pictured at left are Conner's sons, Luca and Noah. Conner is a 4th year medical student at CU-Anschutz.

Nadira Matin (Class of 2019)

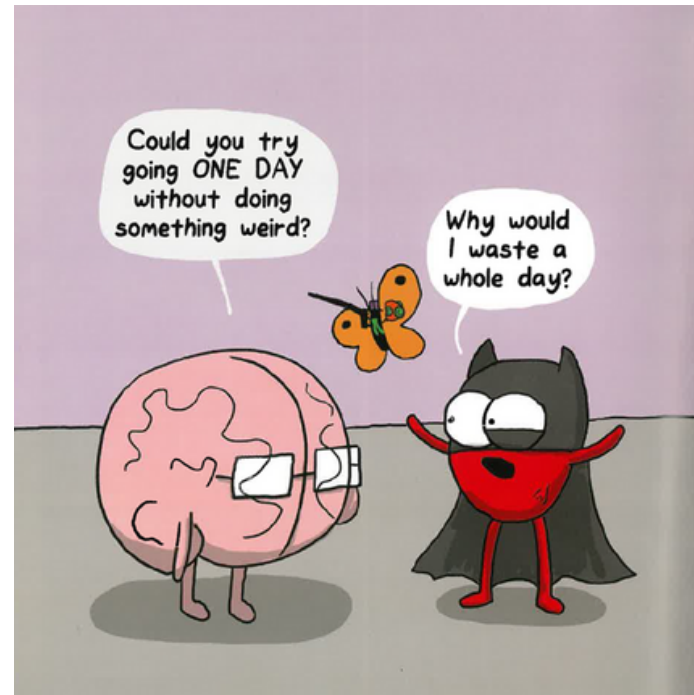
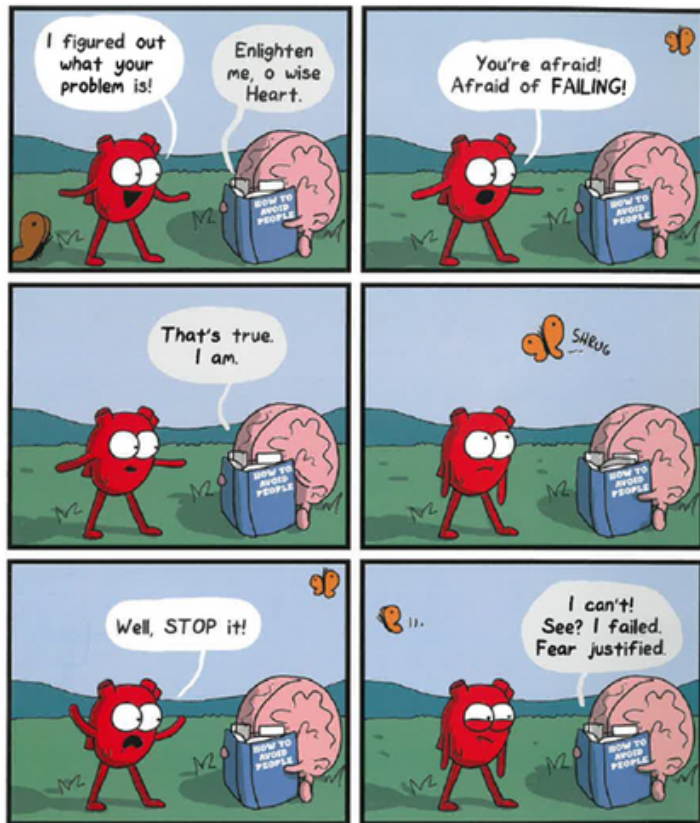
"My husband and I are expecting I am now officially more than half way through my pediatric residency! Our first child is due this month!" Nadira is a Resident Physician at Dartmouth Health.



Eric Einerson (Class of 2021)

"I am officially moving back to Madison, WI in August of this year (I've been in Colorado since joining MHA in 2018)! I'm going to be getting back into the Midwest ballroom competition circuit and competing likely about 6 times per year or so. This is huge for me since ballroom has been an enormous part of my life since starting it in 2016, and the Midwest ballroom competition circuit is awesome! I'm certainly going to miss my studio in Littleton that I've been at since 2018 (Colorado Dancesport, which is one of the friendliest, most talented ballroom groups I've experienced), but I'm pumped to start competing across the Midwest as well as parts of the East Coast with my old Madison team." And "I've been working as a software developer for 2.5 years now, and I still love it!" Eric is an Associate Software Engineer for Academic Analytics LLC.

BECAUSE WE ALL NEED SOME LAUGHS



Awkward Yeti (Nick Seluk). *Heart and Brain: Gut Instincts*. Andrews McMeel Publishing, 2016.

