



CHA/PA Newsletter

CHA/PA students have been engaged in projects in Belize and Washington, D.C., as well as local endeavors where they shared their health profession knowledge with secondary students. We welcomed a new class as well as said goodbye to the Class of 2012. Additionally, a long-term preceptor shares his vantage point on the benefits of precepting.



Beyond the Classroom

The Value of Precepting

Precepting is an integral component of PA education at CU. Clinical rotations begin for CHA/PA students in the fall of their first year and culminate into a full third year of one month rotations. Preceptors are essential to the growth of students as they transition from being a student to becoming a practicing PA. The third year is especially important as students become more autonomous and confident in their skills and knowledge-base.

Jacqueline Sivahop, CHA/PA's third year Clinical Coordinator, precepted students while working in a rheumatology clinic. She found that the students' enthusiasm for learning was infectious. "The students came to clinic excited for the experiences we could offer them and the providers and staff were excited to teach them all aspects of medicine from physical diagnosis,

We are six third-year CHA/PA students who chose to spend an elective month working at Hillside Health Care International (Hillside). Hillside is located in southern Belize, situated five miles inland from the oceanside town of Punta Gorda in a village named Eldridgeville. Each month Hillside accepts eight PA or MD students, together with three Pharmacy students, who run the clinic under the supervision of long-term medical providers.

Preparing for this trip was a long journey in itself. We met several times with our preceptor, Dr. Dick Anstett, in order to learn about the culture of Belize, discuss common medical issues, and ponder the broader social issues related to global health care. In addition, we were in contact with Hillside's director months before departure and were able to actively solicit donations for medicines and equipment from the clinic's wish list. Dr. Anstett was right when he told us preparation for these types of trips

injections, infusions, DEXA scans, prior authorizations, prescription refills, and much more.”

Wayne DuBois has been a CHA/PA preceptor for over fifteen years. He is a Physician Assistant who worked in cardiology for twelve years, and currently works with Kaiser Permanente in Family Practice and Trauma. He was initially drawn to the profession due to his desire to practice medicine as part of a team. Wayne finds that the PA profession continues to challenge him to unravel the mysteries of life while taking care of patients and easing their worries.

As an experienced preceptor, Wayne hopes that students “try to put themselves in the patient’s place to understand what is going on with them, so that patients can ‘know how much they care’ as well as ‘care how much they know’.” When not backpacking, cycling, or fly fishing,

begins a full year in advance, and we accordingly started planning early. Through the generosity of community members and organizations here in the United States, we were able to carry down an impressive amount of medical supplies to Belize. Among our collected donations were a doppler fetal heart rate monitor, over 300 pairs of eyeglasses, a variety of cardiovascular medicines, and an abundant supply of toothbrushes, toothpaste and fluoride varnish kits. Additionally, the CHA/PA Silver Society donated a large portion of their proceeds from their annual silent auction to Hillside, and we felt proud and fortunate to be able to offer a monetary donation to Hillside in the name of our program and all CHA/PA students. Needless to say, we and our donations were met with humble gratitude.

We all feel fortunate to have participated in this rotation and thank everyone who contributed to our learning and our efforts at Hillside

he also finds time to support the PA profession through legislative efforts.



AAPA Capitol Connection

I recently returned from Washington D.C. where I took part in the AAPA Capitol Connection. After a day of being instructed on how to be effective lobbyists and taught on the four bills we were supporting as a profession, myself, along with two others representing Colorado lobbied our two senators. I was very shocked at the reception we received. Not only did the staff members know about the physician assistant profession, they strongly supported us. To hear their opinions on the mid-level provider being a

clinic, including Dr. Dick Anstett, the Hillside staff and our student colleagues, as well as the CHA/PA program for making this rotation possible.

We would also like to thank the many donors who filled our luggage to the brim with the medications, eyeglasses, toothbrushes, fluoride varnish, and other supplies which allowed us to provide much-appreciated assistance to Hillside clinic. Our backs literally ached with the weight of your generosity. We would like to give special thanks to the following:

- Delta Dental
- CHA/PA Silver Society
- Dr. Schieber from Lintecum & Nickell, PC in Kansas for her donation of a fetal Doppler
- Dr. Elizabeth Shick, DDS, MPH and the TCH Dental Clinic
- Drs. John and Olinga Hargreaves, DDS
- Dr. Andrew White, DMD
- Bob Slonecker and Lion's Club of Denver

huge answer for the healthcare reform and the future of healthcare in general was awesome. I would be lying if I said I wasn't standing a little taller after walking out of their offices. WHAT AN AMAZING EXPERIENCE!!! The people who attended the conference ranged from students like me to providers with over forty years of experience. In my opinion, they were of the purest of pure with regards to patient advocacy. They were the type of people who would give the shirt off their own back in order to help someone they barely even know. This was truly a life changing experience. I am even more passionate about providing primary care than I was before. I will for sure be returning to the Capitol to do further work and am dedicated to the growth of the PA profession. The reason I was able to attend this wonderful conference was due to the CHA/PA program's funding and I will be eternally grateful for their

- Dr. Anthony Knowlton, DDS
- Dr. Peter Sonntag, DDS

Annette Schieber, Jill Lindeman, Dayna Hochevar, Valana Frohardt, Laura Smith, & Laura Kaningher



Comings and Goings

The 41st CHA/PA class celebrated their Convocation Ceremony on May 24th. It was a beautiful day and many friends and family gathered to commemorate this momentous event. School of Medicine Dean Dr. Richard Krugman, Pediatric Chair Dr. Stephen Daniels, and Interim Director Jonathan Bowser addressed the students as they reflected on their time as students and

generosity and thoughtfulness. This whole experience was a testament that I couldn't have chosen a better program and I couldn't have chosen a better profession.

Luke Swank, Class of 2014



Managed Care Lecture

I was interested in attending the managed care lecture on April 2 because I had previously completed a rotation at a Kaiser Permanente location. Until then, I was unfamiliar with Kaiser. During my rotation, I was able to see some of the benefits of managed care, but the lecture certainly helped confirm my thoughts. The three alumni seemed to really enjoy working in a

anticipated their future careers.

The Class of 2015 were welcomed to campus on May 31st and participated in their Matriculation Ceremony on June 4th. The class is represented by a variety of students, some of whom completed their undergraduate degrees within the last few years, while others have chosen a career change after years in the workforce. We have both Colorado residents and students from a range of states from Vermont to Texas to California to Alaska!



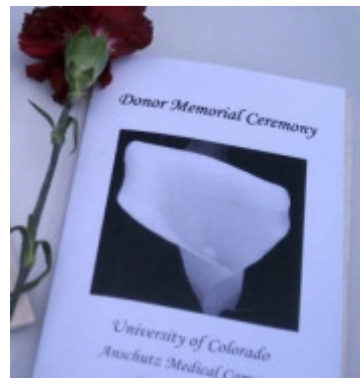
Class of 2015 Students

Reciting the Oath

managed care organization. All three had been employed for many years, confirming the job security at managed care organizations.

I was surprised to learn that many managed care providers forego laboratory testing until it is an absolute necessity in order to save money. This was a concern raised during the lecture. The faculty addressed this concern in addition to some of the protocol measures that they must follow as employees of Kaiser. They didn't seem to mind the protocols, but they used their best judgment when providing care for patients. Patients benefit from managed care in that they have the ability to move within the organization and determine which clinicians provide the best care for them as individuals. The quality of care offered by managed care organizations is an advantage as well.

Jenna Witte, Class of 2014



Donor Memorial Service

The annual Donor Memorial Ceremony was held in early May this year. This event proved to be a moving and emotional tribute for all involved. Many family members took the stage to reflect on their departed loved ones, and the common theme in these reflections was pride. Pride that their loved ones were able to make such a profound difference in our education and, consequently, the lives of our future patients. I spoke with several families after the ceremony, and all commented on how much the event meant to them. The smiles on their faces as they spoke of their loved ones revealed how pleased they were to be a part of this ceremony. For some, this was the only memorial service held for

their loved one, and the large student attendance reinforced the impact of body donation.

Andrew Henrichs, Class of 2014



Job Opportunities

Did you know that the CHA/PA program maintains a list of employment opportunities on the website? Under the Alumni Section, there is a [Job Opportunities webpage](#) that posts positions for two months. Additionally, there are links to PA Employment websites where numerous job opportunities can be found. All job



Health Profession Opportunity Day (HPOD)

CHA/PA students participated in Health Profession Opportunity Day (HPOD) offered through the Office of Diversity. HPOD is a pre-health profession seminar that is attended by students from over 300 diverse middle and high schools from



CH/PA on Facebook

"[Like](#)" us on [Facebook](#) to see photos of graduation and matriculation!



Apple IPAD Winner

postings can be sent to

[PA-
info@ucdenver.edu](mailto:PA-info@ucdenver.edu).

around the state.

Workshops, speakers,
and hands-on
activities provide an
in-depth look at
different health
professions.

Announced

Alumni who completed
the Graduate Survey
were entered to win an
Apple IPAD. Allyson
Allen, Class of 1989, is
the lucky recipient.
Congratulations,
Allyson!

Contact Information:

CHA/PA Program
Mail Stop F543
13001 E. 17th Place, Room E7019
Aurora, Colorado 80045

Phone: (303) 724-7963; Fax: (303) 724-1350

Email: PA-info@ucdenver.edu

Web: medschool.ucdenver.edu/paprogram

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday

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