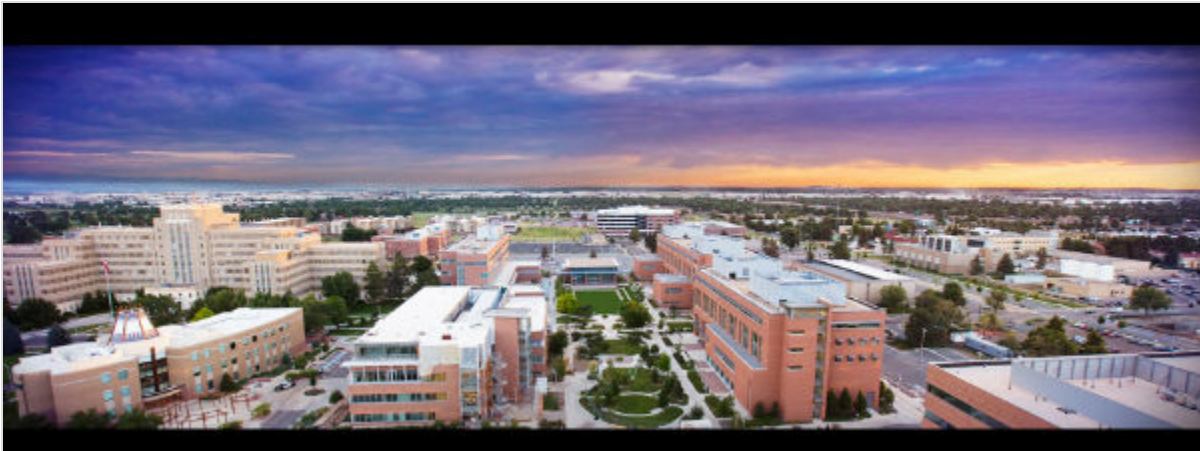


Current information about the CHA/PA Physician Assistant Program at the University of Colorado Denver.

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CHA/PA Newsletter

Read on to learn more about upcoming events, faculty and graduate accomplishments, scholarship recipients, and much more!



Save the Date!

October 4th, 2019 at CU South Denver in Lone Tree, Colorado-
Celebrate CHA/PA's 50th anniversary and connect with alumni, students, faculty, staff and colleagues from around the country. Formal invitation and details to follow soon!



Celebrating PA Week 2018!

National PA Week takes place each year on Oct. 6-12 to celebrate the profession and its contributions to the nation's health. Each year PAEA sponsors a photo challenge, and this is the CHA/PA submission for 2018. In addition to this photo submission, students participated

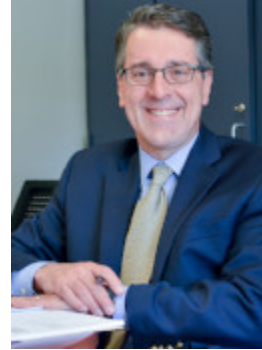


Spotlight on Alumni

An accomplished member of our CHA/PA alumni family, Stephanie Shea is a Physician Assistant currently working in Pediatric Neurology at the Children's Hospital Colorado Pediatric Neurofibromatosis Clinic as an Advanced Practice Provider (APP). Having been with the department for the past 8 years, her responsibilities span from the outpatient clinic and inpatient service to the procedure clinic for lumbar punctures (LPs). Her busy days are filled with administering intrathecal medications for spinal muscular atrophy as well as diagnostic LPs for pediatric patients. Having stepped into a leadership role at the clinic, she has also started to participate in outreach clinics on the Western Slope and some telemedicine as well.

Before attending PA school, Stephanie was always drawn to neuroscience and medicine. After studying Neuroscience and Behavioral Biology at Emory

in activities all week including crafting at Children's Hospital Colorado and a potluck lunch with students, faculty, and staff.



Congratulations, Jon!

At the latest PAEA Education Forum held in Anaheim, CA Oct. 24-27 Jon Bowser, Program Director, received the PAEA gavel as a symbol of new leadership. Jon is currently the President-Elect for the association and will officially be President on January 1st, 2019.



2018 Fall Reception- Recap!

On October 12th, 2018 the annual CHA/PA Fall Reception was held at the Wynkoop Brewing Company. Over 100 alumni and students

University, she struggled with which career path to pursue, but ultimately her love for medicine led her to the CHA/PA program and her current journey as a PA. And a journey it has been... In 2012 due to a bike accident, she suffered from several broken vertebra in her neck and back. Stephanie describes the experience as “a very challenging time that taught me a lot about myself and my network of support.” Fortunately, after taking a short-term disability leave of 6 months, she was able to return to work with a new perspective having been a patient on the other side of healthcare.

Drawing from this new perspective, Stephanie describes the most rewarding part of her work as a provider to be caring for patients. Her experience working with the research team for an intrathecal drug, Spinraza, to treat Spinal Muscular Atrophy has also given her a unique front row seat to see spectacular progress in her patients. Since the drug has been approved, she has enjoyed the privilege of having the ability to make a difference in the lives of pediatric patients and their families who previously had very limited options.

As the lead APP in Neurology, the legacy she hopes to leave behind

registered to attend and enjoyed an evening together to connect with classmates, preceptors, faculty, and staff. Jon Bowser, Program Director, also announced our plan to celebrate the program's 50th Anniversary on October 4th, 2019!



CHA/PA in the News

The CHA/PA Program & faculty has been honored with the distinction of being the very first Mental Health Outreach Grantee from the PA Health Foundation. This grant has funded the hard work by faculty members Tanya Fernandez and Rachel Byrne to create a well-researched, patient-centered brochure that PAs can give to patients who are receiving an opioid prescription.

One of our alumni, Sandy Hoops, was involved in the planning of a panel discussion on the Opioid Epidemic which took place on the evening of October 29 at the McAuliffe International School.

Faculty and staff members of the CHA/PA team were also involved in various presentations and panel

in medicine is through mentoring other APPs in her group and establishing a robust education and onboarding process for her fellow providers. By observing her personal experiences and continued motivation to provide the very best care for patients, the CHA/PA program takes pride in graduates such as Stephanie.



A Season of Community Service

For the 2018–2019 school year, Christine Schlais, Cassaundra Braaten, Alyssa Poland, and I have been working together on the community service committee of the CHA/PA Silver Society. We all wanted to get involved in community service to give back to the Denver community as well as provide opportunities for the CHA/PA program to have a presence in our community.

This semester we had the opportunity to volunteer at Children’s Hospital of Colorado (CHCO) and make Halloween crafts with the patients and their

discussions at the national PAEA Education Forum held in Anaheim, CA Oct. 24–27. Read about their activities below:

Kay Denler, BA, Director of Admissions & Program Systems gave a presentation and helped facilitate a focused discussion: Effective Interviewing Beyond the MMI Presentation:

PA programs use various interview formats to evaluate applicants. The Multiple Mini-Interviews model has become an increasingly popular interview strategy among PA programs, yet it also has its drawbacks. This presentation explored two group interview models, including the infrastructure used, the role of WebAdMIT, and the selection process.

Jacqueline Sivahop, MS, PA-C, Associate Program Director-Program Quality, Associate Professor of Pediatrics participated in the President's Address & Competencies Panel: Spotlight on Our Future; Core Competencies for New PA Graduates:

Envisioning the future of PA education through the leading question "What do new graduates need to know on day one of practice?" This panel discussed how new competencies developed by the PAEA task force might be

families. We are thankful to be a part of the many volunteers at CHCO and truly enjoy being a positive part of the patients' recovery. We feel that this experience is not only fun, but humbling as we learn from and interact with the patients and their families.

Another activity we did this semester was volunteer at The Food Bank of the Rockies. This is always an opportunity we look forward to as we get to volunteer with faculty from our program. This year we were able to package around 23,000 pounds of food for the local Denver community.

We also worked with the Diversity Committee to help put on a fundraiser during PA week. Together we designed and sold mugs with the CHA/PA logo on them to raise money toward Camp Wapiyapi, a camp for pediatric cancer patients and their families.

-Emily Campbell
CHA/PA Class of 2020



put to use.

Joyce Nieman, MHS, PA-C, Clinical Site Educator, Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Janice Baker, MHR, Clinical Coordinator participated in the Team-Based Approach to Clinical Education Panel Discussion:

A discussion that joined University of Colorado and Northeastern University who utilize multiple individuals on a clinical team to coordinate clinical education aspects of their programs. This panel aimed to raise awareness of the need for additional support in clinical coordination and provided opportunities for other programs to learn from their example.

Amy Akerman, MPAS, PA-C, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics participated in the Preceptor Recruitment Through State and Federal Policy Action Poster Presentation and Panel Discussion:

A discussion regarding recent state and federal policy enactments to tackle the problem regarding preceptor shortages. This panel engaged participants in a discussion regarding strategies to utilize these new policies.

Rachel Byrne, MS, PA-C, Clinical Instructor of Pediatrics participated in Transforming the Student Experience: Making

CHA/PA Alumni Honored with Award

1989 CHA/PA grad Naomi Miyazawa was recently awarded the Senior Instructor of Distinction Award from the CU Department of Pediatrics. She has been an instructor for the Department of Pediatrics for the past 25 years and is currently the Senior Instructor of the Pulmonary & Sleep Medicine Section. Naomi has specialized in pediatric asthma and allergy for nearly 30 years. Students who work with her learn how to evaluate complex patients with multiple food allergies, severe atopic dermatitis, and complex asthma, including all the psychosocial aspects of having a chronic illness.

She is honored to have received this award and feels humbled as she expressed the following: "I work with many other well deserving colleagues and feel that this award belongs to the many preceptors, mentors, and colleagues that have been a part of my training over the past years." Just as she feels she is the legacy of her teaching predecessors, she continues to pay it forward to her current students, patients, their families, and co-workers. Sharing what she knows with others so that they may go on to teach and educate as well is what she enjoys most about teaching and truly

Resilience a Priority Panel Discussion

Resiliency training to combat educational stress and its detrimental effect on student wellness and academic as-well as clinical performance was discussed by this panel. Attendees analyzed the curricula from four PA programs and engaged in various activities to discuss strategies for curricular implementation in PA programs.

Rachel Byrne, MS, PA-C, Clinical Instructor of Pediatrics also participated in the PAEA MAT Waiver Initiative Panel Discussion

A meeting of PA education minds regarding the initiative to get PA students trained in prescribing medication-assisted-therapy for patients with opioid addiction.

Amy Akerman, MPAS, PA-C, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Rachel Byrne, MS, PA-C, Clinical Instructor of Pediatrics presented the Increasing Student Confidence in Addressing Alcohol Use Through Alcoholics Anonymous Poster Presentation:

Excessive alcohol use is a significant cause of morbidity and mortality, and PAs play an essential role in screening and providing treatment. Our PA program introduced curricula using Alcoholics Anonymous to help our students become more

speaks to her character as a medical educator. The CHA/PA faculty and staff congratulate Naomi on receiving this award.



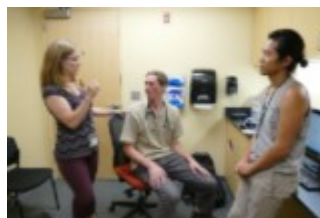
CME Opportunities

As a program we are committed to providing our preceptors with educational opportunities to expand their clinical knowledge as-well as their bedside teaching. We have created a calendar of Continuing Medical Education events on or from the Anschutz Medical campus that we felt would benefit our preceptors. Please follow [this](#) link to see the calendar!



Job Listings

Do you have a PA position to list with your practice? Email pa-info@ucdenver.edu to add a listing to our website. You can



Interested in precepting CHA/PA students?

Have you considered

comfortable with and knowledgeable about discussing alcohol misuse with their patients.



Follow us on Instagram!

The CHA/PA Program recently created an Instagram page run by students. [Follow us here](#) to get more information about student academic life, program events, alumni profiles, and more!



CHA/PA on Facebook

["Like" us on Facebook](#) to see what is new at

find [job listings](#) on the Alumni webpage.

precepting CHA/PA students? Find out about the advantages of training up our next generation of PA students and find contact information on the [Preceptor section of our website](#).

CHA/PA!

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Web: medschool.ucdenver.edu/paprogram

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

MOVING? NEW CONTACT INFORMATION? Please email the office at PA-Info@ucdenver.edu so that we can keep in touch with you!!



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