

**From:** CHA/PA Physician Assistant Program at The Univ of CO  
**To:** [Denler, Kay](#)  
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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 faculty achievements, upcoming events, unforgettable experiences, and much more!



### Serving the Underserved

We recently had a chance to speak with CHA/PA graduate and preceptor, Kelli Eisenbrown from the Class of 2013. Kelli is busy working at the Ardas Family Medicine clinic providing family medicine and urgent care services to refugees in Denver. At the clinic, she has the opportunity to see patients from several different countries, including: Nepal, Burma (Myanmar), Somalia, Iraq, DRC, Rwanda, Eritrea, Afghanistan, former Soviet/Eastern Europe, Ecuador, and many more. When we asked Kelli what



### Welcome, Kelsey!

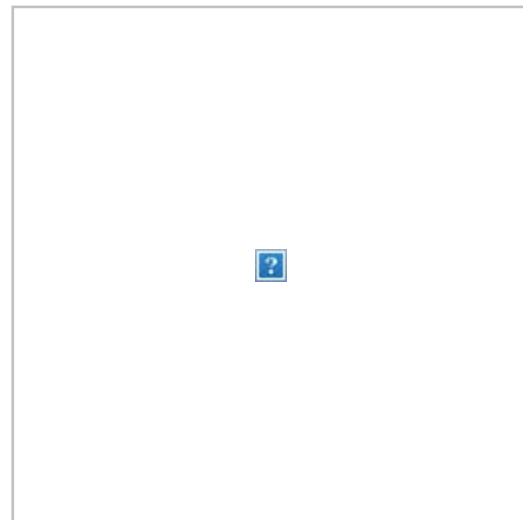
Kelsey Dougherty has joined the CHA/PA faculty as a full-time Clinical Instructor. Kelsey graduated from Yale School of Medicine's Physician Associate Program in 2011, and practiced for four years in Oncology/Bone Marrow Transplantation at the Dana Farber Institute in Boston, MA. While in Boston, she was involved with several PA programs, including Boston University and Northeastern University, where she served as both a preceptor and formal lecturer. She

prompted her to become a PA she had this to say: “I was on the University of Florida soccer team for 4 years in college, and after an injury, I thought I may want to be a physical therapist. A PA came to speak to my class about his research in spinal cord regeneration, and I began to research this amazing profession. When I learned about the role of a PA, I knew this is what I wanted as a career. The mixture of innovation, science, and helping others was always fascinating to me as a child. My mother teaches anatomy and physiology, introduction to healthcare, and CPR classes at a community college in Florida, and I frequently hung out in her classrooms as a child. These experiences probably led to my interest in healthcare at a young age and beyond. I can’t think of one specific defining moment, but more of a series of moments that led me to the PA profession.” Kelli’s passion for medical science, eagerness to help all those that she meets and personal experiences led her to working with an underserved population in Denver. While some days can be stressful, Kelli chooses to look at what small impacts she can make for her patients each day. “I am proud to have been able to work with amazing doctors, nurses, medical assistants, and support staff. Working with a great healthcare team creates an inviting and calming atmosphere for both patients and the providers. I really hope to continue to look for better ways to serve my community. Working in a refugee clinic, there is a

moved to Denver in 2015, and since then has worked in Infectious Disease at the University of Colorado Hospital, where she continues to practice part-time in the outpatient setting.

Kelsey is the Co-Director for the Gastrointestinal/Genitourinary/Renal and Musculoskeletal/Neurology blocks as part of the new Colorado Curriculum. She also works on the Clinical Skills course.

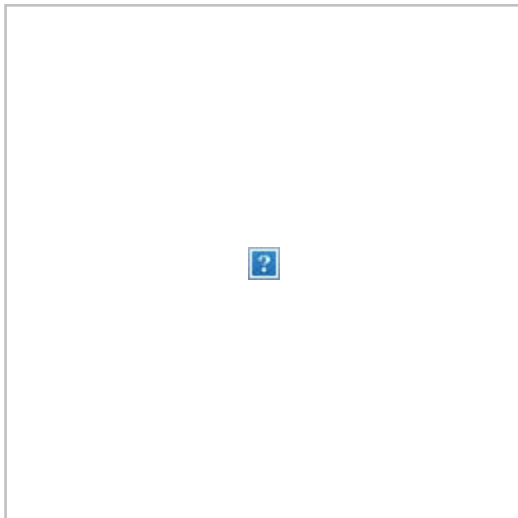
Kelsey is excited to have joined the faculty and is looking forward to bringing her professional and clinical experiences and skills to the CHA/PA program!



### Advocating for PA Education

For two days in February, I spent time learning about PAEA’s advisory and legislative agenda for 2018. I also spent time on Capitol Hill talking with legislative aides for Senator Gardner and Representative Coffman about PA education priorities. Congress is working to reauthorize the Higher Education Act (HEA) of 1965. The proposed reauthorization presents an opportunity to expand and improve

large need for basic health education and services as well as accessible healthcare. As a clinic, we are always striving to increase our network of medical and social services for our patients and help them navigate their new country.”



### CME Opportunity

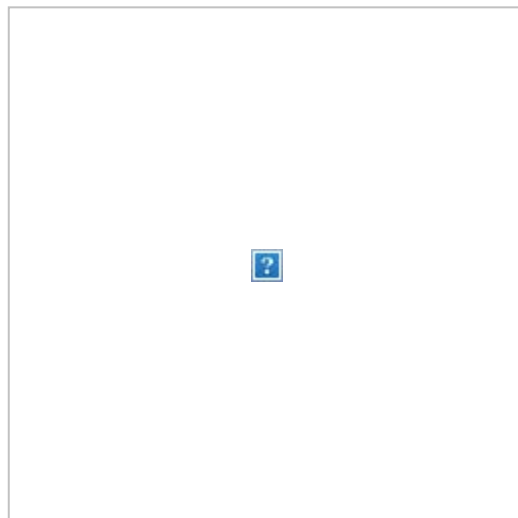
Advanced Practice: Leading Healthcare into the Future!

This inaugural full-day UCH Office of Advanced Practice CME professionalism conference is dynamically packed with:

- Keynote addresses from Jean Haynes, RN, UCH Health Chief Population Health Office and “Passion in Practice” with Kathleen Flarity, DNP, PhD, Research Nurse Scientist, University of Colorado Hospital
- career changing breakout sessions
- poster viewing; watch for a call for poster abstracts!
- robust panel discussion with

the Grad PLUS loan program and the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program. Both of these programs have been threatened this past year by the current administration, but we urged the legislators to vote to protect these vital options for students. We also met with a health care policy fellow with the minority office of the House Ways and Means Committee to discuss expanding the Quality Payment Program (QPP) for Medicare providers. One of the improvement activities under the Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) is to receive credit for precepting health professions students, including PA students. These activities are now available to rural practices, and we would like to see this expanded to urban, underserved practices as well. This program could help to incentivize practices to serve as clinical training sites and could help to alleviate the clinical training site shortage.

**Amy Akerman, PA-C**  
**CHA/PA Senior Instructor**  
**Academic Coordinator**



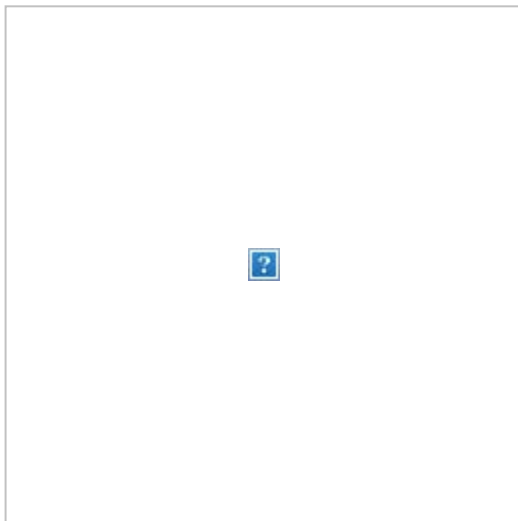
UCHealth, UCH, CU SOM, and  
CHCO leadership

- lively reception at the Hyatt!

*It is regional so invite your APP  
friends from around the area!*

Below is a postcard that you can pass  
along. Register NOW with this live  
registration link:

<http://www.cvent.com/d/0gqls3>



### **CAPA at the Capitol!**

This spring, PA students learned first hand how local rules and regulations are established at the annual Colorado Academy of Physician Assistants (CAPA) at the Capitol event. Students mingled with practicing PAs from across the state and gained insight over breakfast at the State Capitol. It was great see practicing PAs take time out of their schedules to advocate for our profession. CAPA contracts with Frontline Public Affairs who supply lobbyists that represent PAs here in Colorado. These lobbyists screen all pieces of legislation and personally speak to legislators on behalf of PAs

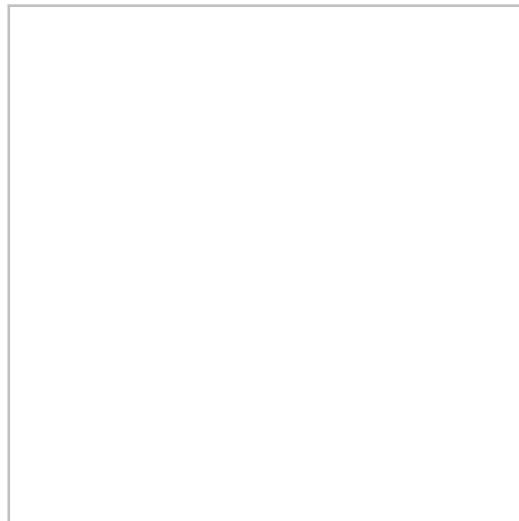
## **Leadership and Advocacy Summit**

Courtesy of the Leadership and Advocacy scholarship, five of the first year PA students were given the opportunity to travel to Washington D.C. to attend the American Academy of Physician Assistant (AAPA) Leadership and Advocacy Summit. On the first day of the conference, after a quick introduction on lobbying, we traveled to Capitol Hill to lobby for two bills specific to the PA profession. The two bills, if passed, will allow PAs to prescribe and manage home health care to Medicare patients and prescribe diabetic shoes to Medicare patients. We each had the opportunity to speak directly with the staff of our Colorado representatives and senators regarding the two bills. It was a great opportunity to be advocates for our profession! The remainder of the conference included lectures and panels that discussed topics such as “Advocacy and the New PA”, Medicaid, and tools for accelerating change.

**Kelly Hoose**  
**CHA/PA, 1st Year**

regarding our medical practice. We were very impressed with and grateful for their fluency in legislative matters! Rep. Yeulin Willett and Rep. Lois Landgraf took time out of their busy schedules to speak to our group. It was inspiring to hear them recognize the value we add to the health care system in Colorado, and see how devoted they are to making sure Coloradans receive the best health care possible. They both serve on health care committees in the House. Especially amidst the challenging academics of school, it was wonderful to hear government leaders recognizing the work PAs do and how much we care for our patients. Although CAPA did not sponsor a bill this year, the Government Affairs committee is already hard at work preparing for upcoming legislative issues for PAs in 2019. Next year is the sunset review for PAs. This will provide an opportunity to re-evaluate the regulations that govern how PAs can practice in Colorado. The hope is that CAPA can update these to reflect our current scope of practice and skill set while recognizing the unique challenges for PAs here in Colorado.

Karlie Nash  
CHA/PA, 1st Year



### Save the Date!

CHA/PA Alumni Fall Reception  
October 12, 2018  
Wynkoop Brewing Company



### Harvard Macy Institute

Recently faculty member, Kevin Bogart, MS, PA-C, gave his final presentation at the esteemed Harvard Macy Institute. Kevin was the recipient of a scholarship from the Gold Humanism Foundation which allowed him the opportunity to further his research on Healing our Healers: Building resilience to learner burnout in UME.



### Keep in Touch!

Have you moved recently? We'd love to update your address on file. From time-to-time we send event invitations via snail mail and we'd love to make sure you are on the list! You can submit or update your mailing information [here](#).



### Interested in Precepting CHA/PA students?

Have you considered 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 on Facebook

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

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

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