

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!



2018 Fall Reception

Join us Friday, October 12th from 6:00pm to 8:30pm at the Wynkoop Brewing Company for our annual Fall Reception hosted by the CHA/PA Alumni Association and the CHA/PA Program.

CHA/PA Alumni and guests: \$20 per person



Welcome, New Faculty and Staff!

Denise Ogden, Giselle Cabrero, and Tanzania Trout are the newest additions to our team. Learn about them below:

Denise Ogden, MA, PA-C, has recently joined the faculty at the University of Colorado CHA/PA Program as a Clinical Instructor. In her position with the program, she will serve as Co-Director for the

Preceptors, faculty, staff: Free!

Registration includes hors d'oeuvres and one drink ticket for an alcoholic or non-alcoholic beverage.

For more information and to RSVP please call the Office of Alumni Relations at 303.724.2518 or [Click Here!](#)



CHA/PA Faculty Organized Health fair

This summer, CHA/PA Faculty member Claudia Luna-Asturias, LGSW spearheaded the planning of the first occurrence of a local health fair at the Trifinio-Salud Clinic in Guatemala. The clinic is a partner of the University of Colorado as an optional global site for students' clinical rotations and welcomes the CHA/PA Program in one of their rotations every year. In preparation for these rotations, students are immersed in the Spanish language and attend cultural awareness workshops for two weeks to equip them with the

Endocrinology/ Reproductive and HEENT/ Dermatology blocks of the Colorado Curriculum. She will also participate in the Stages of Life Thread where she will have the opportunity to continue her strong interest in health promotion.

Denise was originally from Illinois but has lived in Colorado for the past 30 years. She graduated from the CHA/PA Program in 1996 and spent the next 22 years with Swedish Family Medicine Residency where she was a faculty member and practiced Family Medicine. In her free time, she enjoys travel, photography, gardening and cooking.

Giselle Cabrero comes to the University of Colorado CHA/PA Program staff as our new Didactic Coordinator. She will be working with staff and faculty to reach didactic goals and assist in planning program events. Giselle is a native of New York City, but has also lived in California and Arizona where she earned her Bachelor's degree in Psychology. She has varied work experience ranging from emergency room administration to hotel guest services. Volunteering is also important to her and in the past she has been involved in planning domestic violence prevention conferences. In her free time, she enjoys playing board games and trying new craft beers.

tools necessary to productively serve the Guatemalan community. Most of the locals surrounding the clinic are the impoverished families of workers on a nearby banana plantation (BANASA) and exclusively speak Spanish which are circumstances providers and students must navigate.

Funded by the Center for Global Health and other partners of the Trifinio Salud Clinic, the fair's purpose was to unite the community and empower local families to live healthier lives with the help of the Salud clinic. This goal emerged after the need for better access to medical services and health information was discovered by Claudia and her colleagues while working with adolescents and their leaders at local schools.

Regarded as a success, the fair met all its specific goals in service to the community which were providing health information on prevention & well-being, an open house to the clinic space, empowerment of adolescents as health promoters, and involvement of staff and CU students in educational activities. In order to meet these goals, the team confronted a number of obstacles which included advertisement and transportation difficulties. With the help of BANASA and their fleet of buses, Claudia and the planning

Tanzania Trout recently joined the CHA/PA staff as our new Administrative Assistant. Her duties include providing technical and administrative support to students, faculty, and staff as well as visitors to the program. She is a Colorado native, but recently spent a few years in Virginia where she graduated from Norfolk State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mass Communications. Tanzania spends the majority of her free time with her nose in a book and volunteering at various events in the community. She also enjoys exploring new activities, trying new types of foods and learning new facts.



Student Stethoscope Fund

Students in the CHA/PA program will use countless instruments throughout their education and medical careers. But the stethoscope is perhaps the greatest symbol of their commitment to the art and science of medicine.

team were able to spread the word and facilitate mass transit to the fair site ensuring outstanding attendance.

When asked what the most rewarding part of the entire process was, Claudia says she is most proud of “getting the adolescent leaders involved as organizers and running the activities as responsible youngsters.” The importance of youth involvement and empowerment in health education is important to her, and their role as ambassadors to future generations was undeniably enriched by the success of this fair.



A Rural Rotation Perspective

From the moment I was handed my own rectangle of fake skin and box of practice sutures, I was hooked. As a brand-new rural tracker, I was eager to learn more about rural medicine. We had several labs throughout the year in which we learned skills like how to tie vertical mattress sutures, apply

"We created the Student Stethoscope Program as a way for alumni and other CHA/PA supporters to invest directly in the medical education of our terrific students. We're excited to offer this opportunity for friends of the program to financially contribute to a tradition of welcoming incoming students with stethoscopes, and more broadly, to join in a community standing behind these future Physician Assistants."

– Jonathan Bowser, Program Director

If you are interested in donating a stethoscope to an incoming PA student please visit our [Alumni Association website](#).



Barbara A. Quarantillo Scholarship Recipient

The Barbara A. Quarantillo Scholarship is awarded to one physician assistant student each academic year to attend the annual Children's Hospital Colorado Pediatric Infectious Disease Conference (now in its 36th year)

fluorescein dye to check for corneal abrasions, or don a gown and gloves with sterile technique. I even watched one of my fellow rural trackers have a skin tag removed by radio frequency. The medical nerd in me loved all of these hands-on sessions.

What I didn't know was that I would also learn more about integrating into a tight-knit, rural community. From the beginning, the importance of community was clear. Our Director, Dr. Deutchman, invited everyone to his home for a welcome social and belt buckle-making. We attended events with rural-minded CSU veterinarian students to learn about how to collaborate in the future. We spent a week in Delta County in June for rural immersion, where we were warmly met by citizens eager to illustrate how they all contribute to a thriving rural community. All of these experiences helped solidify my desire to practice in a small town, and build more of these tight community bonds.

With the combination of skills training and focus on community, the rural track has made a huge impact on me as I continue to grow into a future PA. I can't wait to see what we learn next.

-Lindsey E Foster

in Vail, Colorado. Ms. Quarantillo was a dedicated PA in the Infectious Disease department at Children's Hospital Colorado and helped develop their renowned outpatient service. This scholarship is given by her family in her honor. I was awarded the 2018 scholarship as I rotated with the Pediatric Infectious Disease team in Spring 2017 as a first year PA student and will rotate with them again this winter as a third year student.

The conference speakers were experts in the field of pediatric infectious disease. My favorite lectures made me think critically and challenged my current understanding of the field. These topics included: "Diagnosing and Managing Congenital CMV, Neonatal Herpes, and Congenital Zika" by Dr. David Kimberlin, "Honing Your Spidey Sense: A Rational Approach to Infectious Disease Diagnostics" by Dr. Kevin Messacar, and "What's New with the Flu?" by Dr. Suchitra Rao.

As a third year PA student, I was excited to find that much of the information applies to my current rotations and will be helpful in my future career as a pediatric PA. Overall, the conference left me feeling motivated to continue my medical education outside of the classroom and clinic environment.

CHA/PA Class of 2020



Generosity through the Salud Book Drive

During the first week of class, first year students were encouraged to participate in a Book Drive to collect new or used children's books for Salud Family Health clinics who serve low income, underserved populations across the Denver Metro area. The books would be available in the clinics for children to read during appointments, but also provided to families to take home after their wellness exams.

When our class was first informed about the Book Drive, I started to think of ways that would be able to target the most amount of people in the shortest amount of time, but I had no idea that using Facebook Marketplace would be so effective. I posted a short blurb on each community page about the CHA/PA Book Drive and within minutes, I received hundreds of replies. The kindness and generosity of our community was overwhelming! So many people were willing to go out of their way

–Kelly Antolic
CHA/PA Class of 2021



Reflections on a Rotation in Guatemala

I had the amazing opportunity to travel down to Guatemala and spend a two-week rotation at the Trifinio Clinic. Many of the patients were from nearby communities or they worked at the local banana or palm oil plantations. Seeing the nurses and doctors care about their patients so much was inspiring, and they are so knowledgeable, patient, and helpful. Not only was I able to greatly improve my Spanish, I was able to see so many different patients and complaints.

I was given many opportunities to take a history and do a physical exam with patients on my own and also assist in many different procedures. I was even lucky enough to see a case of malaria in a 12-year-old boy. The clinic only had three cases of malaria last year, so it was a unique experience that I will treasure. It was amazing

to donate books, both new and used. Hundreds of different responses came through immediately, many of which were by teachers, alumni from our campus, parents with children who outgrew their books, book lovers, Salud supporters, etc. Although I was only able to collect from about 60 families across the Denver Metro Area, I collected between 2,000 and 3,000 books. Seeing how quickly others were so willing to donate, and with no hesitation, was inspiring.

It's so often that we focus on the bad things that happen in communities, but students were able to see how an accumulation of small deeds can accrue a huge amount of support. The magnitude of impact that a Book Drive can have on individuals, families, and communities deeply motivated first year students. By promoting community involvement within the first few weeks of the CHA/PA program, many students will take these memories with them as they enter clinical rotations, future employment and find more ways to give back to those who need it most, especially in their own community.

–Danielle Simon
CHA/PA Class of 2021



to see how the doctors navigated the visit in order to come up with their differential diagnosis since the boy only came in with chills, fever, and body aches. A great part about Trifinio is that there is a lab on site, so when they did a blood smear, I was able to see the parasite in the patient's red blood cells under the microscope. It was a great learning opportunity to see the whole visit from start to finish. Ultimately, the boy was sent to another clinic to receive free malaria medication. Guatemala is a beautiful country with beautiful people, and I can't wait to return!

–Allie Walkush
CHA/PA Class of 2020



Congratulating Our Graduates!

Congratulations and good luck to our most recent graduates whose convocation was on May 24th.

The 7th Annual Jules Amer Lectureship

On Friday, September 7th the 7th Annual Jules Amer Lectureship will be held at the Children's Hospital Colorado in the Mt. Oxford Auditorium from 12:30pm to 1:30pm.

The speaker will be Judith Shaw, EdD, MPH, RN, RAAP who is the Professor of Nursing and Pediatrics at the University of Vermont College of Medicine, Director of the National Improvement Partnership Network (NIPN) and the Executive Director of the Vermont Child Health Improvement Program (VCHIP). Come join us in understanding her perspective on how to advance population health for children in Colorado and the nation.



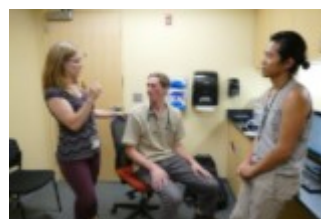
Welcome, Class of 2021!

A warm welcome to our newest class matriculated on July 2nd this year. The class of 2020 will be the first to receive their education at the CHA/PA program through the new Colorado Curriculum.



Job Listings

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



Interested in precepting CHA/PA students?



CHA/PA on Facebook

["Like" us on](#)

our website. You can find [job listings](#) on the Alumni webpage.

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](#).

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

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

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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