



CHA/PA Newsletter

Read on to learn about student clinical experiences this summer, class of 2026 White Coat Ceremony, CHA/PA guest lecturers, and recent faculty and student accomplishments. Also, don't forget to register for the CHA/PA Fall Alumni Reception using the link in the newsletter, by October 9, 2023!



CHA/PA Students get Clinical Experience at Diabetes Camp

CHA/PA students start their exposure to clinical rotations during the summer leading into their 2nd year of curriculum. This summer 7 of our students attended Colorado Diabetes (ADA) Camp from June 24th – June 30th at Silver Cliff Ranch in Nathrop, Colorado.

ADA Camp Colorado helps children



Class of 2026 White Coat Ceremony Recap

As you may know, on Monday, July 3rd we welcomed our 1st year students to the CHA/PA program. Faculty Members, Jacqueline (Jackie) Sivahop and Jonathan Bowser led students through the 7-week summer block including an Orientation and topics such as Basic Science, Dehydration, Pain, Skin Injury, Fever, Fatigue, and a bonus book discussion. After this comprehensive overview with related

with diabetes to develop the critical skills needed to thrive while managing this disease. Campers get to experience daily activities like swimming, kayaking, canoeing, volleyball, basketball, hiking, archery, arts and crafts, ropes course, and gaga ball combined with diabetes education. We asked our students to reflect on their experiences at diabetes camp and they shared about why they chose diabetes camp, what they learned and whether they would recommend the experience to 1st year students next summer. Here's what they said.

Why they chose diabetes camp:
Diabetes camp was a really cool opportunity to "live" with someone who has a chronic, high demand illness. So, I knew I would learn a lot about managing diabetes clinically, but also what management looks like for my patients every day, outside of clinic. I also love camping, so that was a perk. – "CHA/PA 2nd year student"

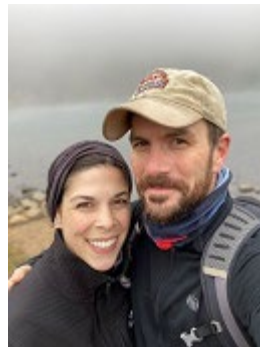
As a student, I felt like I had little to no knowledge of diabetes and how it affected our patient populations. Diabetes is a chronic condition that appears in every specialty of medicine, and I wanted to be able to have a better understanding of diabetes! Also, camp just sounded so fun! – "CHA/PA 2nd year student"

What they took-away from the experience.
I witnessed

assessments throughout the block, the class of 2026 received their White Coats in our annual White Coat Ceremony held on campus.

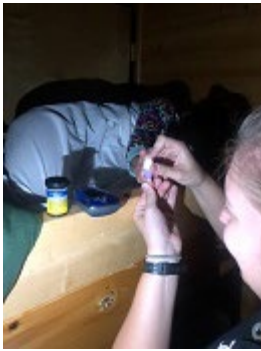


The Ceremony included a welcome by Jonathan Bowser, remarks by Dean John Reilly, MD and heartfelt remarks from faculty member, Amy Akerman before students received their white coats from their advisor. Amy encouraged students to continuously ask themselves, "What is your why?" She told them, "If you anchor yourself to your purpose, your 'why', you will find the strength to persevere through challenges and setbacks" they will certainly encounter. Jackie Sivahop closed the ceremony by having the entire class stand and show off their white coats to their family members and friends. Congratulations to the class of 2026 for officially completing your summer block!



Guest Lecture Spotlight: Meet Evan Bale

We are excited to introduce guest



campers find people that truly understood how annoying living with a chronic condition can be, and they also found how beautiful it could be to thrive despite their diagnosis and thrive together in newfound or ongoing community and connection. – "CHA/PA 2nd year student"

I realized it is hard for parents of diabetic kids to find people that they are confident enough to leave their kids with. With ADA camp, kids get the opportunity for summer camp, which they likely wouldn't get otherwise, and parents leave with peace of mind that with so many diabetes clinicians and other medically savvy staff that their kid is in the safest place for a fun time. – "CHA/PA 2nd year student"



Would you recommend this experience to the current 1st year students?

I absolutely recommend this experience to all the 1st year students. I now have such a great appreciation for all diabetics, especially type I diabetics. Living with a chronic condition is not easy,

lecturer, Evan Bale. Originally from the San Francisco Bay area and a graduate of George Washington University in Washington DC, Evan has been lecturing with CHA/PA since 2022. He is currently practicing at UC Health (AMC Campus) in Inpatient Orthopedic Surgery. He provides lecture topics on:

- Acute orthopedic etiologies of joint pain
- Chronic orthopedic etiologies of joint pain
- Introduction to casting/splinting
- Dyslipidemia
- Acute pain management
- Med-Sim on acute PE, DKA, MI
- Introduction to the head-to-toe physical exam

Evan's favorite thing about lecturing to our PA students is taking on the challenge of making difficult topics more understandable and engaging/interacting with the students.

On a personal note, Evan's favorite thing about Colorado is the parks including Crestmoor and Garden of the Gods. For fun, he loves to go out and eat Mexican food and watch Star Trek with his wife. We are so grateful for Evan's willingness to help educate our students as a guest lecturer and look forward to seeing him when he returns for the next block.

which is why many of them love diabetes camp. There was no better way to learn about diabetes than diabetes camp for me. – "CHA/PA 2nd year student"

Camp really made my heart grow a couple sizes, opened my interest to more areas of healthcare, and helped me empathize with those living with a chronic illness, which will help me as a person and a provider for the rest of my life. Plus, I made new friendships and connections that I plan to foster for a lifetime, which was the sweetest surprise. – "CHA/PA 2nd year student"



CHA/PA Student Awarded Society for Physician Assistants in Pediatrics Scholarship

For the 2nd year in a row, a CHA/PA Student has won the Society for Physician Assistants in Pediatrics (SPAP) student scholarship. Morgan Sulger, 2nd year CHA/PA student, was awarded the 2024 SPAP scholarship. We're sharing a little about Morgan so you can see why she was selected.

Morgan grew up in Chicago and moved to Colorado for college at Colorado College where she studied Molecular Biology and Global Health. Medicine was appealing to her because it's the optimal blend of hard sciences, human connection, listening and storytelling, and a constellation of problems to solve. And within medicine, the PA profession stood out to Morgan for its collaborative nature, lateral mobility, meaningful patient-provider relationships, and mission to make healthcare inclusive and accessible to everyone.

After college, Morgan accrued most of her patient care hours at an ambulatory pediatric clinic, where she fell in love with working with kids, so receiving the SPAP scholarship was the perfect



CHA/PA Faculty Features

In addition to facilitating blocks and educating CHA/PA Students, our Faculty are involved in additional professional and educational activities in the local and national healthcare community. This season, we are sharing the recent accomplishments of some of our CHA/PA Faculty members.

Faculty member, Denise Ogden, participated in the "7 Things

Distinguished Interprofessional Education (IPE) Lectures Series" by the Center for Oral Disease Prevention and Population Health Research (COPR). The lecture series brings together an oral health provider with another healthcare provider to present things they have seen in practice that each want the other profession to know. The lecture focused on pediatric primary and dental care and was presented by Dr. Katherine Chin (Department of Pediatric Dentistry, Children's Hospital Colorado) and our very own, Denise Ogden.

Faculty Members, Kelsey Dougherty, Kate LaPorte, and Denise Ogden were part of a panel of clinicians from leading US medical centers that contributed to the release of the New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM) Knowledge+ PA Board Review — a new, personalized learning tool that prepares physician assistants for their certification exam. As PAs who are both educators and active clinicians, they have reviewed, selected and approved the question bank content in the NEJM Knowledge+ PA Board Review which will ultimately help PAs approach their board exams with confidence. This question bank includes:

- More than 2100 case-based questions aligned with the exam blueprints for PANCE and PANRE
- Adaptive learning technology for a personalized experience
- Two timed practice exams
- *225 AAPA Category 1 Self-Assessment CME credits*

match. The Society for Physician Assistant in Pediatrics is an academic and professional organization for students and clinicians interested in pediatric medicine. Each year, one student is selected for the SPAP Student Scholarship for their love of working with children, passion for pediatric healthcare, and dedication to join and become an advocate and leader within the field of pediatric medicine.

This upcoming year Morgan will continue her longitudinal rotation in the PICU as part of the PCACLE track. She is incredibly grateful to be recognized by SPAP for her interest and dedication to the field of pediatric medicine and looks forward to joining this community of pediatric PAs in her future!



You are Invited

CHA/PA Alumni, you are invited to the University of Colorado Child Health Associate/Physician Assistant Program

Four end-of-rotation exams (internal medicine, family medicine, pediatrics, and emergency medicine)

We are proud that CHA/PA faculty played a pivotal role in a project that will impact the PA field in such a positive manner.

And finally, Faculty Member Roberta Knott is one of 10 PAs that will be providing a pre-recorded lecture for attendees of the 2023 Society PAs in Pediatrics to watch in their own time at the 2023 CME Conference to be held in early October. Roberta's lecture is titled, "Don't Panic, A Primary Care Approach to Pediatric Anxiety." If you are attending SPAP this fall, plan to listen to this timely lecture.



Alumni Spotlight + New Faculty Member Welcome

This month's Alumni Spotlight is also a faculty member welcome showcasing CHA/PA Alumni, Rachel Hess, class of 2001. Rachel is CHA/PA's newest faculty member and we're excited to share more about her. Rachel grew up in Chicago and came to Colorado for undergraduate at Colorado College. After graduation, she remained in Colorado, until she figured out she was supposed to work in medicine.

and the CHA/PA Alumni Association's 2023 CHA/PA Fall Reception:

Friday, October 20th, 6 – 8:30 pm

Wynkoop Brewing Company
The Mercantile Room
1634 18th St. Denver, CO 80202

Register here:

<https://web.cvent.com/event/f9c22f07-9f21-49fe-8cf6-1a7294a35847/regProcessStep1>

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

Deadline to register is Monday, October 9, 2023

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



Two New Publications from CHA/PA Faculty Member

We are proud to share that Faculty Member, Jacqueline (Jackie) Sivahop, EdD, MS, PA-C, in collaboration, with

After completing her science pre-requisites, Rachel was accepted to the CHA/PA program in 1998 and joined the same cohort as Jonathan Bowser and Roberta Knott.

Rachel worked in family practice for 22 years, broadening out to community health in 2014. She served patients from cradle-to-grave, did OB/GYN care, outpatient, inpatient, home visits and outreach clinics. She loves working with underserved populations in community health and everything about medical practice. Rachel also realized that to be an effective provider, it's vital to connect with patients, learn about their circumstances and barriers to care, and work with them to formulate health plans that merge patient priorities and best practices.

Serving as a preceptor for PA, NP, and 3rd and 4th year medical students, helped her realize that she loved working with learners because it re-kindled her love for the art and science of medical practice through their eyes. In 2023, she took the next step and applied to teach at the CHA/PA program that had prepared her so well for her long and happy career.

Rachel will be co-directing the GGR block and directing Endo/Repro. She is very excited to learn the craft of medical education from the faculty and the students and looks forward to sharing her clinical knowledge and experiential pearls to help CHA/PA students become the competent, confident, and compassionate PAs of the future.

other experts, has recently had a book review and an article published that help further Physician Assistant education.

The book "Super Courses: The Future of Teaching and Learning" was described by Jackie and her colleague as an exploration of strategies that PA educators could use to help students maximize their learning during their training. The book review can be found at the following link:

[Journal of Physician Assistant Education](#)

In addition to the book review, Jackie co-authored an article titled, "[Creating a Guiding Light: Building a Custom Map to Inform Curriculum Design.](#)" The article summarizes the importance of maps in facilitating a venue to collect, assess, and report on curricular data. And to help ensure that a curriculum meets its educational goals for timing, depth, and overall content. If you are interested in learning more about improving Physician Assistant education, we encourage you to check out these publications.

In her personal life, Rachel is married to a great guy and has 2 amazing kids – Sophie (21) going to college and Thoren (16) in high school. She loves to travel, hike, rock-climb and ski. She also does a lot of cooking and knitting, usually while listening to some nerdy-science podcast. Please welcome Rachel to CHA/PA.



Welcome New Staff Member!

Bethany Coulter (she/her) joined the CHA/PA team in August 2023 as the Business & Operations Manager leading the Admissions process and program operations. Bethany grew up in Atlanta, GA, and stayed in state for her Bachelor of Arts degree in Spanish from Agnes Scott College. Soon after, she enlisted in the United States Navy as a Nuclear Electrician's Mate and served the majority of her 6-year contract stationed onboard CVN-72 USS Abraham Lincoln. Returning to civilian life, she earned a Master's Degree in Business Administration at Belmont University in Nashville, TN. After graduation, she worked for two years as the Regional Operations Manager for a New

Mexico nonprofit. Bethany loves traveling, all things food related, and exploring the Colorado countryside with her husband and friends.



Have an Idea for our Newsletter?

We love to hear from our alumni that are doing unique things in the PA field. If you are interested in being a part of a future alumni spotlight in our newsletter, please email pa-info@ucdenver.edu and we will follow-up with you.



Interested in precepting CHA/PA students?

There are so many advantages to training our next generation of PA students. If you are considering being a preceptor to CHA/PA students check out this area of our website [Preceptor section](#) and contact us today!



Job Listings!

Do you know that we have an active job listings page on our website? If you are looking for a new opportunity, you can find [job listings](#) on the Alumni webpage.

If you have an open PA position in your practice, we are happy to post the listing to our website. Email pa-info@ucdenver.edu to add a listing to our website.

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Web: <https://medschool.cuanschutz.edu/physician-assistant-program>

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