

PAUL AMBROSE SCHOLARS PROGRAM

2013

PARTICIPANT DIRECTORY

PAUL AMBROSE
SCHOLARS
PROGRAM



JUNE 20–23, 2013

WASHINGTON, DC



Chidiogo Anyigbo

Institute: Emory University
Discipline: Allopathic Medicine
Email: canyigb@emory.edu

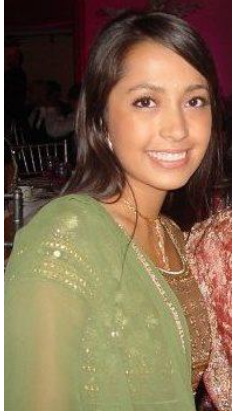
Everyone except my family elders calls me Diogo. I am a rising 4th year medical student who constantly breaks out in song and dance because I can't help how great good makes you feel! I'm from Houston (via Nigeria), my family moved to the States when I was 8 years old. Atlanta and Emory University have been my home since college. As I an undergraduate, I majored in Neuroscience & Behavioral Biology and as a medical student, I have been fortunate to be surrounded by great people who've encouraged and guided me. For my PASP project, I hope to organize interdisciplinary bilingual educational workshops for pediatric patients and their patients to learn and put to practice techniques to improve their overall nutrition and level of physical activity.



Jeffrey Bonnaud

Institute: Quinnipiac University
Discipline: Physician Assistant
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Originally from Southern California, I received my B.A. in Psychology at UCLA at that time I found my desire drawing me towards medicine and continued my education at Harvard University fulfilling my premedical requirements. I then worked in Pediatric Cardiology and Nephrology at the Floating Hospital for Children at Tufts Medical Center in Boston for two years where I was able to obtain practical experience in the medical field. I am currently a merit scholar at Quinnipiac University's Physician Assistant Graduate Program in the school of Health Science. I have a strong passion for traveling and this year was able to extend that into a medical service trip to the Dominican Republic. During the warmer months you can often find me by the beach, hiking a mountain, or on my bike. My project is focusing on sexual education, prevention, vaccinations, and access to care and counseling aimed at the undergraduates.



Anisha Bhatia

Institute: Northeast Ohio Medical University

Discipline: Allopathic Medicine

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I was born and raised in Northeastern Ohio where I completed my undergraduate training at Kent State University as a part of an accelerated BS/MD track. I am now completing my 3rd year of medical school at Northeast Ohio Medical University (formerly NEOUCOM). My proposed project aims to implement a streamlined, culturally-competent delivery of diabetes education for Nepalese refugees residing in Akron, Ohio, with emphasis placed on reframing the diabetic diet within Nepalese cultural norms. The goal of this program is to educate patients on transitioning to a low carbohydrate diet through cooking workshops that highlight the importance of portion control and healthier eating options within the Nepalese diet. Outside of school, I love being outdoors and am an avid animal lover, especially dogs. I also really enjoy fixing puzzles and creating crafty projects. I'd like to think I get by with a little help from my friends and family.



Richard Bottner

Institute: Quinnipiac University

Discipline: Physician Assistant

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In 2003, I embarked on a personal journey to lose 130 pounds. This experience, coupled with volunteer experiences as an EMT, opened my eyes to my true passions of medicine and patient care. My project is to expand the delivery of the Nutrition Detectives program, a curriculum designed to raise awareness of proper nutrition in school-age children while placing focus on overall preventative care. I started my first business as a wedding DJ when I was 15 years old. Over the next ten years, I started several companies and graduated from Babson College with a degree in entrepreneurship. Most recently, I founded Intern Bridge, a human resources consulting firm responsible for landmark research relating to proper and ethical treatment of college interns. I traveled the nation for two years after publishing a book, meeting with thousands of corporate executives and higher education representatives. I entered the Quinnipiac PA program with a goal of using my entrepreneurial background in a new kind of startup – the modern delivery of primary care, specifically, the obesity epidemic.



Joshua Brown

Institute: University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

Discipline: Doctor of Pharmacy

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I come from a small town in western Arkansas and graduated from the University of Arkansas with a degree in Biophysical Chemistry - yikes! I am entering my last year of pharmacy school and also wrapping up a masters in Pharmacoeconomics. My project will utilize media outlets, like a morning news program, to advertise a student led service. This service will provide people access to pharmacy students who will review a person's medication profile, provide Medicare Part D plan information, and hopefully save folks some money. Participating in smaller programs with a similar goal, I've seen people save anywhere from \$4000 (wow) to \$11 a year - which is surprisingly important to people with fixed incomes and can have a drastic effect on their access to healthcare. For "fun", I participate in ultra-running events anywhere between 31 and 100 miles and make it a point to otherwise emulate my cat's lifestyle as much as possible.



Sara Bunyaratapan

Institute: Drexel University

Discipline: Physician Assistant

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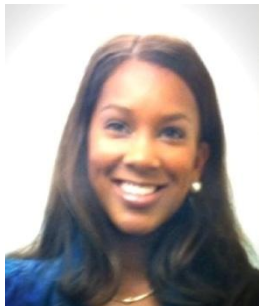
I grew up in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where I also completed my undergraduate education in Psychology at the University of Pittsburgh. Before graduate school I worked in mental health care and then taught English in Thailand. Currently, I am in the Physician Assistant program at Drexel University in Philadelphia, Pa. For my PASP project, I plan to develop and implement a program that promotes the use of routine adolescent depression screening in primary care settings. I will also create and distribute a packet of resources to assist health care providers in educating and referring patients to specialized treatment if they screen positive. By empowering providers to screen, I hope that more teens can receive early diagnosis and treatment, thus improving their quality of life and reducing the risk of substance abuse, impairment, mental and chronic illness, and suicide. I enjoy working with children and in my spare time I love travelling, cooking, yoga, outdoor activities, watching Pittsburgh sports, and spending time with my family and friends.



Stephanie Burke

Institute: University of Michigan
Discipline: Doctor of Pharmacy
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I grew up in Ann Arbor, Michigan where I am currently a pharmacy student at the University of Michigan. I also have a B.S. in Pharmaceutical Sciences and minor in Human Nutrition from The Ohio State University. When I am not studying, I enjoy coffee dates with friends, baking new recipes, and exploring downtown eateries, and my newest hobby is boxing. My PASP project will focus on engaging young girls in the topics of nutrition, physical activity, and obesity in the context of peer and social pressures, perceived societal standards, body image, and other stressors often facing this population. To help me develop and implement this project, I will be collaborating with a local organization, Project Healthy Schools, and students from kinesiology, social work, and public health.



Jade Burns

Institute: University of Michigan
Discipline: Graduate Nursing
Email: curryj@umich.edu

Jade Burns, has undergraduate and graduate degrees in nursing from the University of Michigan and the University of Pennsylvania. As a PhD student her research interests include parent-adolescent sex communication among African American adolescent males and their fathers and the use of social media as a mode to increase communication. Jade has 8 years plus experience working with youth ages 0-21 in a variety of clinical and academic settings ranging from the emergency room to Detroit public schools. Her area of expertise as a pediatric nurse practitioner is health promotion, and STI prevention. Jade is active in many organizations which include SEXPERTEAM, a diverse group of U of M students who educate campus communities about various aspects of sexuality through theater, games, and other activities. PASP Project: Focus groups with African adolescent males to identify if the use of mobile apps will help increase father-son communication about sex. Hobbies: running, coaching cheerleading and watching reality TV!



Lisa Chan

Institute: Worcester State University

Discipline: Graduate Nursing

Email: lchan@worchester.edu

Hi Everyone! I currently work as a maternity nurse at UMASS Memorial Hospital in Worcester and attend Worcester State University's Master of Science-Community and Public Health Nursing Program. What drives me is my mission to educate others on ways to reduce exposures of environmental and chemical toxins that may adversely affect health. My efforts so far have focused on helping small groups of individuals understand the connection between daily exposures of chemicals in consumer products and health. The project that I plan to develop as a Paul Ambrose Scholar is an environmental health literacy workshop for nurses and students who have the opportunity to not only apply the information to their personal lives, but also have the ability to translate new information into nursing practice and patient care, which creates a ripple effect outward into the community. My interests include journaling, hiking, organic gardening, and road trips with my kids.



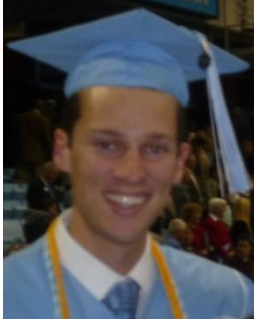
Keren Etzion

Institute: Stony Brook School of Dental Medicine

Discipline: Dentistry

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Born and raised in New York, I am now pursuing dental education at Stony Brook School of Dental Medicine. With a love for travel and a strong interest in expanding access to care for underserved populations, I have spent time volunteering with medical teams in developing countries (most recently, Ethiopia, Madagascar and Haiti). I am the current president of Stony Brook's chapter of the American Student Dental Association and the student representative to the New York State Dental Foundation. When not in school, I work on a health-related nonprofit organization I helped co-found, try new restaurants around NYC and spend quality time with friends. I also enjoy hiking, skiing and meeting new people! My project will attempt to develop a cross-disciplinary collaboration between pediatric dentists and other health care providers to utilize regular dental visits in the screening and prevention of childhood obesity.



Thomas Golden

Institute: University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey

Discipline: Allopathic Medicine

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New Jersey will always be my home, but after spending my undergraduate years in Chapel Hill at UNC, North Carolina has become a home away from home. I have returned to New Jersey to attend Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, and I have greatly enjoyed my first year and all the opportunities to promote healthy lifestyle practices in my community. In addition to medical school, I enjoy reading (Hemingway, Steinbeck, and Twain as my favorite authors), writing, and spending summers on the Jersey Shore. For my Paul Ambrose Scholars Program project, I plan to implement a diabetes education program at East Jersey State Prison for inmates. I am very excited to begin, and I hope to educate and promote practices that will help inmates either control diabetes or prevent its onset.



Jenna Gourlay

Institute: University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey

Discipline: Doctor of Physical Therapy

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I was born and raised in Northern NJ and am currently working on my Doctorate of Physical Therapy at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. After graduating from The College of New Jersey, I taught Health and Physical Education before returning to graduate school. Over my two years as a physical therapy student I have become involved in the community participatory clinic. My PASP project will expand the clinic to further address specialized populations and make physical therapy more accessible to the underserved population of Newark, NJ. I will design group exercise classes to focus on preventing the impairments and functional limitations associated with chronic stroke. Outside of academia, I love staying active, I can watch "Remember the Titans" repeatedly and never get sick of it, I cannot dance, but always try, and I am overly competitive at board games.



Peggy Groeneveld

Institute: Creighton University

Discipline: Doctor of Pharmacy

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My undergraduate degree twenty-five years ago was in meteorology. After working in Antarctica and other cool locations, I spent seventeen wonderful years as a stay-at-home mom. I am now seizing the opportunity to begin a second career in pharmacy and follow my desire to increase health access for underserved populations. I currently live in the upper peninsula of Michigan and am in my 2nd year in Creighton University's Distance Pharmacy program. For my PASP project, I will partner with existing resources in my community to expand awareness of the health risks of hypertension and to facilitate successful treatment of hypertension. By increasing the visibility of existing community resources and by facilitating a hypertension healthy lifestyle support group, I hope to decrease untreated hypertension and its associated morbidity and mortality in my community.



Sterling Haring

Institute: Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine

Discipline: Osteopathic Medicine

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Growing up all over the US, and having the opportunity to live in both Haiti and Russia, has given me an appreciation for public health efforts both here and abroad. Before and during college, I fostered my nerdy side by working as a genetic researcher for three universities, the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, and the USDA. After completing a BA in Russian at Brigham Young University, I worked in addiction and mental health before enrolling in medical school. My beautiful wife and adorable little boy help keep me motivated, and I spend as much time as I can with them. My project will be focused on a problem I dealt with as an addiction counselor and administrator: how to inform the public about existing public health programs in their community. Working together with community partners, I will establish a searchable database of healthcare services in New York and nationwide.



Laura Hart

Institute: University of Washington

Discipline: Doctor of Pharmacy

Email: LHart2@uw.edu

I grew up in Olympia, Washington and then completed my undergraduate training at the University of Washington. I am currently a PharmD student at the University of Washington School of Pharmacy. I have a strong interest in community outreach involving public health, senior care, and interprofessional efforts. I enjoy spending free time with friends and family, listening to and playing music, and exploring Seattle. My PASP project will take place at a local clinic and focus on Healthy People 2020 Leading Health Indicator D-5.1: Reduce the proportion of persons with diabetes with an A1c value greater than 9%. For patients at the clinic with an A1c value greater than 9%, I will develop and lead a series of educational sessions that address ways to incorporate lifestyle modifications and more effectively improve glycemic control. Each patient will also have the opportunity to schedule individual appointments to discuss a personalized management plan.



Elyse Hayes

Institute: University of North Carolina

Discipline: Dentistry

Email: elysesmithhayes@gmail.com

I am a 2nd year dental student at the UNC School of Dentistry. I graduated in 2010 from NC State University with a B.S. in Nutrition Science. Despite attending the home of the Tarheels, I am still an avid Wolfpack fan and enjoy trash-talking to my classmates prior to UNC vs. NCSU games. Unfortunately, that doesn't always end in my favor. I am also a huge Harry Potter fan and enjoy spending my free time with my husband and two dogs. For my project, I am working with a dental school classmate to provide oral hygiene instruction (OHI) to patients at a free health clinic run by UNC medical students. We will provide general OHI to all patients in the waiting room and individualized OHI to patients in their exam rooms, customized based upon their systemic conditions. We will also be providing fluoride therapy to patients and working with UNC medical and public health students in an interdisciplinary approach to educating our patients and each other.



Kayla Humenansky

Institute: Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine

Discipline: Osteopathic Medicine

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I grew up in Akron, Ohio. I received my undergraduate degree in microbiology and Spanish from The Ohio State University. I currently live in South Carolina and attend Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine. I enjoy experiencing Latin American culture through immersion programs and volunteer opportunities. I also have a passion for hiking in North Carolina's beautiful mountains and wake boarding during South Carolina's sizzling summers. For my PASP project, I plan to host a health fair in an underserved Hispanic community near my college. I hope to provide the community with access to basic disease screenings they may not receive otherwise, as well as education about the importance of screening tests and disease prevention. My goal is to improve the overall health of the community by improving disease awareness.



Eric Jung

Institute: Penn State University

Discipline: Allopathic Medicine

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I am currently a first year medical student at Penn State College of Medicine. Despite living in "The Sweetest Place on Earth," I believe the Wilbur Bud to be superior in every respect to the Hershey's Kiss. A native Southern Californian, I completed my undergraduate education at Stanford University. My love of Stanford Football, Vin Scully, and Oakland A's baseball, is rivaled only by my fondness for well-crafted beer and witticisms. I also enjoy local food, live performances, and Labrador Retrievers. In an effort to minimize cultural and socioeconomic barriers to healthy behaviors, my PASP project tailors nutritional recommendations and food guides to reflect the diversity of the individual in these capacities. Further, I propose a recipe database categorized according to specific health conditions as well as considerations such as food availability, distance, and cost that will facilitate adherence to the recommendations outlined in the aforementioned nutritional guides. Finally, I hope to engage in advocacy efforts to bring greater attention to food deserts in both rural and urban underserved areas.



Lauren Kelly

Institute: Boston University School of Medicine

Discipline: Allopathic Medicine

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I received a BS in microbiology and minor in Spanish from the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia. There I grew fond of learning the world through language and culture. I pioneered a service learning experience in Tanzania, studied abroad in Buenos Aires and taught English as a Second Language to Hispanic day laborers in Athens. I also worked in a lab studying malaria during pregnancy which ignited my interest in global population health. Now I am a 4th year medical student at the Boston University School of Medicine with continued interest in infectious diseases. At the end of 2012, I spent three months in Brazil evaluating patterns of tuberculosis transmission. My project involves hosting a multidisciplinary health fair for a community of Spanish-speaking elders in greater Boston. Interests include travel, biking, attempting new recipes, staying in good touch with family and friends, reading Barbara Kingsolver and eating ice cream. I still have no idea what I really want to do with my life but I know keeping passion alive is key!



Numan Khan

Institute: Baylor College of Medicine

Discipline: Allopathic Medicine

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I'm from Fort Worth, Tx where I attended Texas Christian University and received a B.S. in Biology. I am currently a medical student at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Tx. For my PASP project I plan to supplement music education at a Houston middle school through an after school choir program. The students will learn choral pieces through weekly rehearsals that will also provide a platform for medical students to come discuss topics about health, nutrition, and careers in the sciences. This medical student-run program will culminate in the choir performing for their families and community. The aim is to provide a healthy and artistic outlet for underserved students while providing mentorship in wellness and academics. In my free time I love to have jam sessions with friends to keep up my own love of music. Otherwise I'm probably watching something on Netflix with my cat Jupiter.



Jessa Koch

Institute: University of Pittsburgh
Discipline: Doctor of Pharmacy
Email: koch.jessa@verizon.net

I grew up in the Pittsburgh area and currently attend the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy. Time has gone so quickly that it is hard to believe that this is my last year of pharmacy school. Some of my free time is spent as a pharmacy intern job at a local hospital. When I am not working, I dedicate a lot of my time volunteering at a local free-clinic and at a rehab center for homeless men with substance use disorder. My PASP is a continuation of a project that I have been leading at the rehab center, which is a smoking cessation program. I want to expand my current one-on-one sessions with the men interested in quitting smoking into a combination of one-on-one sessions as well as group sessions to aid in the quit process. I am looking forward to all that is in store for this next year.



Michael Lamb

Institute: Lipscomb University
Discipline: Doctor of Pharmacy
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I am from Murfreesboro, TN where I earned my bachelor degree in Biochemistry at Middle Tennessee State University. I am currently a second year (about to be third!) pharmacy student at Lipscomb University. I have, throughout my college experience, had an interest in public health and the intersection with my chosen profession of pharmacy. For my PASP project, I intend to help tackle the growing obesity problem in the Metropolitan Nashville area by starting with families at home. I am planning a series of educational health "carnivals" for school children and their families utilizing a multidisciplinary team with representatives from each discipline in the Lipscomb University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. Through this effort, I hope to empower families of the community about making wise food and exercise choices. When I am not studying I enjoy reading (non-school related books), playing the cello and spending time with friends.



Matthew Lassen

Institute: James Madison University

Discipline: Physician Assistant

Email: lassenmg@gmail.com

Originally from Walla Walla, WA, I came to Virginia to complete a Ph.D. in Microbiology from the University of Virginia. After working in medical laboratory research for many years, I entered the Physician Assistant's program at James Madison University with a desire to work directly with patients. I enjoy spending time with my wife and seven children, running and working out, hiking, mountain biking, and sports. For my project, I will work with local free clinics to develop an educational program targeted at increasing public awareness of the benefits of lifestyle changes, including regular physical activity and weight loss, in preventing and/or delaying the onset of type 2 diabetes and heart disease.



Eva Levbarg

Institute: Western University of Health Sciences

Discipline: Doctor of Pharmacy

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I grew up in a working class family in a small village in Taiwan, and although my parents had to leave school early to support their families, they always did everything they could to help me and my sisters succeed academically. It is an important personal goal that I make them proud of me. In 2006, my husband and I traveled through Southeast Asia. We witnessed the lack of availability of drugs to citizens of these poor countries, but also noticed that excellent medical services are available to wealthy foreign tourists. This inherent unfairness has driven my interest in public health. My PASP micro-grant will be used to promote free HIV testing through mobile clinics at health events in under served communities. I will develop Spanish flyers that showcase available resources. Student clubs will distribute them at community centers, health fairs and outreach events. Lastly, I will create an interprofessional workshop to educate students from all nine health profession colleges at my school, Western University of Health Sciences.



Jaganmohan Maturi

Institute: University of Houston

Discipline: Doctor of Pharmacy

Email: jmaturi@uh.edu

I am a proud Texan currently studying Pharmacy at the University of Houston. I am obsessed with physical fitness, nutrition (including cooking!) and emphasizing the benefits of exercise. My project will work on improving college students' lives by the means of implementing frequent exercise alongside dietary modifications with scrumptious culinary advice. Yes, we can all bring those healthy pictures on Pinterest to real life! Outside of the world of academia, I am a professional model, realtor, and police officer. I love traveling, especially to sub-Saharan Africa, because of the opportunity to meet new people and share stories. I aspire to conduct research on malaria and join the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's fight to eradicate the parasitic infection disease.



Shawn Mazur

Institute: Regis University

Discipline: Doctor of Pharmacy

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I am originally from Atlanta, Georgia and I am a southern boy at heart. I completed my undergraduate training in Biology at Saint Louis University. Go Billikens! I now attend Regis University as a pharmacy student and I work and do research in a hospital setting. For my PASP project I plan on implementing a campaign targeted at HIV positive individuals in order to raise awareness on the importance of having an undetectable viral load. I will be working with an HIV organization in the Denver area in order to launch a website and hold educational forums where pharmacists and pharmacy students can interact with HIV positive patients and answer any questions and address any concerns they may have regarding their HIV therapies. In my spare time I love to read. I particularly am fascinated with British literature and history. I also enjoy staying active and find running and working out to be therapeutic and a huge stress reliever.



Claire Millman

Institute: University of South Florida
Discipline: Doctor of Physical Therapy
Email: cmillman@health.usf.edu

I'm from Edwardsville, IL (just outside of St. Louis). I'm an ADPi Sister and graduated from the University of Memphis with an International Business Degree. I'm currently a Doctor of Physical Therapy student at the University of South Florida in Tampa!! I love traveling, playing sports, shopping, camping, babysitting, working out, going to the beach, spending time with family and friends, biking, learning, and volunteering.... However, my hobby right now is studying!! I'm second oldest of six kids. I've traveled to England, France, Switzerland, Germany, and Italy. And.... I haven't watched a full television show for 8 years. My project's goal is to improve the quality of life of obese people who do and do not have a disability. Encouraging student leaders from physical therapy, medical, dental, nursing, physician assistant, psychology and pharmacy departments will, together, educate the community at a local YMCA every Saturday. The first half hour of the session will be preventative care health education presentations and the last half hour the student volunteers will give advice on weekly exercise plans.



Robert Palmer

Institute: University of Central Florida
Discipline: Allopathic Medicine
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I grew up in a rural community in south central Florida called Avon Park where I spent the first 18 years of my life. I attended Wake Forest University and obtained a Chemistry major and Biology minor. After graduation in May 2009, I spent 9 months in Santiago, Chile and 2 months in Granada, Spain before starting medical school in August 2010. Currently, I'm finishing my third year at University of Central Florida College of Medicine where I have been active in public health projects at home and abroad. For my PASP project I plan to implement Florida, Let's Get Moving! which aims to utilize the existing Reach Out and Read programs in Central Florida as a means to promote healthy lifestyles amongst pediatric patients, specifically 4-9 years of age. We will be reading and disseminating the book, Henry Gets Moving, a story about a courageous hamster with the power to inspire children, families, and communities to lead healthy, active lives. In my free time I enjoy water sports and frequenting local arts venues.



Ryan Pontiff

Institute: Texas Woman's University- Houston
Discipline: Doctor of Physical Therapy
Email: ryanpontiff@gmail.com

I grew up in New Orleans, LA and got my BS in Kinesiology at LSU. I am now getting my DPT at TWU in Houston. For my PASP project, I plan to grow a probono services program I began within the past year. I hope to set up a plan for it to become an interdisciplinary system where the different medical field programs here in Houston can come together to provide probono services to the many in need. When I am not studying my life away, I love to run, play tennis, and cook some good comfort foods from back home!



Alexandra Porcu

Institute: Stony Brook School of Dental Medicine
Discipline: Dentistry
Email: arporcu@gmail.com

Originally from Long Island, NY, I studied biology and studio art at Georgetown University in Washington, DC. During that time my interest in global health grew while a member of medical and dental outreach teams to Costa Rica. I was inspired by the ability of dentists to relieve and prevent oral pain and disease with education and few resources. Now back on Long Island at Stony Brook School of Dental Medicine, I have developed a research project to understand and address the language-barrier difficulties in the school's dental clinic. The goal of my PAS project is to help bring equal quality care to our diverse patient population by improving resources for non-English speakers. Outside of school I enjoy taking care of my dog, painting and baking. I used to be a competitive figure skater and try to get on the ice when I have time.



Amanda Reamy

Institute: New York Institute of Technology

Discipline: Physician Assistant

Email: areamy@nyit.edu

Amanda Reamy is a Physician Assistant (PA) student at the New York Institute of Technology (NYIT). Since attending NYIT, Amanda has become an advocate for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) healthcare. Her most notable effort to bring more attention to trends in LGBT healthcare was her recent publication in the PA Professional titled “Coming Out in PA School.” For her community project she will collaborate with the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association to motivate PA students and PA professionals to participate in cultural competency training for LGBT patients and families. Amanda’s project addresses the relationship between culturally incompetent healthcare delivery and persistent healthcare disparities in the LGBT community. In her spare time, she enjoys country western and west coast swing dancing, and has recently become a fan of folk and bluegrass music. She would like to thank her partner Marie for her love and support.



Melanie Ripley

Institute: University of New England

Discipline: Osteopathic Medicine

Email: mripley@une.edu

I grew up in Northern Minnesota but made the transition to the East Coast for College and never left. I went to undergrad in the Bronx and my medical school is in Maine. I'm finishing up my third year of medical school and will be applying for residency spots pretty soon. In my free time I love to go horseback riding and running. My project will take place at a high school in Brooklyn, NY where I will use vegetables grown in the schools community garden to show students how to incorporate vegetables into their diet. I will choose recipes which use the vegetables grown in the community garden and then provide demonstrations. Additionally, I will incorporate information on exercise and healthy lifestyles for the participants.



Elizabeth Robinson

Institute: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Dentistry

Discipline: Dentistry

Email: elrobins@dentistry.unc.edu

I grew up in Washington NC, which is a small town on the Pamlico sound. I did my undergrad at Campbell University, where I got my bachelors of science.. I currently attend UNC SOD for dental school and I am a rising fourth year. I plan on furthering my education by applying for a periodontal residency program. When I am not at school I enjoy reading a good book, knitting, and going to the beach. My PASP project focuses on interdisciplinary communication between school nurses and dental providers. The goal of this project is to implement training programs to train school nurses on basic symptomatology of dental disease. This will allow for the identification of children who lack dental care, and provide them an avenue to obtain a dental home. Education on nutrition as well as smoking cessation will also be implemented during the screenings. This program will also provide an avenue for children to be directly admitted to the dental school for their needs. Catching dental disease early is key for overall health.



Kalynn Rohde

Institute: University of Wisconsin-Madison

Discipline: Doctor of Pharmacy

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I am from a small town in Wisconsin called Fairwater (population of 302 people). I moved to Madison for college and was working towards an undergraduate degree in Medical Microbiology and Immunology when I was accepted into pharmacy school. I currently work as a pharmacy intern at the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics and I am involved with a few research projects as well. In my spare time, I enjoy painting, reading, and traveling. My PASP project will center around providing pneumococcal immunizations to underserved populations within my community. I will be working closely with a pharmacy that is dedicated to providing services to these individuals and utilizing an immunization exchange program in order to replenish my vaccine stock. I look forward to educating the public about the importance of vaccinations and the impact they can have on their health.



Keene Saavedra

Institute: South Carolina College of Pharmacy

Discipline: Doctor of Pharmacy

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Keene Saavedra hails from Charleston, SC. He spent 4 years in Washington, DC, which he claims as his home away from home, to complete a Bachelors of Science in Human Science at Georgetown University. He returned to his hometown to pursue a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the South Carolina College of Pharmacy. For his project, Keene will focus on collecting data on Hepatitis B vaccination rates in Asians in Goose Creek, SC and utilizing interprofessional teams to administer the vaccines to increase immunity to a disease, which greatly affects Asians. Keene hopes that this project will improve the visibility of the healthcare needs of Asians, a minority often overlooked. Keene's hobbies include basketball, tennis, and table tennis. He is known to be a gourmand and frequents Chick Fil A at least three times a week. Keene appreciates hip hop and break dancing; although, he cannot dance himself. To break the monotony of everyday life, Keene plays with his beagles, Manny and Bubba. And one day, Keene hopes to visit the City of Lights, Paris.



Marcela Saenz

Institute: University of the Incarnate Word

Discipline: Doctor of Pharmacy

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A first generation Mexican American, I am a pharmacy student from El Paso, TX at the Feik School of Pharmacy. Interestingly, I was pursuing a master's degree in Public Health before my interest in becoming a pharmacist. I attribute my drug-filled destiny to fate because my application was lost in the mail which led me to meet someone that had a direct impact on my decision to change my plans. Yet, the desire to make a big impact on a population's health has stuck with me and hence my pursuit of this project. I will focus my project on reducing the use of cigarettes by adolescents in the past month by introducing a campaign called "CIGLESS". Visual aids and educational information will be presented at schools, in addition to encouraging them to sign a petition to be "CIGLESS" for 30 days.



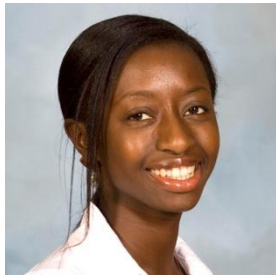
Teryn Sedillo

Institute: Creighton University

Discipline: Dentistry

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In 2003, I graduated from Kansas State University with a B.S. in Life Sciences. I am now starting my 4th year of dental school at Creighton School of Dentistry. Currently, I am the president of my school's chapter of the Student National Dental Association. Involvement in SNDA programs and other community outreach initiatives keep me sane while I am in school. Outside of dentistry, I am a food, wine, yoga and rock climbing enthusiast and absolutely love being a tourist in my own city. It is this combination of my interests which have made Groupon my best friend. My proposed study includes targeting family and internal medicine physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants to aid in the early detection of oral and pharyngeal cancer. Our approach is to educate these healthcare professionals via a web-based educational module.



Isata Sesay

Institute: UMDNJ-SOM

Discipline: Osteopathic Medicine

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My name is Isata Sesay and I am a fourth year medical student at UMDNJ-SOM. I am originally from Freetown, Sierra Leone and immigrated to USA at the age of 9 in 1997. I grew up in Woodbridge VA and attended The College of William and Mary for undergraduate education. For my future career, I am leaning towards an Internal Medicine residency. I would love to practice international medicine and travel around the world caring for the underserved population throughout. MY PASP project is a HIV/AIDS Health Fair in Duncan Village, South Africa. I plan on collaborating with the local hospital and community resources to raise awareness about safer sex options, healthy relationship practices, consistent use of condoms, and prompt treatments for HIV and other sexually transmitted infections. I intend on having different vendors at the fair offering free HIV testing, distributing condoms, and offering counseling. The health fair will target the youth population in Duncan Village.



Lisa Simon

Institute: Harvard University

Discipline: Dentistry

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Originally from Los Angeles, I am an adoptive New Englander. I graduated from Yale in 2010 and now live in Boston, where I am a rising fourth year at Harvard School of Dental Medicine in the Global and Community Health Track. When I'm not in clinic, I am an avid runner, cyclist, and hiker. I am very excited to meet other health professions students with a passion for prevention! My Paul Ambrose Scholarship Program project will be to conduct a needs assessment and provide oral health education to patients at a community health center that serves a low-income Spanish-speaking population and currently lacks dental services. In the long term, this information will help us establish a permanent dental home within the clinic. We hope to help meet the community's primary care needs and give dental students an opportunity to provide outstanding culturally competent care!



Cory Sonnemann

Institute: Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences

Discipline: Osteopathic Medicine

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I grew up in Billings, MT and completed my B.S. degree in Chemistry at Montana Tech in Butte, MT. I currently attend Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences as an osteopathic medical student, and I am interested in targeting teen alcohol abuse in my home state of Montana. The goal of my project is to educate middle school students and their parents about the harmful effects of alcohol and provide an alternative activity to drinking for youth in my community. Prior to medical school I enjoyed working as a Team Leader and Science Teacher for Montana Tech's Upward Bound program, volunteering as a Big Brother through Big Brothers Big Sisters of Butte, participating in Dr. Marisa Pedulla's Scientific Outreach Phagedigging Program, and coaching football for Butte High School. I also enjoy hiking, backpacking, playing sports, and spending time with my family and friends.



Joshua Stake

Institute: William Carey University

Discipline: Osteopathic Medicine

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I grew up in Jacksonville, FL in a family of 5. We are all still close to this day and just enjoy having fun and spending quality time together. I majored in Exercise Science at FSU. During and after college I worked as a Certified Personal Trainer for 4 years. I completed an Associate's in Bible through a 5 month program of serving refugees in Atlanta. I lived there for a year in what is considered the most diverse square mile in America. I love to do medical missions and have been privileged to serve in 8 countries outside of the U.S. Competing in sports is also a passion of mine as I enjoy playing almost anything. I just recently got engaged and will be getting married in July before starting my 3rd year of medical school at William Carey! I can't wait to learn more about and meet each of the other Paul Ambrose Scholars!!



Stefan Ta Duc

Institute: University of the Pacific

Discipline: Doctor of Pharmacy

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As you can easily tell by the profile picture, I was born and raised in Germany. I immigrated to the US in 2004 and received my BS in Biological Sciences from the University of California, Irvine in 2012. Currently, I am a first year pharmacy student at the University of the Pacific. My PASP project focuses on "Access to Health Services" in Stockton and will make it easier for uninsured/underinsured patients to access affordable health clinics within the community, enroll in medication assistance programs (in collaboration with our school's PharmAssistance committee), and stay informed about all health care reforms that will affect them in the near future. When I'm not buried in books, I spend my time exploring reddit, playing tennis, watching a good TV series on Netflix, and volunteering at our local soup kitchen.



Nidhi Taneja

Institute: University of California, Los Angeles

Discipline: Dentistry

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I grew up in India and came to US only about a year back. After getting accepted to UCLA, I was exposed to a whole new world of experiences. Everyday life brings new opportunities and being selected as a Paul Ambrose Scholar is one of the proud moments in my life. Balance of an artistic expression and interpersonal communication, a perfect amalgamation of science and creativity, I enjoy being a dentist. When I am not busy fixing peoples' smile, I like to do adventure sports, listen to music and try different cuisines. I like meeting dynamic people and learn from them. My optimism is my biggest strength and I believe in the power of dreams. I strongly follow my intuitions and love to experiment with possibilities. My project is for the mothers covered under a federally-funded health and nutrition program called WIC. I plan to educate them about their dental needs and importance of oral hygiene. Also, it will include free dental treatment for a few of them at UCLA School of Dentistry.



Abraham Tang

Institute: University of California, San Francisco

Discipline: Dentistry

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I grew up in sunny San Diego, where I attended college at Palomar College and University of California, San Diego. Currently I am a 3rd year dental student at University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). I'm grateful for the opportunities I've had to serve my classmates as Class President for two years and am currently serving as the Associated Dental Students President at UCSF. I cherish the friendships I've made in San Francisco, not only within my dental school, but also inter-professionally through my Christian fellowship called Sunrise. Currently at UCSF, there are many outreach events which include dental screenings for underserved children in the community. However, according to the literature, dental screenings alone may not be effective in reducing dental caries. My project hopes to address this need by going beyond dental screenings via providing a comprehensive and interactive curriculum for children attending afterschool programs in San Francisco's low-income neighborhoods. My favorite hobby is playing the harp, especially in family harp quartets with my three younger sisters. My favorite Bible verse is Psalm 31:1.



Emmeline Tran

Institute: University of Utah

Discipline: Doctor of Pharmacy

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I grew up in Salt Lake City, Utah and graduated from the University of Utah with a Bachelor's in Chemistry. I am currently a student at the University of Utah College of Pharmacy and work in a hospital outpatient pharmacy. For my PASP, I hope to develop a hypertension education service, specifically for refugees that would involve 1) the development of patient-friendly and culturally competent education materials in several different languages, and 2) workshops at refugee community centers designed to teach patients how to self-manage hypertension. Refugees are often from different cultural backgrounds that may not understand the importance of taking chronic medications for an asymptomatic disease state. As the most accessible healthcare provider, pharmacists can be at the forefront of educating hypertensive patients to improve compliance. I feel very fortunate to live in Utah to be able to enjoy the beautiful scenery whether it is while I am out hiking or just looking out my window while studying.



Shanice Waller

Institute: Florida A&M University

Discipline: Doctor of Pharmacy

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People don't care what you know they want to know that you care. As a native of Augusta, Georgia outreach and service was engrained into my walk of life. Now as a fourth year doctor of pharmacy candidate my journey at Florida A&M University College of Pharmacy is nearing completion, I want to make strides towards improving health literacy and prevention. My PASP project will target young women primarily of child bearing age about the importance of proper vaginal health. The health fair will be in conjunction with Azalea's Women Health Center, Friendship P.B. Church's Women's Ministry, and FAMU Student Health services discussing topics from understanding normal discharge and the risk associated with feminine cleansers to STDs and contraceptives. Outside of school, I have remained an active member of my sorority Delta Sigma Theta and volunteer regularly with my school's chapter of the Student National Pharmaceutical Association.