

PAUL AMBROSE
SCHOLARS
PROGRAM

2009

Participant
Directory

June 25-28, 2009
Washington, DC



Christie Jo Berkseth

Institute: University of Minnesota School of Dentistry

Discipline: Dentistry

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I am in my 2nd (soon to be 3rd) year at the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry. I received my BS from the U of MN as well. I was born and raised Northwoods of Wisconsin along the shores of Lake Superior. I love salsa dancing, yoga, inline skating, languages, travel, gardening, recycling, social justice, and obsessively watching seasons of the Office from Netflix. My project entails creating an online module for medical students to learn about the basics of dental screening, fluoride applications, and referrals to dentists for children.



Lizbeth Brice

Institute: Howard University School of Pharmacy

Discipline: Pharmacy

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Having lived in Washington DC for the past 5 years while attending Howard University, I now consider myself a Washingtonian, although I hail from a tiny island in the Caribbean called St. Lucia. While in DC, it doesn't take long before one becomes familiar with the nation's capital statistics on HIV and AIDS. It is estimated that 1 in 20 adults in Washington DC is infected with HIV/AIDS- with 81% being African American. Although the district boasts of many HIV/AIDS prevention programs, few are geared specifically towards adolescents, discounting that the irresponsible behaviors learned at this age directly influence one's risk. D.C P.E.G (D.C. Peer Educators Group) is an initiative concerned with representing young people's views with the intention of influencing change in various health arenas. The overall goal of this project is to bring together adolescents to be advocates for HIV/AIDS prevention in their schools and neighborhoods and draw from their unique experiences to develop a distinctive approach to the prevention message.



Jennifer Butler

Institute: Wayne State Univ. School of Medicine

Discipline: Allopathic Medicine

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I am a rising fourth year medical student at Wayne State SOM in Detroit, MI. I grew up in The Bahamas and completed my BS in Biology at Tuskegee University in Alabama. I enjoy seafood and salsa dancing! My proposed project is entitled Mind, Body and Spirit or M-B-S. M-B-S will target female students in grades 7-12 from local schools in Metro Detroit. The goal of this program will be to explore issues such as obesity, self-esteem, body image and sexually transmitted infections. Through multiple sessions with guest speakers and group activities, M-B-S will explore and discuss the many reasons for obesity, including genetics, cultural influences, low income, and lifestyle factors such as inactivity and poor eating habits. Our activities will extend even further to include action steps that each program participant can incorporate into their daily lives. . Each person will be equipped with the knowledge needed to make healthy decisions and with the resolve to face the psycho-social complexities of their environment.



Chandra Campbell

Institute: Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine

Discipline: Allopathic Medicine

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I was raised in Portland, OR, and went to college at Santa Clara University. After college I took over three years off before beginning medical school at Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine, during which I lived/worked in France, China and the Caribbean. In addition, I spent last year working as an Americorps Health Educator at a community clinic in Berkeley, CA. My hobbies include jogging, listening to music, teaching group exercise classes, watching independent and foreign films, cooking and traveling. With my microgrant, I hope to assist in facilitating a weight management and nutrition support group in the under-served community of Maywood, IL.



Valentino Caruso

Institute: Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Discipline: Pharmacy

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Worcester, MA is a city filled with opportunity. I am a second year student in the accelerated PharmD program at the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences in Worcester. I have worked to forge relationships with the City through the American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists. Worcester has been hard hit by the latest round of state budget cuts. The City shuttered its Department of Public Health a week before the H1N1 Influenza outbreak, closing its immunization clinics in the process. My project is to work with an independent clinic to promote immunizations in the wake of the budget cuts. Oddly enough, Worcester also seems to be burdened by a stray cat epidemic. I feel like I feed them all on my front porch. The endless parade of cats in all colors, shapes, and sizes provides entertainment for my own indoor cats, Big Foot & Jax. Both are terribly spoiled. I previously received degrees from Tufts University and the University of Connecticut.



Yi-Ren Chen

Institute: Stanford University School of Medicine

Discipline: Allopathic Medicine

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I'm from sunny California and I'm a second year medical student at Stanford. I enjoy singing, eating, jazz fluting, and hanging out with friends. My project is titled the Santa Clara Hep B Free Campaign, a culturally targeted, community-based outreach and education program that promotes hepatitis B and liver cancer awareness, screening, and disease management in Santa Clara, CA.



Shadi Ghaibi Clark

Institute: University of Utah

Discipline: Pharmacy

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I grew up in Salt Lake City, Utah where I did my undergraduate training in Exercise Physiology. I now attend the University of Utah as a pharmacy student and work in a hospital setting. For my PASP project I plan on implementing a program where students will give presentations throughout the community about the dangers of prescription drug abuse. Through this project I hope to educate the public about the dangers of drug abuse, give tips on how to decrease drug abuse in the home, and how to see signs of addiction to ultimately prevent death from unintentional overdose. When I'm not working or in the library, I love hiking in Utah's beautiful mountains, skiing, ice-skating, going to Zumba class with my girlfriends and watching Utah Jazz Basketball.



Julie Costin

Institute: Shenandoah University

Discipline: Nursing

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Julie Costin has been a critical care nurse for over eight years and is currently a family nurse practitioner student at Shenandoah University in Winchester, Virginia. Julie is a member of Sigma Theta Tau Nursing Honor Society, the American Association of Critical Care Nurses, the Virginia Council of Nurse Practitioners, and the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners. Julie's research interests include health promotion strategies and healthcare provider behaviors and practices. She is currently investigating the status and methods of glycemic control among hospitalized cardiovascular surgical patients at a local hospital. Julie's PASP project focuses on the significance of oral health on the development of systemic disease. Her study, which will include a thorough review of the literature, will also investigate potential areas of disparities in the provision of oral care. These findings will be presented at a research and evidence-based symposium, in her community. In addition to her studies, Julie enjoys spending time with her husband, three children, and border collie. Hobbies include scrapbooking, card making, and reading.



Joy Cunningham

Institute: University of Cincinnati

Discipline: Pharmacy

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My name is Joy and my passion is living. I am always looking for new things to do, new places to go, and new ways to experience the world. I am a West Virginia native but have done my schooling in a variety of locations: Virginia Tech for my undergraduate degree, the University of Maryland and Max Planck Institute in Germany for graduate studies, and now the University of Cincinnati for my PharmD. I have 2 elderly kitty cats and I take them wherever I go. I am also a coffee connoisseur, thrift store fanatic, and jazz lover who still appreciates the simplicity of a record player. I am driven to become involved in health policy decision-making associated with health disparities of rural and Appalachian Americans. As a Paul Ambrose Scholar, I will develop a 1-credit hour elective course for pharmacy students with the goal of enhancing student knowledge about the prevalence and detrimental effects of low health literacy as well as to teach them how to most effectively identify and communicate with these patients.



Jacqueline Eckert

Institute: Medical University of South Carolina

Discipline: Physician Assistant

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I am lucky to live in beautiful Charleston, SC where I'm currently finishing up my first year of PA school here at the Medical University of South Carolina. Prior to MUSC, I received my B.S. in Health and Exercise Science from Furman University where I played 4 years of varsity tennis. Off the court and outside of learning all things medical, I enjoy time with friends, the beach, a good cup of coffee, and my hammock! This past year, my PA class has worked to implement "Towards No Tobacco" education programs in middle schools throughout our area. In addition to having the lowest-in-the nation cigarette tax, South Carolina fails to allocate state funding for tobacco prevention programs. Regardless of your profession, tobacco prevention and cessation is a common goal affecting all areas of healthcare. My project intends to engage interprofessional teams in expanding the "Towards No Tobacco" prevention program to reach additional schools within the area. Through interdisciplinary collaboration, I hope to increase not only public awareness but also a professional responsibility regarding South Carolina's fight against tobacco.

Elizabeth Finley

Institute: South Bend Veteran's Administration

Discipline: Nursing

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I come from South Bend, Indiana, home of Notre Dame Football and "lake effect" snow. I received my BSN from IUSB, my MSN from Valparaiso U. where I am now working on my doctorate. As a Nurse Practitioner I have many opportunities to volunteer providing health care for the uninsured and have a special affinity for this group. I will be using the PASP to create a home monitoring blood pressure system for a local indigent clinic, to include supplies, education, and computer software. The goal is to help high risk patients gain control of their blood pressures and prevent future complications. In my spare time I am obsessed with the thrilling world of . . . quilting! I love nursing, and I am excited to have this opportunity to expand my knowledge while while helping an underserved population.



Courtney Foote

Institute: Creighton University School of Medicine

Discipline: Allopathic Medicine

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Food is one of my passions in life. It may be a necessity, but paired with a glass of wine and pleasant company it can turn a casual evening into quite the event. I love the conversations that arise in situations like the former. Politics, religion, money...all the stuff you really are not suppose to talk about but tend to reveal your real opinions always tend to arise. As a political science major, I thrive on conversation. One single conversation will tell you more about a person than any bio could. Until then, cheers.



Kevin Hall

Institute: Georgetown Medical School

Discipline: Allopathic Medicine

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Hi! My name is Kevin Hall. I was born and raised in Tupelo, Mississippi (Birthplace of Elvis!). I received my bachelor's degree in Biology at The University of Mississippi after which I completed a 2-year research fellowship in infectious diseases at Harvard Medical School studying Epstein Barr Virus. I am currently a rising 3rd year M.D. candidate at Georgetown Medical School with an interest in Cardiology. While in D.C., I've become passionately involved in the local and pandemic HIV/AIDS crisis we currently face. My PASP project will be two-fold: 1) To design, develop, and distribute a poster targeting D.C. physicians that promotes the importance of taking a thorough sexual history in the primary care setting. This is a skill many physicians lack. In a survey of 371 general internists, family practice physicians, and ob. gyns., 29% said they routinely ask their patients specific questions to gauge the risk of acquiring HIV infection. In addition, only 2-8% of the total survey group said that they routinely ask about sexual behaviors that might put their patients at risk of acquiring HIV. (IMNG) 2) To conduct a series of interactive seminars at local D.C. schools which stress the importance of HIV prevention. Furthermore, to introduce and discuss the novel idea of microbicides and their potential role in reducing the number of new HIV infections.



Christine Hancock

Institute: UCB-UCSF Joint Medical Program

Discipline: Allopathic Medicine

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I'm from a little town in eastern California named for a now-deceased pine tree. After 17 years of mountain climbing, local sports, and small-town schooling, I ventured out into the larger world. I spent a year at Northern Arizona University and then transferred to Swarthmore College in Philadelphia, PA, where I majored in Biology and Latin American Studies. I then worked as an EMT, medical assistant, substitute teacher, and Outward Bound instructor before beginning medical school in 2004. I earned a MS as part of a joint MD-MS program at UC Berkeley and UC San Francisco, focusing my research on rural physician retention. Medically, I'm interested in Internal Medicine in a rural setting. For my PSAP project, I plan to use my thesis work to develop a survey instrument for the UC Davis School of Medicine that will identify interviewees who are most likely to choose a rural career after graduation, thereby increasing the availability of physicians in rural areas of California. When I'm not working, I enjoy running, baking, photography, and learning to play the mandolin.



Shawn Heiler

Institute: Wayne State University

Discipline: Physician Assistant

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I am from Jackson, MI. I am a Detroit Red Wings, Tiger's and yes even a Lion's fan. I also love University of Michigan sports, Go Blue!!!. I graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a B.S. in Sports Medicine Athletic Training in 2003. I am beginning my second year of Physician Assistant School at Wayne State University and I look forward to getting out there to begin working with people rather than constantly having my face in a book. I enjoy the outdoors: hiking, boating, all sports and good food. My PASP project is to help the Highland Park Education Clinic (HPEC), which engages WSU PAS students and faculty in interdisciplinary service learning by providing culturally competent health education and health promotion to the underserved urban community of Highland Park, transition from paper health records to an integrated notebook computer based electronic medical record (EMR) system. The improvements in the way the HPEC monitors, tracks, and protects patient confidentiality will also allow its possible expansion to other underserved communities.



Amanda Herzog

Institute: University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

Discipline: Allopathic Medicine

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I have been a proud Badger fan for 6 years, pursuing both a Biochemistry B.S. degree and M.D. degree in the lovely, but cold Madison, WI. I am currently finishing my second year of medical school and have had the pleasure of working with several other medical students to establish a 501c3 organization: Healthy Classrooms Foundation (hc-foundation.com). The Foundation works with communities to bring public health education into the classroom to help students make smart decisions about nutrition, fitness, environmental responsibility, and their developmental well-being. In the same spirit, I started working directly with a local elementary school to implement public health initiatives into the classroom. Through my work, Marquette Elementary School is creating a school garden and implementing Junior Master Gardener (JMG) curriculum. My project goal is to link the JMG curriculum to nutrition education through a community event that links the garden produce to nutritious and culturally diverse foods. The students, and their families, will then learn about nutrition, food preparation, sustainability, and waste reduction, as well as gastronomic tradition and cultural competency.



Hyun Hong

Institute: University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ)

Discipline: Osteopathic Medicine

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I come from a military family- my father was a Colonel in the South Korean Air Force and my mother was a nurse in the army. I resided in New Jersey ever since they retired over a decade ago. I graduated in 2007 with a BS in Chemical Biology from Stevens Institute of Technology. Prior to medical school, I worked as a Systems Consultant at Sanofi-Aventis Pharmaceuticals. Aside from the daily demands of school, I enjoy spending my time with my family and at the gym. I am excited to attend the 2009 PASP Symposium and have the possibility of drawing on other scholars' inspirations to improving the public's health. My PASP project is REACH (Revitalizing Education & Advancing Camden's Health), a multifaceted and innovative approach to addressing the needs of the youth in Camden City, New Jersey. The primary objectives are: • To facilitate interactive, problem-based learning (PBL) modules to teach preventative health to Camden middle school students; and • To implement youth-initiated community health service projects.

Kimberly Hubbard

Institute: University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey

Discipline: Physician Assistant

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I hail from the industrial state of New Jersey. I completed my B.A. from the University of Virginia with a major in psychology. I am in my first year of PA school and I am excited about beginning rotations next year. My Paul Ambrose Scholar Program project will encompass my interest in food handling safety to prevent various diseases. Quarterly seminars on sanitation methods, storage, and food preparation will be developed. The curriculum will then be conducted by physicians, PAs, and NPs on a regular cyclic basis at a local clinic in a medically underserved community in New Jersey. In my limited leisure time, I like to travel and go to the gym.



Amy Jensby

Institute: AT Still University

Discipline: Dentistry

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As a resident of the “Valley of the Sun,” I am proud to share my home with scientific marvels such as a venomous lizard (gila monster), a tusked pig-like animal (javelina) and scorpions that look REALLY big when they’re under your kitchen sink! Living in the heart of downtown Phoenix, I enjoy our local art scene, our new mass transit “Lightrail,” and some amazing urban hiking trails. After graduating from Saint Mary’s College in Indiana, I served as an Americorps volunteer in Phoenix. During my service, I developed a passion for public health and thus began my dental education at the Arizona School of Dental and Oral Health. My PASP project will be to train caretakers in assisted living communities in oral hygiene and denture care. It is empirically supported that improvement in oral hygiene can improve systemic health and quality of life in elderly people. Training methods and resources will be developed in order to create a self-sustainable training program in which key staff members train fellow caregivers in effective oral hygiene methods.

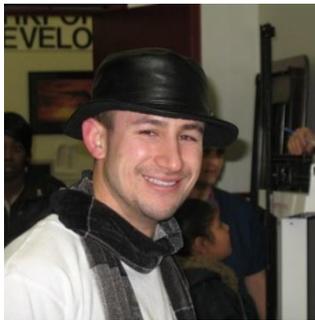
Anuj Khattar

Institute: Oregon Health and Sciences University

Discipline: Allopathic Medicine

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Raised in the Bay Area, I decided to attend college in Southern California at UCLA. I graduated in 2007 with a B.S. in Molecular, Cell, and Developmental Biology with a minor in Public Health. During my five years in Los Angeles, I spent four of them volunteering with the UCLA Mobile Clinic Project, which is a free clinic that serves the homeless population of West Hollywood. I have just finished my first year of medical school at OHSU, and have grown to love Portland during my short time here. When I am not studying, volunteering, or at school, I enjoy spending time with my friends going to concerts, cooking, eating, running, playing tennis, Frisbee and badminton, and more. This past year at OHSU, I initiated a series of health education presentations at a local middle school in coordination with its 8th grade health teacher. My classmates and I present on the topics of HIV, substance abuse, teen pregnancies, and STIs. In the coming year, I hope to expand our efforts to multiple schools in Portland.



Brandon Ko

Institute: Yale School of Nursing

Discipline: Nursing

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Originally from Oakland, CA, I now live in New Haven, CT studying to become a pediatric nurse practitioner. I have a B.S. in neurobiology/physiology/behavior from UC Davis, and worked with children with Autism between undergrad and grad school. A jazz fan, I'm an amateur saxophonist, enjoy writing when the mood strikes, and read voraciously. My PASP project involves the development of an afterschool and adolescent mentoring program run in a local housing development. The program will begin as a collaborative partnership between the nursing school and the housing development, and will eventually expand to incorporate the medical school, physician associate program, and the school of public health. A two-pronged program, it will utilize the inherent skills of our diverse student body to engage children of all ages and their parents in regularly scheduled activities focusing on health promotion, academic enrichment, and healthy/active lifestyles. The mentoring program will be based on the relationships built in the program, and focus on fostering healthy individual development. The goal is for the program to be incorporated into clinical curriculum.



Grace laTorre

Institute: New York College of Osteopathic Medicine

Discipline: Osteopathic Medicine

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I was born in Lima, Peru and immigrated to the United States when I was 11 years old. I was interested in the health care profession early on, but my commitment to helping uninsured patients grew strong after my family and I experienced first-hand the challenges of not having health insurance and obtaining adequate healthcare. Therefore, my PASP project is to set up a health care seminar for the Latino community of glen cove that will not only provide information about the predominant health care issues of this community, but also information about health care providers and how to apply for inexpensive health insurance.



Jessica Lee

Institute: University of Maryland Dental School

Discipline: Dentistry

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Interesting highlights of my life include traveling to Ghana to volunteer in rural villages and participate in the national initiative to ensure health care access for all, participating in a public health internship in Cuba, forming and leading a Brownie Scout troop for four years, and biking 4,000 miles from Baltimore to San, Francisco in order to raise funds for cancer patients. My proposed Paul Ambrose Scholars Program initiative involves the development of an innovative and engaging curriculum to be used by dental students to provide oral health education with a science based approach to pre-Kindergarten through fifth grade students. The curriculum emphasizes the importance of proper oral hygiene, the dangers of smoking, and the need for a healthy diet in a focused and cohesive manner. The program would involve age-appropriate activities, including videos, science experiments, games, and role playing. The advantage of this proposed program is that upwards of 450 children can be reached with 20 volunteers and a two-hour time period using a model that is sustainable and effective.

Judith Lynch

Institute: Emory School of Medicine

Discipline: Physician Assistant

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I'm originally from Minnesota but have lived in Atlanta for the past 25 years. I am a Registered Dietitian and am currently completing the last 6 months of the Physician Assistant Program at Emory School of Medicine. My love for good food started in childhood on my family farm and continues today because I love to cook for my family and friends. I believe that conquering obesity starts with educational nutrition information that is interesting and easy to use. This information should be available in every Family Medicine/Primary Care Office in this country and my project is to develop a Nutrition Tool Kit for Primary Care Physicians that they can share with every patient they see. I don't have a lot of spare time right now, but when I do, my husband and I love to travel and visit our Granddaughter in New Jersey and Grandson in St. Louis. I am looking forward to meeting everyone at the conference.



Vinayata Manuballa

Institute: Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine

Discipline: Osteopathic Medicine

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I am a third year medical student currently doing my rotations in the Metro Detroit area, and loving every minute of it! Apart from studying for shelf exams and boards, I enjoy playing tennis, swimming, and traveling. The project I plan on doing is a falls risk assessment on elderly in a senior center, and providing education to patients at risk of falls on ways to prevent such incidents. Also, I would like to educate patients in the senior center about hypertension and the ways to go about to prevent the onset and/or to properly manage the disease. I feel many patients do not understand how serious the disease is, and often realize the importance of good blood pressure control when it is too late. I would like to give prevention techniques to patients regarding these issues. Working with several physicians during my clinical rotations, I have realized the importance of health promotion, and the necessity of health professionals to promote this idea to reduce the number of hospitalizations.



Patricia McClory

Institute: Harvard School of Dental Medicine

Discipline: Dentistry

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I grew up on an island in rural Alaska, where four general dentists care for 13,000 citizens. Likewise, I was inspired to join the dental profession and bring care to others enjoying a rural lifestyle. I left Alaska to pursue studies at American University in Washington, DC, where I enjoyed the culture of a big city, while finding time for fun extracurriculars, such as dance & gymnastics. Last fall, I was excited to move to Boston for my first year at Harvard School of Dental Medicine, where school opportunities and faculty encouragement has further inspired me towards improving healthcare in underserved areas such as Ketchikan, Alaska. My project includes a survey that assesses the oral hygiene of children and their parents, and the involvement of primary caregivers in oral screening and prevention. Similarly, I plan to work with pediatric clinics in Ketchikan to educate healthcare providers in oral screening and parents in oral health & hygiene. Hopefully, this project will encourage local efforts towards improving oral health within a community with limited access to care.



Shannon Mead

Institute: Arizona State University

Discipline: Nursing

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I am a Nurse Practitioner student at ASU, specializing in adult health. I completed my bachelor's degree at The University of Arizona and have been working as an RN in various hospitals in the southwest since then. I have worked in a variety of settings, but the majority of my experience has been in critical care. I am working on an applied project involving chronic disease self-management programs for people with COPD. My hope is that tertiary prevention efforts will help keep this population out of the acute care settings and comfortably at home. I am a lover of the great outdoors- hiking, camping, exploring, and travel. I am looking forward to the program and meeting people from lots of other disciplines!

Leah Miraglia

Institute: The George Washington University

Discipline: Physician Assistant

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I'm a Carolina girl and Tar Heel at heart! March Madness is my favorite time of the year. I grew up in North Carolina, and completed my B.S. in Public Health-Nutrition at UNC-Chapel Hill. I'm currently finishing up my first year as PA student at The George Washington University, and can't wait to get out of the classroom. I maintain sanity by going to concerts (I love all music except heavy metal.), cooking/baking, doing anything outside, and going to the gym. My PASP project will be nutrition based, teaching the basics of healthy eating. I will provide information on the types and quantity of food to eat while presenting education on preparation methods and planning balanced meals. Pamphlets or handouts will be incorporated linking fat, cholesterol, sodium, and sugar intake to the development of chronic diseases. Ideally, I would like to teach preteens or teenagers. I will implement my project at school or community center in a low income neighborhood in DC.

Alfredo Mireles Jr

Institute: University of California, San Francisco

Discipline: Nursing

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I am a Master's in Health Policy student at UCSF. I enjoy the intersection of health care and politics/policy, and have worked on multiple political campaigns and health policy projects. I have a B.A. from UC Berkeley (Sociology) and a B.S. from Johns Hopkins (Nursing). I am die-hard LA Dodgers fan and went to the same high school as Snoop Dogg.

Project: The goal of this project is to help other UCSF students better serve the population treated at San Francisco General Hospital while on their training rotations. At SFGH, we treat a disproportionate share of indigent, homeless and uninsured patients who can sometimes be distrustful of the health care system. My project will create a curriculum that employs strategies to effectively care for them and meet their specific needs. The project will use lessons I have gleaned during my two years as a nurse in inpatient psychiatry, and will be organized around the principles of non-judgment, harm reduction, and health promotion within the context of patients' individual lives.



Kate Morton

Institute: University of New Mexico

Discipline: Pharmacy

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I grew up in sunny Connecticut, but one of my life goals is to never own a lawnmower or a snow blower, so I moved out to Albuquerque, New Mexico. I'm in my third year of pharmacy school here, and I'm still trying to get used to green chillies and dust. I enjoy being outside in the sunshine, going on hikes and bike rides, and listening to live music. As my Paul Ambrose project, I plan to team up with the Poison and Drug Information Center to help deliver poison prevention presentations in Spanish to rural parts of New Mexico. I will also be playing an active role in helping to train more health care professionals to give these presentations in their hometowns.



Amanda Lynne Mure

Institute: University of Toledo College of Medicine

Discipline: Allopathic Medicine

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My home is Fort Lauderdale, Florida where I grew up but I currently reside in Toledo, Ohio where I attend medical school at the University of Toledo. I am very active here and am my class AAMC-OSR representative and am a member of the Honor Committee. I received my undergraduate degree from the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD and served in the Navy. My interests are in public health, nutrition, and cardiovascular disease. My PASP project involves setting up a nutritional mentorship program through the Toledo Public School system to encourage better food choices. I hope to achieve this by having med students mentor high school students and have high school students mentor elementary students to break the cycle of poor nutrition and food choices. When not busy volunteering or studying, I like to run and play all kinds of sports.



Vipin Nikore

Institute: University of Illinois-Chicago College of Medicine

Discipline: Allopathic Medicine

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I am a 4th year medical student at the University of Illinois-Chicago. I grew up in Canada and studied Computer Science at the University of Western Ontario. After undergrad I worked as a software engineer at IBM in Toronto, but after staring at a computer screen 24-7 I soon quit my job. While charting out new career plans I traveled to California for my cousin's wedding in for vacation, and spontaneously didn't return home. I spent 2 years in LA, then moved to Connecticut to pursue an MBA at Yale, and then moved to Chicago for medical school. I also have an interest in international health, having worked at the WHO in Geneva and UNICEF in India, and career wise I'm deciding between pursuing Adolescent Medicine or Child & Adolescent Psychiatry. In my spare time I enjoy playing sports: baseball, hockey, rugby, football, basketball...pretty much anything. My PASP project is a program titled Urban Future Leaders of the World (uFLOW), which provides funding, mentorship, and resources to high schools students from underserved areas to develop their own community service projects.



Archana Pasupuleti

Institute: George Washington University School of Medicine

Discipline: Allopathic Medicine

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I like to call myself a bicoastal girl. I grew up in the Mid-Atlantic, went to the West Coast for school, and finally returned back East several years ago. I completed my BA from Stanford University. Currently, I am finishing my second year of medical school at George Washington School of Medicine. My interest in health combines philanthropy, the non-profit sector, and medicine. My PASP project focuses on researching local service organizations and creating a database that students can leverage for comprehensive patient care. 3rd and 4th year students often encounter patients who need nutritional counseling services, support groups for managing chronic illnesses, or information on healthy lifestyles. By having an accessible database, students may be more inclined to initiate important social services dialogue with their patients.



Keith Quirino

Institute: Western University of Health Sciences

Discipline: Osteopathic Medicine

Email: kquirino@westernu.edu

I completed my BA at Case Western Reserve University where I studied both Communications and Psychology. Before going to medical school, I taught children with disabilities at the Cleveland Clinic Children's Hospital, the ADHD Summer Treatment Program, and the Lovaas Institute for Early Autism Intervention. Currently, I live in sunny Los Angeles. I enjoy hiking in the Santa Monica Mountains, inline skating in Malibu, and road trips on the Pacific Coast Highway towards San Francisco. Last year, I was able to explore Italy, Malaysia, and the Philippines! My project will increase awareness about autism diagnosis and treatment. The two target audiences are graduate students of Western University of Health Sciences, and parents of the Inland Empire, California. Emphasis will be on the childhood vaccination debate: as a health educator, I will promote the scientific fact that vaccinations do not cause autism, and that childhood vaccinations are important for preventing future epidemics. Parents and professionals will be able to recognize early signs of autism and properly take care of a child's physical, psychological, and educational needs.



Natalie Rudoni

Institute: University of Maryland

Discipline: Dentistry

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A proud product of the Midwest, I was born in Detroit, a city that celebrates the legacies of The Motor City and Motown, and later moved to the Great Plains of South Dakota. While earning my degrees in Biology and Psychology at the University of Michigan, I played on the Wolverine women's ice hockey team and spent one year living with my family in Italy and studying at the University of Milan. I am currently in my second year of dental school at the University of Maryland, and looking forward to my externship this summer with Indian Health Service. I also play club soccer and enjoy pounding on the ivories! Working with the Baltimore City Healthy Start Program and local women's centers, I plan to implement a behavioral education program that enhances maternal oral health self-efficacy and improves access to care. My participation in PASP will better prepare me for a future career with the U.S. Public Health Service, providing quality dentistry to populations most affected by the disparities that exist in healthcare.



Courtney Scrubbs

Institute: Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

Discipline: Osteopathic Medicine

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Southern Bred & Southern Fed, I am a Louisiana native braving the cold in the City of Brotherly Love & Sisterly Affection: Philadelphia, PA. A product of public primary education, I attended the only Catholic HBCU in the country, Xavier University of LA, as a Biology Pre-Medicine major. Now a rising 3rd year medical student at PCOM, I am looking forward to a career in Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine. Although academic pursuits are quite possessive with my time, I manage to wrestle a few hours away for service as a Philadelphia County CASA & national leader for the Student National Medical Association, an organization devoted to betterment of medical care for the underserved and an increase in URM in the field of medicine. My PASP project is two-part: Development of a leadership institute for families in West and Southwest Philadelphia, and a Youth Empowerment and Advocacy workshop, entitled Something To Fight For, that helps to demonstrate how to turn negative and destructive energy into constructive change. Both components will be done in collaboration with the Philadelphia Collaborative Violence Prevention Center.

Emily Shaw

Institute: Brown Medical School

Discipline: Allopathic Medicine

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Hello! I'm Emily Shaw. Although I'm from San Diego I've lived in New England for the past 8 years and have gotten pretty attached to it. I love traveling and exploring new places, cultures and foods and I'm excited to spend time in DC with you! I took the past year off to do substance abuse intervention work so that my partner and I can match together for residency. In my free time I like to cook and play outside. I just learned how to make bread so our kitchen is all floury. Now that we have our own outdoor space I've started my first serious garden, which I get a kick out of. I'll continue my list of dorky hobbies by saying that I'm an avid birder. Yes, that means bird watching! I also like to watch good movies and play most sports. My project is to study medical student burnout through focus groups, interviews and a survey and then to use the information gathered to improve the medical student experience at my school.



Cicely Smith

Institute: UCLA School of Dentistry

Discipline: Dentistry

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I graduated from Stanford University with a B.A. in Human Biology and a minor in Cultural and Social Anthropology. Within Human Biology, I focused my studies on women's health. My volunteer interests in college included cancer prevention and foster youth advocacy. Following graduation, I worked full-time for two years at Shelter Network, a non-profit organization that provides housing and supportive services to homeless families and individuals. Currently I am a pre-doctoral student at UCLA School of Dentistry, and am involved in community outreach programs to provide oral hygiene instruction and preventive dental services to underserved pediatric populations. My PASP project will implement an oral health workshop program for parents in a Los Angeles-area transitional housing program for homeless families. The goal will be to improve parents' oral hygiene self-efficacy so they are empowered to improve their family's oral health. In addition, the project will seek to connect workshop participants to dental care resources in the community.



Tara Smith

Institute: Howard University

Discipline: Pharmacy

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PASP Project: 'Well After 50' Greetings from Fort Washington, Maryland!! With a zest for life and a joyful spirit, I'm an excitable up-lifter to many whom I encounter! My BS in Chemistry (minor in Mathematics) compliments my hobbies of experimenting with perfumery and tutoring/mentoring children. I enjoy exercise such as jumping rope and jumping jacks. Uniquely, I often challenge myself and pay close attention to detail. Motivated by my mentally alert and fit 100-year old grandfather, my life's themes-longevity and wellness- are in full motion. Purposed in my heart is becoming an inspirational public health educator and an initial step will be my PASP project - 'Well After 50'- ultimately a compilation of a wellness CD series addressing obesity and co-morbidities specific to the conditions of the fifty and older population in senior centers surrounding my academic community. In collaboration with students and faculty at my university, we will educate seniors through the implementation of an annual senior wellness day including the wellness CD series. Much success and I look forward to meeting future colleagues!



Zachary Snyder

Institute: University of Pittsburgh

Discipline: Pharmacy

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I am studying pharmacy at the University of Pittsburgh. I'm interested in public health, especially issues related to access to care, safety net services, and working with underserved populations. When I have free time, I am usually checking out Pittsburgh's live music scene and never miss a good bluegrass band touring in town. For my project, I plan on working with school nurses in Pittsburgh high schools to provide mentorship to high school students who have diabetes and are juggling disease management with the pressures of adolescence.



Carolyn Townsend

Institute: Minnesota State University Moorhead

Discipline: Nursing

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I live in Fargo, ND where the potential flooding made national news this past month. The clay dikes are coming down this week and the soccer fields at the grade schools that were excavated to use for dikes are nearly replaced. My PASP project is to inform and vaccinate college freshmen on the Minnesota State University Moorhead campus following the new recommendations from the CDC, 2008 to include all 5-18 year olds for influenza prevention. I am an assistant professor of nursing on the Moorhead campus and will utilize nursing students to perform the immunizations in collaboration with the student health center. This will be my capstone project for the DNP program I am enrolled in through Winona State University, MN. I hope to graduate May 2010.



Leigh Ann Trotter

Institute: Medical College of Georgia

Discipline: Dentistry

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My name is Leigh Ann Trotter and I am a 3rd year dental student at the Medical College of Georgia. I was previously a dental hygienist before entering dental school. I have always had a passion for children and their dental health. I received a degree from the University of Georgia in Health Promotion and Behavior that has assisted me in providing health education to my patients in both dental hygiene and dentistry. I am planning to implement an oral health program at a local pregnancy center. My main focus will be on providing oral health information to pregnant women about their child, but I also plan to equip the mothers with oral health information for themselves. I hope to have the necessary supplies donated to give the women as well as brochures.



Adam Tuttle

Institute: Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University

Discipline: Allopathic Medicine

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I have lived in the Chicago area my entire life, save one year in the San Francisco bay area working at a medical device start-up after college. Northwestern University gave me a B.S. in Biomedical Engineering, even though I spent a lot of time playing soccer, working out, tutoring math and science, studying abroad in Switzerland, singing in an a cappella group, and dabbling on guitar, in addition to the usual premed activities of research and volunteering. Now-a-days, along with studying medicine, I am very into fitness, nutrition, and exercise. I see exercise, nutrition, and other lifestyle modalities as the solution to our nation's health crisis. I am an ACSM-certified personal trainer, maintain a small fitness and prevention website, ran a couple Chicago marathons, and help coordinate some free community health clinics. I love to workout, play guitar, cook delicious meals, and speak some German. For the PASP project, I will design an on-line elective course in public health and preventive and lifestyle medicine for the senior students at the Chicago Medical School.



Michaela Voss

Institute: University of Kansas Medical School

Discipline: Allopathic Medicine

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I grew up in Kansas City, MO, where we buy our beef directly from a farmer, wave to strangers, and root for our sports teams despite their record! After graduating from University of Missouri with a BS in Chemistry, I worked for four years as a Research Chemist. I then entered medical school at University of Kansas and am currently finishing my third year. During medical school, I began dedicating my extra time to women's health care at the student run free health clinic. As co-director, I am interested in improving our program by providing educational materials in both English and Spanish to our patients. The gynecological pamphlets will include STD prevention and education, healthy habits for a growing teenager, the importance of well women exams and when it is appropriate to seek medical advice. The obstetric pamphlets will include preparing for pregnancy, healthy habits for an expecting mother, pregnancy prevention and what to do in an emergency situation. By providing written material, patients will have a reference for future questions and concerns.



Peggy Walsh

Institute: Baylor College of Medicine

Discipline: Physician Assistant

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I'm a Colorado native who grew up loving sunshine, sports, and the outdoors! I completed my BS in Health and Exercise Science, and my MS in Human Nutrition at Colorado State University before heading south to Texas. I'm finishing up my first year in the Physician Assistant program at Baylor College of Medicine and am growing to love my new Houston home! My PASP project will involve the development and implementation of an incentive-based exercise and nutrition "12-Step Program" for patients of an occupational health and family practice clinic in Houston. The focus of the intervention will be on making small positive changes to effect lifelong management of health, and the results will be evaluated for broader use in preventing chronic disease. To keep myself balanced, I stay active training for various running and cycling races, and am the 'unofficial' baked-goods supplier for my class.