



YALE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Physician Associate Program

Commencement Ceremony

December 5, 2022

PROGRAM

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION OF COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER	Alexandria Garino, PhD, PA-C <i>Associate Dean for Physician Associate and Assistant Education</i>
COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS	Dustyn Williams, MD <i>Co-founder and Lead Educator at OnlineMedEd</i>
REMARKS & CONFERRAL OF DEGREES	Jessica Illuzzi, FACOG, MD, MS <i>Deputy Dean for Education and Harold W. Jockers Professor of Medical Education and Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences.</i>
READING OF NAMES	Elizabeth Roessler, MMSc, PA-C <i>Assistant Professor Interim Director, Yale PA Online Program Former Director of Didactic Education, Yale Physician Associate Program</i>
PROGRAM AWARD PRESENTATIONS	Courtney Fankhanel, MMSc, PA-C <i>Assistant Professor Director of Clinical Education</i>
STUDENT ADDRESS	Elizabeth Hurtado, Class of 2022
STUDENT AWARD PRESENTATIONS	Alex Hauptli, Class of 2022 Elizabeth Hurtado, Class of 2022
OATH	Class of 2022 Elisabeth Cuoco, MMSc, PA-C <i>Assistant Professor Associate Director of Clinical Education</i>
CLOSING	David Brissette, MMSc, PA-C <i>Assistant Professor Interim Program Director</i>

HONORED GUESTS

Jessica Illuzzi, MD, MS

*Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences
Deputy Dean of Education and Harold W. Jockers Professor of
Medical Education*

Mark Perazella, MD

*Professor of Medicine (Nephrology),
Director, Acute Dialysis Unit
Medical Director, Yale Physician Associate Program
Medical Director, Yale PA Online Program*

Dustyn Williams, MD

Co-founder and Lead Educator at OnlineMedEd

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Dustyn Williams, MD

Co-founder and lead educator at OnlineMedEd

Dr. Williams is a board-certified Internal Medicine physician. He earned his Bachelor of Science at Yale in Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology. He then toured the streets of New Haven as a paramedic where he learned the inside track to working with all members of the surrounding hospitals. Dr. Williams went to Tulane University for medical school. It was there he met the mentors that guided him toward education, and he started making instructional videos in 2010. After completing his internal medicine residency at Tulane, he took on the position of Hospitalist at Baton Rouge General, where he served as the Clerkship Director for Tulane students in the LEAD curriculum and Core Faculty for the Baton Rouge General Internal Medicine Residency Program. Always passionate about teaching, Dr. Williams was ready to take his videos to the next level and formally co-founded OnlineMedEd in 2014. After balancing both hospital work and creating content for OnlineMedEd, Dr. Williams decided to fully dedicate himself to educating others in 2019 by focusing only on his work at OnlineMedEd. Serving as the lead educator, he and his team of medical experts review innovative research and data to support the content shared with students and medical institutions. Dr. Williams has presented and published most recently on impactful topics such as “Your doctor’s thoughts on your diabetes medications”, “How Doctors Think”, “Step 1: Myths, Legends and Facts”, and “Revolutionizing Medical Education”. When he’s not at work, Dr. Williams is convincing the team to put his beloved cat on everything OnlineMedEd.

MASTER OF MEDICAL SCIENCE 2022

Matthew Attolino◆

University of Connecticut, Bachelor of Science, Allied Health

Thesis Title: *The Effect of Platelet-Rich Plasma on Recovery in Athletes with a Grade III Lateral Ankle Sprain*

Caroline Bell

Brigham Young University, Bachelor of Arts, History

Thesis Title: *Effects of Positive Airway Pressure in Adolescent and Young Adult Patients with Cystic Fibrosis*

Nicholas Bender

Brown University, Bachelor of Arts, Human Biology

Thesis Title: *Adjunct Fecal Microbiota Transplant for Small Intestinal Bacterial Overgrowth*

Lauren Betancourt◆

University of Florida, Bachelor of Science, Physiology and Kinesiology

Thesis Title: *Effects of Individual Placement and Support on Employment in Borderline Personality Disorder*

Madison Clinton◆

Rice University, Bachelor of Arts, Kinesiology

Thesis Title: *Online Behavioral Intervention in Adolescents with Migraine and Transitioning to College*

Lara DeCastro◆

Sacred Heart University, Bachelor of Science, Health Science

Thesis Title: *Sibling Mediation in An Executive Function Intervention for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder*

Nour Ebid

New York University, Bachelor of Arts, Biology

Thesis Title: *Impact of Acculturation in Mediating Barriers to Screening Mammography Among Arab American Women*

Amanda Faxon

University of Connecticut, Bachelor of Science, Neurobiology

Thesis Title: *Topiramate for Weight Loss in Adults with Obesity and Loss of Control Eating After Bariatric Surgery*

Nathan Franks

Pennsylvania State University, Bachelor of Science, Nutrition

Thesis Title: *Fecal Microbial Transplant for Weight Loss in Adults Living with Obesity and Diabetes*

Katherine Fry

University of Michigan - Ann Arbor, Bachelor of Science,
Neuroscience

Thesis Title: *Computerized Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Patients with Post-Treatment Lyme Disease Syndrome*

Mary Cate Gallagher

Bryant University, Bachelor of Science, Biology

Thesis Title: *Examining the Relationship Between Primary Care Provider Emotional Intelligence and Glycemic Control*

Katie Gauthier

University of Michigan - Ann Arbor, Bachelor of Arts/Master of
Accounting, Economics/Accounting

Thesis Title: *Association of Financial Literacy with Cardiovascular Risk Factors and Cardiovascular Disease in Older Adults in the United States*

Jaskirandeep Grewal◆●

University of Windsor/University of Western Ontario, Bachelor of
Science/Master of Science, Biological Sciences/Immunology

Thesis Title: *Breast Cancers Detected Over a Decade of Using Digital Breast Tomosynthesis: Comparison with Digital Mammography*

Alex Hauptli

Arizona State University - Tempe, Bachelor of Science,
Biochemistry

Thesis Title: *Depressive Episodes in Patients with Newly-Diagnosed Early-Onset Dementia versus Late-Onset Dementia*

Gloria Ho

University of California - Los Angeles, Bachelor of Arts,
International Studies

Thesis Title: *Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation Facilitated-Resuscitation for Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest*

Olivia Hollyer◆

University of Michigan - Ann Arbor, Bachelor of Science,
Neuropsychology

Thesis Title: *Online Yoga for Children with Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders: A Randomized Control Trial*

Elizabeth Hurtado◆

Cornell University, Bachelor of Arts, Psychology

Thesis Title: *Hispanic Ethnicity and Health-Related Quality of Life in Patients with Inflammatory Bowel Disease*

Virginie Larouche◆

Northeastern University, Bachelor of Science, Health Science

Thesis Title: *Advanced Practice Providers to Resolve Kidney Waitlist Inactive Status: A Cluster-Randomized Trial*

Angela Lemire

Southern Oregon University, Bachelor of Arts, International Studies

Thesis Title: *Attitudes, Perspectives and Behaviors of Cannabis Use Among Pregnant People: A Cross-Sectional Survey*

Jordan Lidsky-Everson◆

University of Pennsylvania, Bachelor of Arts, Neuroscience

Thesis Title: *Time to Surgical Referral in Non-Hispanic White and Black Patients with Primary Hyperparathyroidism*

Nicholas Martirosian

University of Rhode Island - Kingston, Bachelor of Arts Philosophy/
Psychology

Thesis Title: *Topical Therapy in The Management of Mild to Moderate Psoriasis*

Lauren Masayda◆

University of Connecticut, Bachelor of Science, Medical Tech

Thesis Title: *Quality of Life in Patients Treated for Post-Sleeve Gastrectomy Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease*

Gaia Mohr-Tonachini

University of California - Davis, Bachelor of Science, Biological Sciences

Thesis Title: *The Effects of Mindful Meditation Skills-Training for Healthcare Providers on Patient Satisfaction*

Drake Myers◆

University of New Haven, Bachelor of Science, Dietetics

Thesis Title: *Endoscopic Decompression versus Open Laminectomy for Lumbar Spinal Stenosis: A Prospective Safety Study*

Warunee Nowak◆

University of Kentucky Bachelor of Science, Neuroscience

Thesis Title: *Efficacy of Topical Silymarin in Melasma Treatment During Pregnancy and Breastfeeding*

Sara Paul

University of Texas - Austin, Bachelor of Arts, Psychology

Thesis Title: *Establishing Trust in the Dancer-Provider Relationship: What Happens When Providers “Speak Dance”?*

Zachary Perez◆●

Hamilton College, Bachelor of Arts, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Thesis Title: *Histograms of Aortic Size at the Time of Dissection*

Aubrey Presnell◆

Duke University, Bachelor of Science, Biomedical Engineering

Thesis Title: *Interpersonal and Social Rhythm Therapy for Perinatal Women at Risk for Bipolar Disorder*

Grace Queiroz◆

University of Connecticut, Bachelor of Science, Applied Physics

Thesis Title: *Intermittent Fasting as Adjuvant to Topical Therapy in the Management of Mild to Moderate Psoriasis*

Nicholas Radell

Yale University, Bachelor of Arts, French

Thesis Title: Emergency Medicine Provider Ability to Detect Pediatric Oral Abnormalities

Ryan Rogers★◆

University of Massachusetts - Amherst, Bachelor of Science, Economics/Psychology

Thesis Title: *Combination of Donepezil and Memantine to Mitigate Electroconvulsive Therapy Induced Cognitive Effects*

Joanna Schumann★

University of Notre Dame, Bachelor of Arts, Sociology

Thesis Title: *Use of Telehealth Maintenance Pulmonary Rehabilitation in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease*

Shera Shevin◆

University of Michigan - Ann Arbor, Bachelor of Science, Kinesiology

Thesis Title: *Salpingectomy for Sterilization in Patients with a Documented Ovarian Cancer Family History*

Christopher Shimwell◆

Eastern Connecticut State University, Bachelor of Science, Biology

Thesis Title: *Personalized Meal Plans as an Intervention to Enhance Dash Diet Adherence in Hypertensive Adults*

Marshall Walters

Ohio State University, Bachelor of Arts, Economics

Thesis Title: *Potassium Supplements Versus Hydrochlorothiazide in Hypertensive African Americans: Noninferiority Trial*

Amanda Wilson◆

University of California - Davis, Bachelor of Science, Neurobiology

Thesis Title: *Cardiac Rehabilitation Adherence Rates in Elderly Patients Using a Mobile Application*

- ★ Pending the completion of all requirements
- ◆ Received Honors on their Thesis Project
- Participated in Alternative Thesis Project

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

(selected by Yale PA Program Faculty)

Dr. John P. Hayslett Award For Overall Academic Excellence

\$1,000 monetary award

This award was established in memory of the Physician Associate Program's former Medical Director. Dr. John Hayslett was the founding chief of the Section of Nephrology, a prolific scholar, educator, and champion of the PA profession. This award is presented to a student who achieved academic excellence through all phases of the curriculum, embraced extracurricular opportunities, and whose performance exemplified dedication to patient care.

Yale Physician Associate Program Leadership Award

\$1,000 monetary award

The mission of the Yale Physician Associate Program is to educate individuals to become outstanding clinicians and to foster leaders who will serve their communities and advance the PA profession. We recognize that leadership can take many forms, including service to others and scholarship. This award is presented to the student who went beyond the academic requirements to motivate and inspire others.

AWARDS

(selected by Class of 2022)

OUTSTANDING DIDACTIC COURSE AWARD

for dedication and excellence in the classroom

Matthew Grant, MD

Associate Professor of Medicine (Infectious Diseases)

OUTSTANDING PRECEPTOR AWARD

for dedication and excellence in clinical education

Jara Chen, PA-C

OUTSTANDING CLINICAL SITE AWARD

clinical rotation site that provides exemplary clinical teaching

YNHH Inpatient Pediatrics

JACK COLE SOCIETY AWARD

for significant contributions in support of the PA profession

Angela Lemire, Class of 2022

CLASS OF 2022 AWARD

for support and dedication to the Yale PA Program
and the Class of 2022

Courtney Fankhanel, MMSc, PA-C

Assistant Professor of the PA Program

CLASS OF 2022 OFFICERS

Class Co-Presidents

Alex Hauptli
Elizabeth Hurtado

Class Communicators

Sarah Paul
Zachary Perez

Diversity Committee Chairs

Lara DeCastro
Nour Ebid

Social Chairs

Gaia Mohr-Tonachini
Ryan Rogers

AAPA Representatives

Caroline Bell
Angela Lemire

ConnAPA Representatives

Nicholas Radell
Christopher Shimwell

GPSS Senator

Mary Cate Gallagher

Wellness Chair

Nicholas Martirosian

Medical School Council Chairs

Lara DeCastro
Amanda Wilson

PHYSICIAN ASSOCIATE PROGRAM

Faculty

Alexandria Garino, PHD, PA-C

Assistant Professor, Associate Dean for Physician Associate and Assistant Education

Mark Perazella, MD

Professor of Medicine, Medical Director

David Brissette, MMSc, PA-C

Assistant Professor, Interim Program Director and Director of Admissions

Elisabeth Cuoco, MMSc, PA-C

Assistant Professor, Associate Director of Clinical Education

Courtney Fankhanel, MMSc, PA-C

Assistant Professor, Director of Clinical Education

Rosana Gonzalez-Colaso, PharmD, MPH

Assistant Professor, Director of Research Education

Tara Herbert, MS, PA-C

*Assistant Professor, Associate Director of Didactic Education,
Director of Clinical Skills Education*

Elizabeth Roessler, MMSc, PA-C

*Assistant Professor, Interim Director, Yale PA Online Program
Former Director of Didactic Education, Yale Physician Associate Program*

Jonathan Weber, MA, PA-C

Assistant Professor, Director of Didactic Education

Administrative Staff

Wynne Bottomley, BA

Curriculum Coordinator, Didactic Team

Marisol Britt, BA

Curriculum Manager

Meridith Cayer, MS

Associate Director of Admissions, Registrar

Peg Gallagher, BS

Curriculum Coordinator, Clinical Team

Rita Rienzo, MMSc, PA-C

Manager, Alumni Engagement

YALE PHYSICIAN ASSOCIATE PROGRAM
Professional Oath

I pledge to perform the following duties with honesty and dedication:

- I will hold as my primary responsibility the health, safety, welfare and dignity of all human beings.
- I will uphold the tenets of patient autonomy, beneficence, nonmaleficence and justice.
- I will recognize and promote the value of diversity.
- I will treat equally all persons who seek my care.
- I will hold in confidence the information shared in the course of practicing medicine.
- I will assess my personal capabilities and limitations, striving always to improve my medical practice.
- I will actively seek to expand my knowledge and skills, keeping abreast of advances in medicine.
- I will work with other members of the health care team to provide compassionate and effective care of patients.
- I will use my knowledge and experience to contribute to an improved community.
- I will respect my professional relationship with the physician.
- I will share and expand knowledge within the profession.

These duties are pledged with sincerity and upon my honor.

