

# Yale SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

*Physician Assistant Online Program*



Graduation Ceremony  
Woolsey Hall  
May 10, 2024



*Welcome*

Alexandria Garino, PhD, PA-C  
Associate Dean of PA Education  
Associate Professor

*Introduction of Commencement Speaker*

Elizabeth Roessler, MMSc, PA-C  
Program Director  
Assistant Professor

*Commencement Address*

Richard Belitsky, MD  
Associate Professor of Psychiatry  
Interim Program Director of the Yale Psychiatry Residency  
Program

*Commencement Remarks*

Jessica Illuzzi, MD  
Deputy Dean for Education  
Harold W. Jockers Professor of Medical Education, and  
Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences

*Presentation of Graduates*

Elizabeth Roessler, MMSc, PA-C  
Program Director

*Class of 2024 Student Address*

Meaghann McAndrew

*Reading of Physician Assistant Oath*

*Closing*

Elizabeth Roessler, MMSc, PA-C  
Program Director

## COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

*Richard Belitsky, MD*

Dr. Richard Belitsky is an Associate Professor of Psychiatry and the Interim Program Director of the Yale Psychiatry Residency Program. He is noted for his work in medical education at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Named the School of Medicine's deputy dean for education in 2006, Dr. Belitsky focus was on curriculum development, particularly with respect to the methods and challenges involved in teaching students in the areas of patient-centered medical interviewing, the biopsychosocial model, social history, and counseling patients for behavior change. Dr. Belitsky holds a B.A. from the University of Florida, Gainesville, and an M.D. from the University of Florida School of Medicine. He came to Yale in 1979 as a resident in psychiatry and continued as a fellow in forensic psychiatry and chief resident/instructor in the Department of Psychiatry and then joined the faculty as an assistant professor in 1983. At the School of Medicine, Dr. Belitsky served as the residency program director in the Department of Psychiatry from 1996-2006 and currently serves as the Interim residency program director. He became the deputy chair for education in 2001, until he was promoted to the deputy dean for education. He served in that role until 2020. He has earned numerous professional honors at Yale, including the Stephen Fleck M.D. Faculty Award as Exemplary Physician and Teacher, the Charles W. Bohmfalk Teaching Prize and the Francis Gilman Blake Award (for the member of the faculty at the School of Medicine designated by the senior class as the most outstanding teacher of the medical sciences) in both 1998 and 2000.

MASTER OF MEDICAL SCIENCE  
Class of 2024

Dua Abbas  
Benjamin Y. Adler\*  
Devon Edward Andre  
Rebecca Joyce Arnold  
Shanita Danielle Bailey  
Clair-Djinie Bazar  
Tiffany Bell\*  
Alicia R. Bowles  
Peyton McKenna Bruce  
Jessica Bret Burgon  
Tyler M. Burris  
Karissa Bustamante  
Storrs Lamb Byler  
Alieja N. Chen\*  
Whitney Michelle Cooley\*  
Laura Caroline Donnelly\*  
Scotesia Dunlap  
Kai Song Erickson  
Alexander Farinelli  
Jennifer Erin Fitzpatrick  
Stephen Michael Forcum  
Heather Renee Gerrish  
Mayson Deshea Giffel  
Matthew Ryan Gorman  
Adrienne Paige Hearrell  
Josephine Heath  
Tedan Hu Henkel  
Heather Nicole Hernandez  
Lisa Elizabeth Hicks

Lindsey Hollister\*  
Andrea Kaplan-Hernandez  
Charles Kepley  
David Kurpinsky\*  
Brittany Leland\*  
Cathy Li  
Ariella Abigail Mamann  
Jeffrey Mank  
Samantha Dawnel Masyr  
Erika S. Mattson  
Meghann Mara McAndrew  
Heather McDonald  
Jasprina L. Ming  
Bethany Miteiko  
Kimyatta Morris  
Danielle Ocampo  
Daniel Pang  
Cristina Michelle Pozadas Paquet \*  
Giselle Monee Esmerelda Paredes  
Tabitha Pattern  
Thanh Phuong Pham  
Tuan Minh Pham  
Maria Bianca Pierce  
Thomas Pigorsh  
Caroline Popp  
Padmani Rai  
Carolyn Patricia Reid  
Ryan Reusch  
Meagan Robbins  
Samantha Marie Rosaia  
Cyntia Fernanda Andrade Santamaria

Erika Rae Schiller  
Cheryl Lauren Schmidt  
Catherine Amy Siman\*  
Lauren Kay Spangler  
Andrzej Paul Stadnik  
Melissa Claire Tama  
Luis Carlos Teller  
Melissa Marie Theige\*  
Kathryn S. Toler  
Andrea Michelle Valadez  
Aiman Waris  
Janae Wicker  
Kaleigh Virginia Marie Zehr

\*Phi Alpha Honor Society

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT ONLINE PROGRAM FACULTY  
AND STAFF

**Elizabeth Roessler, MMSc, PA-C**  
*Program Director, Assistant Professor*

**Kenneth Morford, MD, FASAM**  
*Medical Director, Assistant Professor*

**Alicia R. Bolden, DMMSc, MPH, PA-C**  
*Assistant Professor Adjunct  
Director of Clinical Education*

**Diane Bruessow, MPAS, PA-C, DFAAPA**  
*Assistant Professor Adjunct  
Director of Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion*

**Genevieve Cabrera**  
*Senior Administrative Assistant*

**Emily Daly, MS**  
*Associate Director of Admissions, Registrar*

**Kathleen Daly**  
*Senior Administrative Assistant*

**Jane McDaniel, MS, MLS (ASCP)SC**  
*Lecturer, Director of Alumni Affairs,  
Emeritus Chair of Admissions*

**Stephanie Neary, MPA, MMS, PA-C**  
*Assistant Professor Adjunct  
Director of Didactic Education*

**Patricia Rose, MMSc, PA-C**  
*Instructor  
Deputy Director of Student Affairs*

**Mary Showstark, MPAS, PA-C**  
*Assistant Professor Adjunct  
Director of Virtual Interprofessional Education*

**Katie Wilcox-Smith, MS**  
*Clinical Site Coordinator*



## PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROFESSIONAL OATH

I pledge to perform the following duties  
with honesty, integrity, and dedication and remembering  
always:

- ❖ That my primary responsibility is to the health, safety, welfare, and dignity of all human beings.
- ❖ I recognize and promote the value of diversity and I will treat equally all persons who seek my care.
- ❖ I will uphold the tenets of patient autonomy, beneficence, non-maleficence, justice, and the principal of informed consent.
- ❖ I will hold in confidence the information shared in the course of practicing medicine, except where I am authorized to impart such knowledge.
- ❖ I will be diligent in understanding both my personal capabilities and my limitations, striving always to improve my practice of medicine.
- ❖ I will actively seek to expand my knowledge and skills, keeping abreast of advances in medical art and science.
- ❖ I will work with other members of the health care team to assure compassionate and effective care of patients.
- ❖ I will uphold and enhance community values and use the knowledge and experience acquired as a PA to contribute to an improved community.
- ❖ I will respect my professional relationship with physicians and other members of the healthcare team.
- ❖ I recognize my duty to perpetuate knowledge within this profession.

These duties are pledged with sincerity and  
upon my honor.