



In Touch

Physician Leadership Development Program Newsletter

Fall 2017

Vol. 5, Issue 1



Boonshoft
School of Medicine
WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY

Celebrating the Class
of 2017 1

Student Updates 2

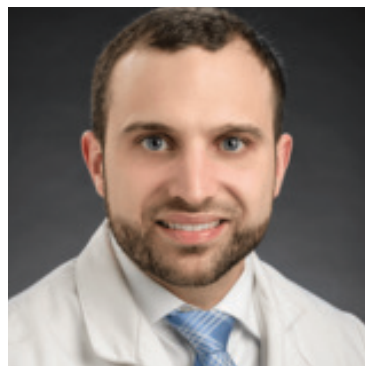
Events 2

Kyle Horton, M.D., M.B.A. 3

Alumni Updates 4

Celebrating the Class of 2017

Nick Christian, M.D., M.B.A.



Nick graduated alongside 98 of his colleagues during the 37th Boonshoft School of Medicine Graduation Ceremony on May 26, 2017. The ceremony was held at Victoria Theatre with guest speaker Vivek H. Murthy, M.D., M.B.A., former U.S. Surgeon General. Dr. Christian is currently a first-year resident in internal medicine at the University of Texas Dell Medical School.

Nick Christian has moved on to residency after a productive medical school career, during which he engaged in leadership within the university, as well as the community, particularly around issues of opioid addiction. During the initial years of Dayton Improves Healthcare, a chapter of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) Open School, Nick promoted medical student education on patient safety and quality improvement. Under the IHI chapter, Nick founded the Student Opioid Coalition (SOC) with the vision of collaborating with local public health agencies to engage students in community-based interventions against the opioid and poly-drug epidemic. He brought his passion for mental health on a societal level to the American College of Physicians Leadership Day on Capitol Hill, participating in discussions about curbing opioid abuse. Dr. Christian was awarded the 2017 Excellence in Public Health Award by the United States Public Health Service, which honors a student actively involved in local public health efforts.

Physician Leadership Development Program

Department of Population
and Public Health Sciences
3123 Research Blvd.
Suite 200
Kettering, OH 45420

Sabrina Neeley, Ph.D., M.P.H.

PLDP Program Director
Tel: 937.775.3316
sabrina.neeley@wright.edu

Carla Lachecki, M.A.

PLDP Program Coordinator
carla.lachecki@wright.edu

medicine.wright.edu/pldp

Student Updates & Achievements



Justin Kelley, M.P.H. (Class of 2018), was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society, reflecting his dedication to academic excellence and professionalism.



Brianna Burlock (Class of 2020) served as chair of the Leadership Conference Planning Committee.



Alexandra Lawson (center) poses with her award, alongside Dr. Sara Paton (left) and Dr. Marietta Orlowski (right).

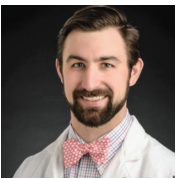
Alexandra Lawson, M.P.H. (Class of 2018), was honored with the John D. and Gretchen H. Bullock Endowed Public Health/Medicine Award, which recognizes a student who shows outstanding performance in both medicine and public health. Alexandra also earned the John C. Gillen M.D. Clerkship Award for Family Medicine.



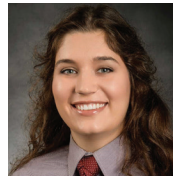
Parvaneh Nouri (Class of 2020) accepted a position as president of Boonshoft's local chapter of Medical Students for Choice. She is also working with Department of Surgery leadership on the standardization of protocol for BSOM's surgical clerkship. In addition, Parvaneh recently testified in the Ohio statehouse in opposition of Senate Bill 164 and House Bill 214.



Megan Smith (Class of 2020) participated in the Summer Institute for Medical Students at the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation in Minnesota, where she gained a first-hand perspective of addiction medicine at a drug and alcohol rehabilitation center.



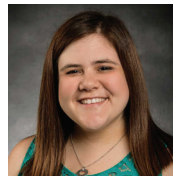
Michael Holbrook, M.B.A. (Class of 2019), is collaborating with Cedarville University's School of Pharmacy to study the impact of opioid disposal bags in Southwest Ohio. He will be attending the Institute for Healthcare Improvement National Forum in December to present his research, "An Estimated Economic Impact of Observation Status on the American Healthcare System."



Jacqueline Jacobs (Class of 2021) was instrumental in the planning of Boonshoft Pride's Sexual History Workshop in October, an opportunity for medical students to practice inclusive and sensitive history-taking.



Joycelyn Akamune (Class of 2020) served on the public relations subcommittee of the Leadership Conference Planning Committee. She is also the student representative for the Healer's Art fall campaign 2017, working to develop materials for the course.



Jessica Sokol (Class of 2021) is involved in the leadership of several student organizations. She is vice president of Boonshoft Pride, vice chair of the PLDP executive board, secretary of Surgery Interest Group, M2 representative for Boonshoft's Association of Women Surgeons chapter, and fundraising chair for the Class of 2020 Council. She also served as fundraising chair of the Leadership Conference Planning Committee.

PLDP Events

Leadership Conference



Students and faculty learn and network over lunch at the 6th Annual Boonshoft School of Medicine Leadership Conference.

The PLDP hosted the 6th Annual Boonshoft School of Medicine Leadership Conference on October 14, themed "Bridging the Gaps: Interdisciplinary Approach in Medicine." PLDP students helped with the organization and implementation of the event. Brianna

Burlock, Joycelyn Akamune and Jessica Sokol served on the planning committee for the event and Michael Holbrook was a panel member for the small group session on research. The conference drew 57 attendees and 24 speakers.



The conference's keynote speaker was Yamini Teegala, M.D., M.P.H., a family medicine physician and medical director of Rocking Horse Clinic in Springfield, Ohio. Dr. Teegala spoke to the role of integrative medicine at her clinic, setting the stage for the interdisciplinary

theme of the conference. Breakout sessions included discussions on leadership in medicine, interprofessional teamwork, residency interview preparation and student research.

Health Care Here and There



The PLDP hosted "Health Care Here and There," an event exploring the health care systems of other nations, on November 1. In the midst of the heated health care debates in today's political

sphere, we looked to the nations of Australia, Canada, England and Singapore to see what the U.S. could learn from international health care systems. Dr. John McAlearney, a health economist and professor with dual appointments in the Boonshoft School of Medicine and the Raj Sooin College of Business, led a spirited discussion of key issues.

Alumni Q&A: Kyle Horton, M.D., M.B.A.

Dr. Kyle Horton, a member of the PLDP's inaugural cohort, graduated in 2008 with an M.B.A. degree alongside her M.D. Board-certified in internal medicine, Dr. Horton has transitioned into the world of public policy, advocacy and politics. We check in with her as she begins her congressional campaign back home in North Carolina! You can follow her campaign at www.drkyleforcongress.com or follow her social media @drkyle4congress. This piece was adapted from a phone interview with Dr. Horton.

Thinking back to medical school, what drew you to the dual-degree program?

I was drawn to the thought of a second degree because of the future opportunities it would offer. I chose to earn an M.B.A. because it's important to

"I use the skills and knowledge earned through my M.B.A. every day."

understand the business climate in order to navigate health economics. The M.B.A. skillset includes communication, finance, budgeting, and economics. These are universal skills that open doors to career prospects in administration, education, politics, policy, or even management of a private practice. The leadership development aspect of the program was such a selling point, it would have felt like a missed opportunity had I not pursued the dual degree.

Tell us about the trajectory of your career since graduating from the PLDP.

I was practicing internal medicine at a Veterans Affairs (VA) medical center in Virginia, and I kept seeing in my patients examples of how the health care system was not working for them. I saw patients harmed or nearly harmed by extended wait times, missed cancer screenings, or inaccurate

diagnoses. Empathizing with the struggles of these patients harmed by a system, I wanted to help ensure that we don't repeat the same mistakes from the Vietnam era in the care of future generations of veterans. When I moved to North Carolina, I taught myself politics, building on the educational foundation I gathered through the PLDP. I wanted to stay politically engaged, addressing medicine holistically to advance health care systems and to improve the federal policy framework. Now, I'm a public policy advocate, fighting in the arenas of veterans care, public health, and environmental policy. While there are currently no women physicians in Congress, I realized that the national political sphere needs a woman doctor who particularly advocates for veterans and who can competently navigate policy discussions. I decided to run for congress and I'm currently on the campaign trail in North Carolina.

What issues related to veterans have you worked on?

Much of my work relates to the mental health and unique combat- and service-related health concerns of veterans. I contributed to the passage of the Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention for American Veterans Act, to address the public health crisis of veteran suicide that now claims an estimated 20 veteran lives a day. I've also been working on policy solutions to advance opiate safety for veterans, prevent suicide in female veterans and address toxic burn pit exposure for young veterans, which is like the Agent Orange for many who served in the Middle East. Because multiple generations of my family have proudly served this country, this is both a personal and a professional fight for me to help ensure that we fulfill our sacred obligation to care for our veterans, which should include high quality



Dr. Horton launches her congressional campaign in June 2017 in Wilmington, North Carolina at Battleship Park, in front of the Battleship North Carolina.

health care specific to their unique needs.

financial and budgetary issues are the crux of many public health policy discussions. Understanding that world is

Since becoming so involved in public policy and politics, do you miss the day-to-day of medical practice?

When I decided to run for congress, I had to take a leave from my medical practice. For a while, I practiced part time and would go back and forth to the Hill. During that time, I was also working locally on initiatives to end veteran homelessness and planning mental health summits related to my veterans' mental health and suicide work. Eventually, with the time commitment demanded by my political career, I felt it wasn't fair to my patients and practice partners to continue. My decision was validated when I ran into one of my former patients. He said to me, "We miss you here, Doc, but we need you in Washington more." In truth, now, I feel the most pride that I'm fulfilling the Hippocratic Oath of any point in my career as I'm fighting every day to protect Americans' access and coverage for life-saving care.

"Having dual backgrounds in business and medicine puts me in a position to make a genuine difference in policy."

extremely worthwhile and it gives my words meaning and gravitas when speaking to federal lawmakers and policy stakeholders. Being able to dissect issues in the health care system from the perspective of the providers is a tremendous benefit in bridging the gap between health care policy and the well-being of our patients.

What advice do you have for medical students just starting out?

Have a frank conversation with yourself about what you want to get out of your career. It's not easy as a first-year student, when you're inundated with information and opportunities, but consider a dual degree. You never know how you're going to use earned knowledge and experience in your life. I never knew I would feel called to get involved in this way, but having the dual backgrounds in business and medicine put me in a position to make a genuine difference in policy.

How does your M.B.A. contribute to the advancement of your career?

I use the skills and knowledge earned through my M.B.A. every day. As a public policy advocate, I've learned that

Alumni Updates



Jessica Vinsant, M.D., M.B.A., PLDP Class of 2009, is a full partner at a general surgery private practice in Knoxville, Tennessee. Dr. Vinsant also serves on the nominating committee for the local hospital and the board of directors for both Susan G. Komen of East Tennessee and Cancer Support Community.



Rocky Jedick, M.D., M.B.A., PLDP Class of 2009, is completing his emergency medicine residency in Salt Lake City, Utah, after serving as a flight surgeon for five years abroad. He continues to serve as a flight surgeon in the United States Air Force Reserve. Dr. Jedick is the entrepreneur of Go Flight Medicine LLC, performing occupational physicals for air traffic controllers and flying-class physicals for pilots. In April 2017, he performed research with NASA, collaborating with astronauts and other flight surgeons at Johnson Space Center.



Dr. Matthew Pellerite, his wife Julie, and their three children.

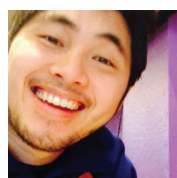
Matthew Pellerite, M.D., M.P.H., PLDP Class of 2009, completed his neonatology fellowship and accepted a position at Evanston Hospital staffing NICU patients. After completing the MERITS (Medical Education, Research, Innovations, Teaching and Scholarship) fellowship at University of Chicago's Pritzker School of Medicine, he began work as assistant professor of pediatrics. His research includes developmental trajectories of preterm infants and educational interventions to reduce infant mortality.



Jeffrey Jenks, M.D., M.P.H., PLDP Class of 2010, began as assistant professor of medicine at the University of California San Diego. He has also joined the UC San Diego Health Antibiotic Utilization Committee. Dr. Jenks conducts clinical research on tuberculosis.



Sarah McBeth, M.D., M.P.H., PLDP Class of 2010, recently accepted positions as clinical assistant professor at University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and Medical Director of Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force. Her public health efforts include expansion of HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis in the Pittsburgh area.



Daniel Lui, M.D., M.B.A., PLDP Class of 2010, began as medical director of Grace Medical Services, the only foreign-run medical project in Southwest China. Dr. Lui is the CEO of Giving-BackLife, an organization founded during medical school with the goal of providing desperately needed medical care to the poverty-stricken region of Southwest China. Learn more at GivingBackLife.org.



Chad Garven, M.D., M.P.H., PLDP Class of 2012, was honored with the 2017 Ohio Academy of Family Physicians Foundation Mentorship Award in Columbus.



Laura Previll, M.D., M.P.H., PLDP Class of 2012, accepted a position as medical instructor of the Division of Geriatrics in Duke University Hospital's Department of Internal Medicine. She also began work as the Medical Director of Geri PACT (Geriatrics Patient Aligned Care Team). Dr. Previll's research includes reducing inappropriate prescriptions for older adults and refining the assessment of cognitive and functional status in geriatric patients.

Our Mission: To develop leaders in medicine, health systems, and population health through education, communication, collaboration, advocacy, and experience

Our Vision: As students in the Physician Leadership Development Program pursuing integrated degrees in medicine, public health, and business administration, we envision an educational community of global citizens devoted to leadership development, community building, innovation, and advocacy