Welcome Rho Cohort, Class of 2024!

The Physician Leadership Development Program is pleased to welcome Michael, Meha, Deanne, Teran, and Fahad. The Rho cohort is the seventeenth PLDP cohort.

Michael Bamisile – M.B.A. Candidate
Hometown: Richmond, Virginia
Education: Fork Union Military Academy, Fork Union, Virginia
Christopher Newport University, Newport News, Virginia, B.S., Neuroscience
Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia, M.S., Anatomy and Neurobiology

Meha Joshi – M.P.H. Candidate
Hometown: Lexington, Kentucky
Education: Henry Clay High School, Lexington, Kentucky
Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, B.A., Neuroscience and Behavior

Deanne Locker – M.B.A. Candidate
Hometown: La Puente, California
Education: La Puente High School, La Puente, California
California State University-Fullerton, Fullerton, California, B.S., Biochemistry

Teran Mickens – M.P.H. Candidate
Hometown: Gibsonia, Pennsylvania
Education: Shady Side Academy, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri, B.A., Psychological and Brain Sciences

Fahad Qureshi – M.B.A. Candidate
Hometown: Indianapolis, Indiana
Education: School of Knowledge, Indianapolis, Indiana
Indiana University-Purdue University-Indianapolis, Indianapolis, Indiana, B.A., Biology & B.S., Neuroscience
Alumni Updates

Kelly Estes, M.D., M.P.H., PLDP Class of 2012, works in Cleveland, Ohio, and recently made the transition to a position as an attending primary care sports medicine physician in the Orthopedics and Rheumatologic Institute at the Cleveland Clinic. She is also the medical director for the orthopedic express care.

Thomas Hagele, M.D., M.B.A., PLDP Class of 2012, works in Newark, Ohio, as an attending physician at Licking Memorial Dermatology.

Jared Klein, M.D., M.P.H., PLDP Class of 2014, works in Cleveland, Ohio, as a pediatric cardiology fellow at Cleveland Clinic Children’s Hospital. Next year, he will be attending an advanced imaging fellowship at Nemours Children’s in Wilmington, Delaware.

Jasmin Scott Hawkins, M.D., M.P.H., PLDP Class of 2016, works in Los Angeles, California, as a Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellow at Harbor UCLA Medical Center. She serves as the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship Chair. Dr. Scott Hawkins also serves as a member of the American Psychiatric Association Council on Minority Mental Health and Health Disparities and as a member of the Adolescent Psychiatry Committee.

Nick Christian, M.D., M.B.A., PLDP Class of 2017, works in Austin, Texas, as a chief resident in internal medicine at the University of Texas. He was recently featured in an article titled, “The Front-line Physician” from Dell Medical School. Dr. Christian was also awarded a 2020 Ruth Fox Scholarship Award through the American Society of Addiction Medicine. He was elected chief resident for academic year 2020-2021.

Alexandra (Allie) Lawson, M.D., M.P.H., PLDP Class of 2018, was commissioned into the Air Force on July 27, 2018. She is currently a PGY2 Resident at University of South Florida-Morton Plant Mease Family Medicine Residency in Clearwater, Florida. Dr. Lawson was recently elected chief resident starting May 1, 2020, and continues her work as a co-creator of an LGBTQ curriculum.

PLDP Student on the Front Lines Q&A

With his clerkship canceled, Kyle Henneke, M.P.H. Candidate, PLDP Class of 2023, was feeling useless sitting at home. Board certified in emergency and trauma nursing, Kyle applied to a travel nurse agency and in early April drove to New Orleans to join other health care workers on the frontlines of the COVID-19 outbreak. When Kyle returns to Dayton, he will start his M.P.H. degree program. We asked Kyle to reflect about his experience in New Orleans.

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What COVID-19 projects and roles are you engaged in currently?

I’m working as an RN in the Emergency Department at West Jefferson Medical Center here in Jefferson Parish in New Orleans. I am not involved in any COVID-19 project other than direct patient care on the frontlines in a hotspot.

What advice would you want to give to medical students who want to get involved in a COVID-19 response?

My advice is to 1) Be careful - your safety is your primary concern (something a lot of health care practitioners struggle with) because if you don’t take care of yourself, you can’t help the hundreds of other people you could potentially be helping in the future; 2) Be flexible - in any disaster setting, especially in the emergency room, everything changes rapidly and you have to be willing to change your practice. Hospital policy won’t always reflect medical recommendations because in a disaster the dissemination of information to physicians is far more streamlined; 3) Be on top of the latest research and information - set up some kind of email notification system to a trusted source, listen to daily podcasts that synthesize articles as they come out, etc. You have to practice evidence-based care where you can and that is a good way to do it; 4) Don’t get political - your clinical decisions should never come from a personal political standpoint. You can’t be reprimanded for using the best possible information that you have at the time, but you can be held responsible for educating a patient with information simply because you side with a particular politician. You’ll probably meet attendings or residents who don’t think this is a big deal at all (in my experience down here it’s rare, but it happens). You’ll probably meet medical staff who don’t think they’ll catch anything because “it only affects the old” so they won’t wear personal protective equipment if available. Don’t be like them.

Has the pandemic affected your decision about pursuing a dual-degree and what do you see to be the advantages of having a Master’s degree (M.P.H. or M.B.A.) in the fight against COVID-19?

If anything, the pandemic has made me more excited about pursuing my M.P.H. I’m absolutely on fire with learning about epidemiology, public health topics, and policy concerning public health. I think that this is a perfect degree for a practicing emergency room physician since they are making decisions on the frontlines. If you know how the system works, you can better anticipate what patient outcomes will be for different decisions you make.

Having an M.P.H. degree gives you the proper lens through which to consider pros and cons of different policies concerning COVID-19 (or any pandemic really). You get training in epidemiology, bioethics, and potentially bioterrorism and disaster topics. Since the emergency room is the entrance to just about all patients in the hospital, I think understanding how an outbreak affects the entire health care system, starting with the emergency room, is extremely beneficial in terms of making good triaging decisions and educating patients on best health practices.

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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.

Megan Smith, M.D., M.P.H. (Class of 2020), received the United States Public Health Service award on May 2, 2020. Earlier this year, she completed a student-initiated elective in rural Honduras at Santa Rosa de Lima Clinic sponsored by the Honduran Children’s Rescue Fund.

Jessica Sokol, M.P.H. (Class of 2021), developed an elective for herself and medical student colleagues who were unable to begin clerkships due to the COVID-19 crisis. She and other students volunteer at Public Health-Dayton and Montgomery County, working the phone lines to answer questions that people have about COVID-19 and state and local orders. Jessica also assisted with a weekly Facebook Live event held by Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley and Michael Dohn, M.D., called “Ask the Doc.”

Ben Clouse, M.Ed., M.P.H., M.S. (Class of 2022), graduated from Wright State University on May 2, 2020, with a M.Ed. and an M.P.H. degree. Ben presented a talk at the 2020 Boonshoft School of Medicine Medical Student Research Symposium titled, “CT Scan Effective Radiation Dose Reduction in Pediatric Trauma Patients.” His poster of the same research was accepted at the Ohio Public Health Academic Forum.