

POST BACC

UPDATE SUMMER 2020



Director's Message

Celebrating Resilience

I have directed the CST post baccalaureate program for five years, but this year, by far, is the most notable.

COVID-19 reached around the world and into all of our lives. Post baccalaureate students, like our faculty and staff, rose to the occasion with resilience and composure. Each rallied to get through the 2020 spring semester when the spread of the coronavirus meant all Temple University classes would move online.

It is said we are defined by our actions. Our students, faculty, staff and our alumni demonstrated their commitment, adaptability and perseverance in a reimagined environment.

Let the uncertainties and challenges of the pandemic motivate us to continue to celebrate resilience and let our actions reflect our commitment to both each other and to making a better tomorrow.

Please continue to stay healthy, safe and connected to the CST post baccalaureate program.

Grace Hershman

Associate Vice Dean and Program Director
CST Post Baccalaureate Pre-Health Program

Staying strong during COVID-19

The decision to move classes online and close the campus definitely changed the way that we conducted business. But it was business as (the new) normal. Our faculty stepped up, moving classes and labs online quickly and efficiently. And we continued to meet—through Zoom—with current students and to interview applicants for our 2020-2021 class. But it was our students who really rose to the occasion, recognizing the seriousness of the situation while staying focused on their coursework and their applications. We thank everyone for their efforts.



Above: Post-bacc faculty meeting hosted by Professor Robert-André Rarig to discuss transitioning to remote learning

Below: Virtual workshop (the new normal) hosted by Dean Grace Hershman

Alumni News

Our alumni have been accepted at schools in 25 states, the District of Columbia, and the Caribbean. We are thrilled to have alumni accepted to dental school and podiatric medical school, in addition to medical, physician assistant and pharmacy school. Congratulations to all!

ALABAMA

Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine

ARKANSAS

Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine

ARIZONA

Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine of
Midwestern University*

AT Still University School of Osteopathic
Medicine

Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine

Midwestern University College of Dental
Medicine-Arizona*

CALIFORNIA

California Health Sciences University College of
Osteopathic Medicine*

California Northstate University College of
Medicine

Keck School of Medicine of the University of
Southern California

UCLA/Drew Medical College

Western University of Health Sciences/College
of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific*

CARIBBEAN

American University of the Caribbean

Ross School of Medicine

COLORADO

University of Colorado School of Medicine

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Howard University College of Medicine

FLORIDA

Miller School of Medicine – University of Miami

Nova Southeastern University College of
Osteopathic Medicine

University of Tampa – Master of Physician
Assistant Medicine Program

USF Health Morsani College of Medicine*

GEORGIA

PCOM Georgia*

PCOM South Georgia*

ILLINOIS

Rush Medical College at Rush University

University of Illinois College of Medicine

KENTUCKY

University of Kentucky College of Medicine

University of Louisville School of Medicine*

MARYLAND

University of Maryland*

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston University School of Medicine*

Tufts University School of Medicine*

University of Massachusetts Medical School

MICHIGAN

Wayne State University School of Medicine

Michigan State University College of Human
Medicine*

MISSOURI

Kansas City University of Medicine and
Biosciences

NEBRASKA

Creighton University School of Medicine

NEVADA

Touro University Nevada College of Osteopathic
Medicine

NEW JERSEY

Rowen University School of Osteopathic
Medicine

Rutgers New Jersey Medical School*

NEW YORK

Albany Medical College*

Albert Einstein College of Medicine*

New York College of Podiatric Medicine*

New York Institute of Technology College of
Osteopathic Medicine

SUNY Downstate College of Medicine

Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine

University of Rochester School of Medicine and
Dentistry*

OHIO

Case Western Reserve University School of
Medicine*

University of Toledo College of Medicine and Life
Sciences*

Wright State University Boonshoft School of
Medicine*

PENNSYLVANIA

Drexel University School of Medicine

Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine

Jefferson University College of Pharmacy

Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine

Lewis Katz School of Medicine - Temple
University

Lewis Katz School of Medicine, Physician
Assistant Program - Temple University*

Maurice H Kornberg School of Dentistry -
Temple University*

Penn State College of Medicine

Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

Philadelphia College of Pharmacy

Sidney Kimmel Medical College - Thomas
Jefferson University

Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine*

SOUTH CAROLINA

University of South Carolina School of Medicine

TENNESSEE

Meharry Medical College

TEXAS

Paul L Foster School of Medicine

Texas Tech Medical School

University of Texas Medical Branch School of
Medicine*

University of Texas Southwestern Medical
School

UTAH

Roseman University of Health Sciences College
of Dental Medicine*

WASHINGTON

Washington State University Elson S. Floyd
College of Medicine

WEST VIRGINIA

West Virginia University School of Osteopathic
Medicine

*Students accepted for the first time
during 2019-2020 cycle

Year in Review

For most of the year, it was business as usual on campus, but everyone adapted quickly when COVID-19 struck.

In the fall and first half of the spring, students enjoyed on-campus events such as orientation (including a campus-wide scavenger hunt), guest lectures, information sessions with healthcare professionals and social events, including a holiday celebration in beautiful Mitten Hall.



Alumni news... Congratulations to everyone!

Asra Khan (ACHS '16), pictured at her white coat ceremony, married in April 2019, and is now thrilled to be finishing her first year at the University of Tampa's Master's in Physician Assistant Medicine program in St. Petersburg, Fla.

After successfully completing his first year of medical school at Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine in Las Cruces, N.M., **Auggie Herber (ACHS '17)** looks forward to collaborating on two research projects this summer, planning his fall wedding and studying for boards.

This summer, **Anthony Vu (ACHS '17)** is a pharmacy student intern at CHOP before heading back to Jefferson College of Pharmacy for his second year. **Noah Klein (BCHS '17)** will also be at Jefferson this fall, in his first year of medical school at Sidney Kimmel Medical College -Thomas Jefferson University.

Sierra Derti (CST '17; ACHS '18) is a clinical research assistant at Weill Cornell Medicine and has been working on a phase 3 trial of remdesivir, a promising COVID-19 treatment. Look for an article from her lab in the New England Journal of Medicine. **Sam Kidd (BCHS '18)** has also been working hard this year as a phlebotomist at Penn Medicine Lancaster General Hospital.

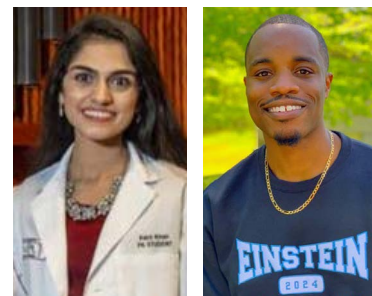
Sarah Finocchiaro (CLA '17; BCHS '18), recipient of the Helen Fuld Health Scholarship and Dean of Nursing Scholarship, started the accelerated BSN program at Villanova. Also remaining in Philadelphia is **Tyler Johnson (BCHS '18)**, who starts medical school at Drexel University College of Medicine this fall.

Heading west is **Cori Fine (ACHS '18)** and **Bud Kheir (ACHS '18)**. Cori, excited to attend a community-service-oriented program, is heading to the College of Dental Medicine at Western University of Health Sciences in Pomona, Cal. Bud is moving to Arizona to attend Midwestern University College of Dental Medicine-Arizona.

After interviewing at eight schools, **Ayobami Adebayo (ACHS '18)**, pictured, will attend Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City. **Maya Holmes (ACHS '18)** is heading to Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine in Cleveland and **Jason Kim (ACHS '18)** will, when he graduates in 2024, be part of the inaugural DO class at California Health Sciences University in Clovis, Cal.

Ada Ng (ACHS '19) recently started a job as a COVID-19 tracer. **Cain Dudek (BCHS '19)** welcomed son Theodore Michael Dudek on June 5, 2020, and **Tina Yerdon (ACHS '19)**, after being accepted to both Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine and New York College of Podiatric Medicine (NYCPM), decided to attend NYCPM.

Congratulations to everyone! And we hope to keep hearing from all of you.



Above (l to r): Asra Khan and Ayobami Adebayo

Owl Network

We are thrilled to announce that the Temple CST Post-Bacc Program now has its own professional development group on Owl Network, Temple University's official online community for alumni and students.

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN](#)

owlnetwork.temple.edu/hub/temple/group/temple-cst-post-baccalaureate-pre-health-program/about

2016

2017

2018

2019

Program News

Faculty win teaching awards

Congratulations to **Robert-André Rarig** for being named a 2019 recipient of the Temple University College of Science and Technology Dean's Distinguished Teaching Award and the 2019 recipient of the Provost's Award for Teaching Excellence in GenEd and to **Kathleen Giangiacomo** for receiving of the Lewis Katz School of Medicine's Educational Excellence in PA/POSTBAC/UBTH Award.



The post-bacc program continues to grow

This year, the program welcomed two new faculty members, **Olena Mishchuk**, who taught *Basic Core Introduction to Biology for Pre-Medical Post-Baccalaureates* labs, and **Uloma Opara-Osuoha**, who taught the newly introduced labs for *Human Anatomy* (taken by ACHS pre-PAs and pre-dents) and *Fundamentals of Physiology* (taken by ACHS pre-PAs).

The program also welcomed three new members to the Advisory Board: **Michele O'Connor**, Associate Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies at Temple University, **Bethann Mercanti**, Director of Clinical Operations at Cooper Neurological Institute, and **Francine Sandrow**, Acting Chief Informatics Officer, VHA Office of Community Care and emergency medicine physician at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Philadelphia.



Above (l to r): Olena Mishchuk, Uloma Opara-Osuoha, and Michele O'Connor

Below (l to r): Bethann Mercanti, Francine Sandrow

The post-bacc team gets a home

Prior to the Temple University campus closure due to coronavirus restrictions, we were in the process of moving the entire post-bacc leadership team to a newly renovated space in the Bio-Life Building, which some of our students had a chance to visit on March 13, 2020, the last day of in-person classes. We look forward to unveiling our completed space and hosting an open house for everyone, including students, alumni, and faculty, when social distance rules allow.

