

PA

BUTLER UNIVERSITY

ALUMNI CONNECTION

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT MAGAZINE



WINTER 2020

2020

PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S WELCOME



Hello!

This is my first PA alumni connection magazine since taking over as Program Director in August, 2018. Lots has been going on here at the Butler University PA Program.

I am very pleased to report that our program successfully completed all required steps to remain accredited through the ARC-PA through 2027! This was the result of the combined efforts of numerous faculty throughout the college.

There are lots of new faces in the Program! Professor Matthew Stinson has since returned to clinical practice, and Dr. Jennifer Snyder has taken the helm of the Doctor of Medical Science (DMS) Program. These changes, along with an additional PA faculty position created by Dean Robert Soltis, led to us welcoming three new faculty members in summer 2019. Additionally, Molly Cripe and Missy Parsons-Horton have moved on from the PA Department. Please take a few moments to get to know our new team members in these pages.

Professor Elizabeth Schmidt was recently appointed to the position of Assistant Program Director. She and I look forward to continuing to build on this program's successes— which are driven by the hard work and quality patient care provided by alumni like you.



Please do not hesitate to reach out any time. Whether you are reconnecting, getting involved, or if the program might be able to offer something to help you... we would love to hear from you!

Chris Roman PA-C

Christopher Roman, PA-C
Program Director
Butler University PA Program

*P.S. We will be holding a continuing education event on February 29, with the option to join us for the Butler-DePaul game at Hinkle Fieldhouse. **Please save the date!***

PA

BUTLER UNIVERSITY
ALUMNI CONNECTION
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT MAGAZINE

VOLUME IV
2020

page 4

CLASS of 1999 HIGHLIGHTS

page 6

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

page 9

A DAY *in the* LIFE

page 10

FACULTY/STAFF UPDATES

page 12

PRECEPTOR PROFILE:
MARLO MILLER *and* ANGIE LIVELY

page 13

PROJECT ACCESS

page 15

FACULTY, ALUMNI, *and* STUDENT PUBLICATIONS



HIGHLIGHTS

It is always exciting to learn what our PA alumni have accomplished since graduation. We are pleased to highlight a few graduates of the Class of 1999 and where they are now.



JEN GARRETT (CLEMONS), PA-C

After graduation in 1999, Jen Garrett had the opportunity to work in the Stem Cell Transplant clinic at Riley Hospital for Children and was ultimately recruited to Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center where she worked in the Division of Hematology/Oncology through 2006. In Cincinnati, Garrett had primarily worked in gastroenterology (both adult and pediatric) and solid organ transplant at the University of Cincinnati (UC). Garrett recently accepted a position as Principal Faculty at Mount St. Joseph's Physician Assistant program and continues to work clinically one day a week in the liver transplant clinic at UC. She and her husband have been married almost 20 years and are proud parents of a 14-year-old daughter who just started high school (spends the rest of her days in the pool), as well as a 5-year-old rescue mutt who enjoys her job as a therapy dog at a local nursing home.



RANDY SEIDEHAMEL, PA-C

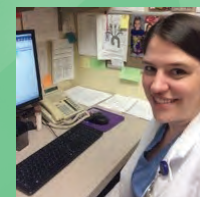
After spending some time in Neurosurgery, 10 years in an ER, and three years in orthopedic surgery, Randy has been a partner in *The Springs Urgent Care* in Owensboro, Kentucky for the past five years. He never imagined all of these opportunities in his wildest dreams and adds "many thanks to Butler University!"



KEVIN SCHMIDT, PA-C

Kevin has practiced in orthopaedics for 20 years since graduating from Butler's Physician Assistant program. After 10 years practicing in Noblesville, Indiana, his wife Betsy (Hanson) - who is also a graduate of the Class of 1999 - Kevin created and ran a company called PA Surgical Services. Kevin believes that it was a great experience learning the business side of healthcare while still staying involved in surgery.

Although very successful, it became too much work for the Schmidt's to keep up with while raising their four children. At that time, Kevin joined Methodist Sports Medicine, working alongside Dr. Kevin Condict performing total joint replacement surgeries and general orthopaedic care while Betsy went on to teach in the Butler PA Program. Kevin says that "being a PA has been an amazing and rewarding career and it has been fun to see how the occupation has matured and changed over the years."



COURTNEY (SLOCUM) PETERSON, PA-C

Courtney has been a neurosurgery PA in Indiana, Florida, Georgia and in Boston, MA (at Tufts Medical Center) from 2008-2018. Currently, she is a stay at home wife and mother to her 7 year old daughter and 5 year old son while she recovers from stage IIA breast cancer.



WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM OTHER PA GRADS!
What are you doing now? Contact us at PAprogram@butler.edu.





SWATHI RAO, PA-C '03

BE WELL FAMILY CARE- CARMEL, IN
PRACTICE OWNER/MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Soon after graduating from Butler's PA Program in 2003, Swathi Rao began her career in Family Medicine. Early on in her practice, she learned a fundamental lesson: changing how we eat, move, sleep, and detox is critical to optimal wellness. Rao recognized that to optimize the health of her patients, she would need to find and treat the root causes and imbalances. In 2010, Rao began honing in on her patients symptoms and diving deep into their histories and genetics. She was always comfortable with a blend of both traditional and alternative medicine and in 2015, she became certified by The Institute for Functional Medicine.

This catapulted her to fully realize her dream of opening her very own home for functional medicine, Be Well Family Care in Carmel, Indiana. She and her team share

her passion for health and wellness and empower their patients to further personalize their healthcare by participating in Be Well programs. In addition to spending 60-90 minutes actively listening to her patients and explaining and treating the root causes of their medical concerns, Rao also facilitates group visits where multiple patients gather together to discuss ways that one's lifestyle and/or environment can play a role in disease prevention or progression.



Patients of Be Well Family Care are also encouraged to take part in cooking classes held in the on-site teaching kitchen where there are always lessons to be learned in healthy and creative food preparation. Rao believes strongly that "food should always be their first medicine" and "...incorporating the teaching kitchen is another tool to help patients be mindful of what they are doing." She holds

educational events and cooking sessions tailored to both children, adults, and for families. The cooking sessions are open to all patients of the practice as well as the general public.

Rao is a busy wife and mother of two, who manages her business, provides comprehensive, personalized care to her patients, mentors new IFM providers (virtually and in-person), and has dedicated time to first-year Butler PA students by providing them an early experience/shadowing opportunity. She also takes part in the Butler PA Program's admission interview day that occurs every fall on campus.

PA HALLWAY RENOVATIONS

Did you hear the one about the Physician Assistant Program with faculty and staff offices in three different parts of the building? That was us until this past spring, when "the green mile" was renovated to accommodate all of the faculty and staff of the Department of PA Studies. We are really enjoying the new setup, and it has been great to have everyone together in the same space.



BEFORE



AFTER



SUPPORT THE PA PROGRAM TODAY

Make a lasting contribution to Butler University Physician Assistant (PA) students with a financial gift to the program. Your gift will support students through ongoing improvements to our academic programs and resources.

TO DONATE ONLINE

Go to butler.edu/gifts and click on "Give to Butler." Fill in the form using "Select one or more designation(s)," and then select "Support a different area." Importantly, in the Notes section, indicate that your gift is for "PA Program Gift Fund."

TO DONATE BY CHECK

Make your check payable to Butler University, indicating on the memo line that the gift is for "PA Program Gift Fund." Mail to: Butler University • University Advancement • Jordan Hall • 4600 Sunset Avenue • Indianapolis, IN 46208

BECAUSE OF YOU, WE ARE BU.

A DAY IN THE LIFE:

WITH ANNA PLUMLEY MPAS-2

HOMETOWN:
Livonia, Michigan
UNDERGRADUATE
DEGREE:
Bachelor of Science in
Kinesiology from
Michigan State University



Still feeling the excitement of yesterday, witnessing my first cesarean birth! Getting the opportunity to observe the Operation Room preparations and examine the intertwining roles of the Physician Assistant, physician, nurse, and patient. Then, while standing alongside the mother and father, feeling their anticipation, I got to experience the moment when they laid eyes on their firstborn child. What an incredible moment to be a part of!

ROTATION DAY 2:

7:30 AM—Met my preceptor at the hospital to round on patients from the previous day.

9:00 AM—Arrived at the office to care for patients until we were called for a delivery.

10:30 AM—The call came and we rushed back to the hospital.

11:05 AM—With my hands cradling the head, **I HELPED DELIVER A BABY!**

Another patient was nearing delivery so we remained close, and my preceptor took this idle time to walk me through two slide presentations to prepare me for more to come. He coaches me for the next delivery, saying "This time you will..." and "Also, I would also like you to try this..."

2:00 PM—Delivered a second baby, the placenta, and drew the cord blood, all under close supervision of my preceptor.

3:00 PM—Returned to the office to finish clinic.

6:30 PM—Stopped back at the hospital to observe a circumcision on our baby born via C-section the day prior.

7:30—Left the hospital to begin my 1-hour commute home.

MY THOUGHTS:

While I know that intense classroom work is necessary to become familiar with the information in a comprehensive and systematic format, nothing can substitute the opportunity to interact with real patients, take histories and perform physical exams, and help carry out the procedures we learned about in school. These hands-on experiences help give you a sense of what a real "day in the life" would be like as a PA working in that field. In the "real world," patient encounters can be unpredictable and no day is like another. It is only after time spent in multiple settings, with a variety of patient populations, making tons of mistakes along the way that you truly realize which aspects of patient care you most like and are best suited for. Women's Health is pretty great!

FACULTY RECOGNITION



JENNIFER SNYDER AWARDED THE PAEA MASTER FACULTY AWARD

Butler faculty celebrated in Washington, D.C., this October as Jennifer Snyder, PhD, PA-C was awarded the Physician Assistant Education Association's Master Faculty Award. This award recognizes one experienced educator that has made noteworthy contributions to PA education. From teaching virtually everything in Butler's PA curriculum over her career to her time on the PAEA Board of Directors, we couldn't agree more. In the words of Director of Experiential Education Jennifer Guthrie, "We are all better educators because of the example and leadership she embodied during the most challenging of times."

Dean Robert Soltis added "Jennifer's receiving [of] the PAEA's Master Faculty Award is a career achievement and is a testament to her dedication to and vision for advancing

PA education both at Butler and nationally. She deservedly joins the list of distinguished PA educators this national award recognizes and honors."

NEW FACULTY

We are pleased to announce three new faculty to the Physician Assistant Program:



CAROL SITZMAN, MPAS, PA-C

Assistant Professor of PA Studies

Professor Carol Sitzman graduated from the first Butler University Physician Assistant class in 1996 after she earned her bachelor's degree in Biology in 1992. She then finished her master's degree through the University of Nebraska Medical Center in 2017 with hopes of transitioning to teaching in the future.

She began working in Family Practice for IU Health Physicians in 1996 where she still holds clinic hours one day a week. She has been a preceptor for PA students for a few years and loves interacting with and teaching them. She lives in Indianapolis with her husband, has three grown children and one still at home.



MARK LUTZ, MPAS, PA-C

Assistant Professor of PA Studies

Professor Mark Lutz earned his Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences from Butler University in 2006 and his master's degree of Physician Assistant Studies from The University of Nebraska in 2010. Prior to teaching at Butler, he worked as a PA-C in Cardiology for 13 years. The last five years, Mark focused in Electrophysiology. He continues to practice one day a week at the same Cardiology practice with St. Francis. Mark lives in Indianapolis with his wife Dora and two daughters.



ANDREW CHASTAIN, MSPAS, PA-C

Assistant Professor of PA Studies

Professor Andrew Chastain graduated from Indiana University School of Allied Health Sciences with a bachelor's degree in Respiratory Therapy. He completed his Physician Assistant training at the Stanford University School of Medicine, Primary Care Associate Program with Foothill College in Palo Alto, California. Chastain previously held a Clinical Assistant Professor appointment within the Stanford University School of Medicine as a faculty member for the Master of Science in PA Studies Program. He practices in the field of Neonatology, and currently sees patients in the neonatal intensive care unit at Riley Hospital for Children.

Andrew holds fellow membership in the Indiana Academy of Physician Assistants, the American Academy of Physician Assistants, the Physician Assistant Education Association, and the Society for Physician Assistants in Pediatrics. He is Director-at-Large, Indiana Academy of Physician Assistants (IAPA 2019). Chastain enjoys spending time traveling with his wife Jenny and their wire fox terrier, Charley.

NEW STAFF

We are pleased to announce two new staff to the Physician Assistant Program:



KRISTI DEFALQUE

Kristi graduated from Purdue University with a Bachelor of Science in Restaurant Management. She has worked at Ball State University, Vanderbilt University, and Vanderbilt Medical Center in nutrition services. After returning home to Indiana, she was an Instructional Assistant in a kindergarten classroom for seven years where she realized that though working with five and six years was a hoot, working with college-aged students would be more energizing (and most likely prolong her life). She began working at Butler University in 2013 in Student Disabilities Services as the exam coordinator. Kristi joined the PA Program in May as the program's Administrative Specialist.

Kristi enjoys spending time with her husband, James. Soon to be empty nesters, with two college-age children, they like to travel and spoil their dogs.



COURTNEY ERICKSON

Academic Program Coordinator

Courtney Erickson joined the Butler Physician Assistant Experiential Education team in fall 2019. After growing up in West Michigan, she went on to graduate from Ball State University with Bachelor's of art in English Literature. Courtney and husband, Scott, began an adventure of moving from Michigan to Northwest Indiana, and then on to Wisconsin. Lake Michigan serving as a constant in their lives as the family grew to two kids and a rescue miniature poodle named Biscuit. The promise of a mild climate, extended family, and less traffic lured the family to settle in Noblesville, Indiana. While in Wisconsin, Courtney served as the Experiential Program Coordinator for Concordia University's School of Pharmacy.

When Courtney is not immersed in the joys of parenting she enjoys practicing Ashtanga yoga, reading, and cultivating her growing collection of plants.

PRECEPTORS

PRECEPTOR PROFILE



MARLO (RINGGER) MILLER, PA-C '02
ANGIE LIVELY, PA-C CO '07

Meridian Medical Group, PC
Indianapolis, Indiana

Marlo and Angie, just in the last three years you have mentored 28 Butler PA students and hired a few along the way. Students often remark that your rotation is “...one of my favorites!” and give wildly positive feedback about their time with you. What are the secrets to yours and their success?

MARLO: We created our “GI Packet”— everything they may ever want to know, GI-related, and then structured the rotation so the student spends the first half with me in a slower-paced, lower census hospital and then spends the second half with Angie, at our more critical, higher census hospital. We then segment the rotation further into specific areas of hyper-focus. During week one, they are to become familiar with the GI Packet and concentrate on perfecting their notes. In week two, the students work at producing a comprehensive differential diagnosis. During week three, they become skilled at formulating a complete plan. Finally, the student runs the service during week four.

ANGIE: We help the student to hone these skills and get a feel for what it will be like as a practicing PA and a member of a team. We let them move through at a comfortable pace, giving them as much autonomy as they desire, making sure to infuse confidence along the way.

MARLO: And, nothing is set in stone... if their knowledge-base and comfort level is strong, we move up the timeline and provide a push to run the service sooner, maximizing their experience.

ANGIE: Even though GI might not be their “thing” we are going to give them a rewarding and hopefully enjoyable experience. We make sure they observe at least one of every procedure that MMG performs, when needed, they will call other services to ask questions, and become comfortable staffing with our physicians.

Why be a Preceptor? What’s in it for you?

MARLO: Serving as a preceptor... it does not change my overall day in any major way other than spending a little more time completing daily tasks. To me, this time of mentorship and friendship is time well spent.

ANGIE: I get personal satisfaction from mentoring. I am always pleasantly surprised how enjoyable it is to guide a student through our service and encourage them that they too will find their niche.

Marlo has been with MMG for 15 years and is married to Brian and has two children, Jocelyn and Addison.

Angie has been with MMG for 12 years and is married to Sam and has a daughter, Sophie.

PROJECT ACCESS

By Allison Kubacki and Sara Lopez

Project Access is an outreach program that aims to increase awareness of the Physician Assistant profession and promote diversity in the field. It is designed to inspire and motivate students from underrepresented minority groups to pursue a career as a healthcare provider. Some of our primary goals are to increase the number of minority PAs, provide more accessible primary healthcare, and lessen healthcare disparities. By educating students about the PA profession, we aim to help students become competitive candidates for PA programs.

Over the past year, Butler’s Project Access organization has partnered with several high schools in the Indianapolis area. Our partnerships involve informative and interactive presentations outlining the role of a PA, where PAs practice, and how to prepare for PA school. Moving forward, we plan to expand our reach to local middle and elementary schools to get younger students excited about the healthcare field.

By visiting schools in the surrounding areas, we hope to encourage students of all backgrounds to consider the PA profession as an option for them. We believe it is important to interact with students from underrepresented backgrounds because of their lack of representation in the PA profession, and because the PA profession itself is less well known in medically underserved communities. The most important takeaway we want to convey to students is that people of all backgrounds can and do succeed in the PA profession.



Sara Lopez, PA-C and Allison Kubacki, PA-S, with their exhibit representing Butler University and the PA Profession.

BECOME A PRECEPTOR

PRECEPTING is a WAY of:

- Participating in the training of future physician assistants
- Giving back to the PA profession
- Supporting the Butler University PA Program
- Keeping abreast of current medications and treatment guidelines
- Attaining personal satisfaction and professional growth as a healthcare professional

DO YOU HAVE THE DESIRE TO BE A CLINICAL PRECEPTOR?

Fill out our Preceptor Affiliation Form
butler.edu/physician-assistant/preceptor-information.
Or, contact Karen Corby, kjfuller@butler.edu, 317-940-9507.

BUTLER | DOCTOR *of*
MEDICAL SCIENCE

SHAPE THE FUTURE OF HEALTHCARE



FACULTY, ALUMNI, *and* STUDENT PUBLICATIONS:

Zorn, J., Snyder, J., & Guthrie, J. (2018). "Use of Moulage to Evaluate Student Assessment of Skin in an Objective Structured Clinical Examination." *Journal of Physician Assist Education*, 29 (2): 99-103.

Neary, S., Bradley, M., & Roman, C. (2019). "A call to action: physician assistant student well-being." *Journal of Physician Assistant Education*, 30(3), 133.

Orozco, J.M., Furman, J., McAndrews, K.K., Keenan, M.M., Roman, C., Guthrie, J., Lloyd, C.J., & Wilson, A.B. (2019). "Assessing burnout among advanced practice providers (APPs) compared with APP trainees." *Medical Science Educator*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40670-019-00799-x>

Rancich, M., & Roman, C. (2019). "Clostridium difficile: new guidelines for diagnosis and management." *Journal of the American Academy of PAs*, 32(2), 48-50.



UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

We love to keep in touch with our alumni. Please help us keep you current on what is new in our program by sharing the following information with us at PAProgram@butler.edu.

YOUR NAME
(*maiden and married*)

CLASS YEAR

CURRENT EMPLOYER

EMAIL ADDRESS

PREFERRED PHONE
NUMBER

MAILING ADDRESS

YOUR NEWS
(*professional and personal*)





4600 Sunset Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46208

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Butler
University