Welcome!

Welcome to the University of Wisconsin-Madison Physician Assistant 2018-2019 clinical year. On June 15th, we kicked off another clinical year with our White Coat Ceremony with fifty-four students who are eager and ready to learn while out on their rotations. We continue to use our preceptor newsletter as a way to connect with our preceptor community and provide clinical year updates along with useful tips and tricks.

As of the 2018-2019 academic year, we have four cohorts of students. This includes campus, wisPACT, traditional distance education and our new regional distance education cohorts. Our campus and wisPACT students complete 12 months of didactic study and our traditional and regional distance education (DE) students complete 24 months of part-time didactic study. All students go on to complete five, 2 month clinical rotations in internal medicine, family medicine, emergency medicine, surgery, and an elective. The difference between our traditional distance and our regional distance cohorts is that our new regional DE students reside in or around Dane County.

The preceptor role is an integral part of our program. As always, we thank you for taking the time to educate future PAs!

Preceptor Perks

Did you know . . .

Physician Assistants can earn Category-1 CME credits for precepting students!

- Four weeks of precepting equals 1 credit
- Credits can be claimed through a simple survey we email out at the end of each semester

For questions regarding preceptor benefits contact Rosa Retrum, MSE, at rretrum@wisc.edu.

Contact Us

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Visit us online at: www.med.wisc.edu/education/physician-assistant-pa-program
Congratulations to the Class of 2018!

And, thank you to our valuable preceptors who make it all possible!

A few fun facts:

- The Class of 2018 completed 359 individual rotations at 165 different sites.
- During the 2017-2018 clinical year, preceptors provided over 73,600 hours of instruction to our PA students.
- Graduated the first cohort of Master of Public Health (MPH) and Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) students!

Preceptor Q&A

**Robert Kollpainter, PA-C**

Rob is the Lead Cardiovascular Surgery Physician Assistant at Aspirus Wausau Hospital in Wausau, Wisconsin where he has worked for 20 years. He received his PA education from Western Michigan University and attended the Butterworth Hospital/Western Michigan University Post-Graduate Surgical Residency Program. Rob holds a Certificate of Added Qualifications in Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery from NCCPA and is certified as a Diagnostic Medical Sonographer.

Q: What motivates you to be a preceptor for the UW Madison PA Program?

What motivates me to be a preceptor for the UW Madison PA Program is the networking that’s developed by participating. I look around the halls of where I work and see the results of that participation; all the PA students, in which I’ve had a very small hand in their educational experience, now colleagues. They never forget the time you spent mentoring them. I find it my greatest professional honor.

Q: What do you enjoy most about being a preceptor?

What I enjoy most about my time with students is what they give back. Their enthusiasm when learning the basics of how to read a chest x-ray, interpret an EKG or ABG, and the feeling of competence they have when completing their rotation. The excitement they have when they hit the vein for the first time while using ultrasound. The fear they have of holding pressure on a groin after they pull the balloon pump. Their expression when watching the fluid accumulate in the bottle when they nailed their first thoracentesis. They give me a lot of great memories.

“Robert is simply amazing! He is a rock star PA and an even better preceptor. His passion for teaching radiates daily and he is a wealth of knowledge.”

~ PA Student from Class of 2018

For more information on being a preceptor, check out the Preceptor Resources section of our website:

[https://www.med.wisc.edu/education/physician-assistant-pa-program/preceptors/](https://www.med.wisc.edu/education/physician-assistant-pa-program/preceptors/)

Feedback? Contact Lauren Trillo, MMS, PA-C at (608) 263-5199 or ltrillo@wisc.edu