NEW STUDENTS, NEW STETHOSCOPES!

Thanks to the generosity and encouragement of our donors, every incoming student to the School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) Physician Assistant (PA) Program receives a stethoscope and congratulatory note welcoming them into the program.

In turn, students have begun to say “thanks” with creative “stethoscope selfies.”

This year, Bucky Badger appeared at last May’s student orientation to welcome our newest batch of Badgers. There, he lent some extra spirit to the burgeoning tradition.

Included in this newsletter are just a sample of those photos, accompanied by the sentiments of grateful recipients.

Please consider welcoming a new student with a stethoscope and a note of your own.

Learn more about the “Gift a Stethoscope, Welcome a Student” initiative at: https://jumpstart.supportuw.org/campaigns/PA-stethoscope-2023

THREE GREAT WAYS
to stay connected with the UW–Madison PA Program

1. SHARE AN ALUMNI REFLECTION
Where are you practicing now? Any big accomplishments to announce? Great memories from PA school to share?
We’d love to print your news and photos in a future newsletter.
Contact us at: go.wisc.edu/657684

2. BECOME A VOLUNTEER PRECEPTOR
Share your knowledge and help educate future PAs.
You’ll pay it forward and receive benefits of an UW–Madison appointment, including campus access and potential CME credit.
Learn more at: http://www.med.wisc.edu/pa-preceptor

3. GIVE A STETHOSCOPE
Welcome an incoming PA student to the world of medicine with a stethoscope.
Learn more at: https://jumpstart.supportuw.org/campaigns/PA-stethoscope-2023

KEEP IN TOUCH!
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(Continued on page 2)
New Students, New Stethoscopes!
(Continued from page 1)

ALYSSA KOLVE
“Being gifted a stethoscope was the ‘I’m so blessed to begin the path to doing what I am passionate about!’ moment! It signified a major stepping stone in my life personally and professionally. It also serves as a wonderful reminder to me about the importance of listening to our patients — not only what’s on the inside, but emotionally and mentally, too.”

Alyssa received her stethoscope from Julie Nelson.

ADDIE AGBOOLA
“Between applying to PA school and moving to another state, not having to acquire the cost of medical equipment was such a huge financial relief. And on a personal level, it just emphasized that this journey was real for me. It is so much work to get into school and receiving that stethoscope felt like a huge pat on the back.”

Addie received her stethoscope from Theodore Parins.

MATT DAVEL
“I was shocked when they informed us we were getting stethoscopes, and was very appreciative knowing how expensive they can be. My donor sent a very heartfelt note which I have kept. I have been able to use the stethoscope on many occasions since receiving it, as we have had multiple lab opportunities for class, as well as for my job outside of class. I am a distance student and my current job is in cardiac rehab so I take dozens of blood pressures as well as listen to heart and lung sounds each shift I work. The stethoscope is very high quality and I will remain grateful for it.”

Matt received his stethoscope from Joel Hill.

INTRODUCING THE LATEST IN ULTRASOUND TECHNOLOGY
As part of the PA Program’s mission to provide exceptional education and training, our faculty strive to ensure all PA Program students graduate with an understanding of the latest developments in their field.

Accordingly, over the past three years, students in PA 660 Clinical Skills Labs have received hands-on training in point-of-care (POC) ultrasound technology from instructors who know firsthand the benefits of its application.

By making use of portable devices like iPads, POC ultrasounds promise to change the nature of patient care, and the role of PAs who provide it. In the emergency department, for example, the portable devices can help bypass the wait for an ultrasound tech, allowing for the quick assessment of unstable patients in a setting where time is of essence.
POC technology also can assist in therapeutic procedures (say, identifying foreign bodies or starting IVs), offering additional imaging in limited.

This year’s students received training from: Associate Clinical Professor Angela Vitzenda, MS, PA-C ’97, who practices family medicine; and Brian Beardsley, MPAS ’14, PA-C ’10, and Jami Hagemann, PA-C, both of whom practice in emergency medicine. In Wausau, PA Program Clinical Instructor Carrie Riley, MPAS, PA-C, has trained wPACT@Stevens Point students in their ultrasound lab.

Students practice using the butterfly device and iPad. Photo: Diane Twiton

Carrie Riley with wPACT@UW Stevens Point at Wausau students. Photo: Tracy Buncherth

Angela Vitzenda and Jami Hagemann with Students. Photo: Diane Twiton

Brain Beardsley with students. Photo: Diane Twiton