

# ELEVATED



Baylor  
College of  
Medicine

SCHOOL OF  
HEALTH  
PROFESSIONS

2022-2023  
Annual Report

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1** LETTER FROM THE DEAN
- 2** HIGHLIGHTS
- 3** COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT
- 4** OUR PROGRAMS
- 12** STUDENT CORNER
- 14** FACULTY AND STAFF
- 18** RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS
- 19** BEYOND THE CLASSROOM
- 20** ALUMNI UPDATES
- 21** OUR SUPPORTERS
- 23** OUR PEOPLE





## LETTER FROM THE DEAN

Dear School of Health Professions community and friends,

I am delighted to present the first annual report of the Baylor College of Medicine School of Health Professions. As you navigate through the pages, I hope you share with me the feeling of immense pride in our school's remarkable accomplishments over the past fiscal year.

Our community's dedication to student learning and success, academic rigor, advanced clinical practice and service contributed to the growing recognition of our school as a cornerstone of health professions education. The unwavering support of our friends helped us reach new heights in interdisciplinary learning, clinical care, community outreach and strategic partnerships.

From groundbreaking research and outstanding clinical achievements to impactful community engagement, our students, faculty, staff and alumni's exceptional performance reflects the core values of Baylor College of Medicine: respect, integrity, innovation, teamwork and excellence. Their commitment to these five pillars of success allows our school to soar.

The mission we are striving to accomplish and the vision toward which we are heading empower us to rise to the toughest of challenges as we surpass our goals. Our determination for success elevated our role within the healthcare education landscape, advancing the field of health professions in the process.

Sincerely,

**Todd A. Reinhart, Sc.D.**

*Dean, School of Health Professions*

# HIGHLIGHTS

2022-2023

**31**

PUBLICATIONS

**96**

PRESENTATIONS

**441**

HONORS AND  
SERVICE ACTIVITIES

**\$2.3M**

IN FUNDING

## PRINCIPLES

### MISSION

Administer exemplary educational programs driven by continuous quality improvement to deliver an exceptionally prepared healthcare workforce grounded in evidence-based care and competent interprofessional practice.

### VISION

Become the leader in developing a diverse workforce that will transform healthcare through science, scholarship and innovation.

## STRATEGIC IMPERATIVES

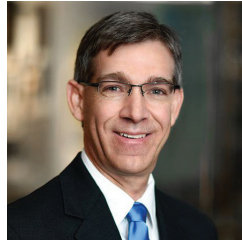


# COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

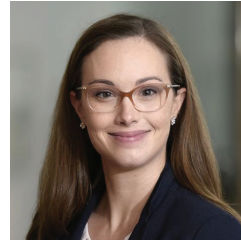
## PROGRAM DIRECTORS



**Rachel Davis, D.N.P., C.R.N.A.**  
*Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, Nurse Anesthesia*



**Daniel Riconda, C.G.C.**  
*Genetic Counseling Program*



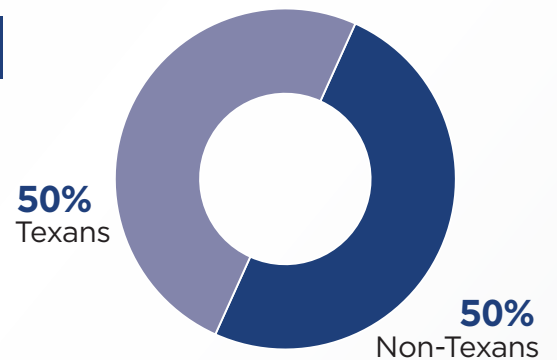
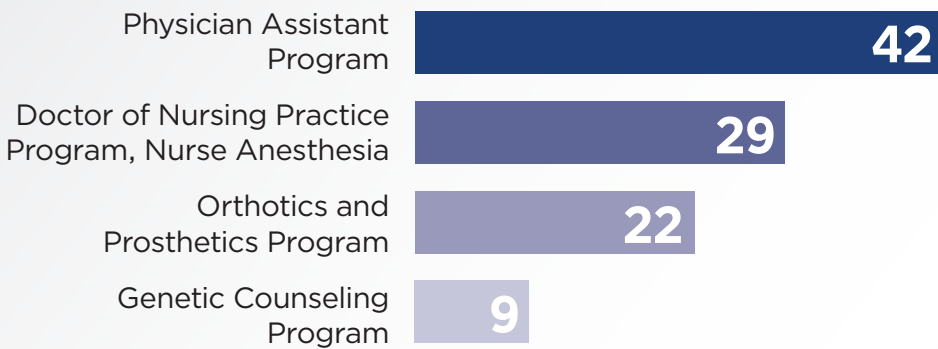
**Ashley Mullen, Ph.D., C.P.O.**  
*Orthotics and Prosthetics Program*



**Elizabeth Elliott, P.A.- C.**  
*Physician Assistant Program*

## FIRST-YEAR ENROLLMENT

### 102 HEALTH PROFESSIONS STUDENTS



## HOMETOWNS



# DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE PROGRAM, NURSE ANESTHESIA



*“Once we walk across the stage and know that we completed (the Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, Nurse Anesthesia), that is going to be the best moment.”*

— Tiffany Haley-Adams, Class of 2023 president

## STUDENT AWARDS



### **Agatha Hodgins CRNA Memorial Award | Hannah Bitter**

In honor of certified registered nurse anesthetist and American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology founder Agatha Hodgins, this award is given to a nurse anesthesia graduate who demonstrated excellence in didactic and clinical training.



### **Helen Lamb Award | William McWhirter**

In memoriam of Helen Lamb, a nurse anesthetist who performed the anesthetic for the world’s first successful lung removal surgery, this award is given to a nurse anesthesia graduate who achieved the highest ranking during the didactic phase.



### **Alice Magaw Award | Abigail Colquitt**

Named for the “mother of anesthesia” Alice Magaw, this award is given to a nurse anesthesia graduate who achieved the highest ranking during the clinical phase.

## NEW PARTNERSHIPS WITH TEXAS CLINICAL SITES



Baylor Scott & White Heart and Vascular Hospital, Fort Worth



St. David’s Medical Center, Austin



St. David’s North Austin Medical Center

## DNP PROGRAM HOSTS BABY SHOWER FOR MOMS WHO STRUGGLE WITH ADDICTION

Nurse anesthesia faculty, staff and first- and second-year students partnered with Santa Maria Hostel to host a baby shower for pregnant women who experienced addiction. Santa Maria Hostel is a Houston recovery center offering substance abuse treatment for pregnant and parenting women who are incarcerated or on probation. The DNP community provided food and essential baby items, including clothes, diapers and wipes. The program brought games and crafts for moms with young children.

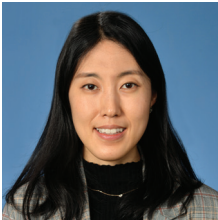


## ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR EARNS DIDACTIC INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD



Dr. Rachel Davis, program director and associate professor of anesthesiology and health professions, earned the American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology's 2022 Didactic Instructor of the Year Award. AANA gives the award to an educator who significantly contributed to the teaching of nurse anesthesia students in the classroom and is committed to the educational standards of furthering the art and science of anesthesiology.

## NURSE ANESTHESIA STUDENT WINS TWO NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS



Third-year nurse anesthesia student Nungcool Park won the Korean American Scholarship Foundation's scholarship for the Southwestern Regional Chapter and Joyful Scholarship. The KASF scholarship is given to Korean American students who completed academic achievements, volunteered in their communities and descended from Korean War veterans. Awarded by Joyful Korean Community Church, the Joyful Scholarship provides financial assistance to Christian university students in Texas and Oklahoma who demonstrated leadership and service.



St. David's South Austin  
Medical Center



St. David's Round Rock  
Medical Center



Memorial Hermann Memorial  
City Hospital, Houston

# GENETIC COUNSELING PROGRAM



*“Being a part of the (Genetic Counseling Program) at Baylor College of Medicine means being a part of a family, one that learns together and works as a team to help each student grow into well-rounded healthcare professionals, dedicated to patient care, academic scholarship and professional excellence.”*

— Arden Wheeler, Class of 2024 president

## STUDENT AWARDS



### **Outstanding Clinical Performance | Nicole Kelly**

Recognizing excellence in the clinical setting, this award is given to a genetic counseling graduate who demonstrated exemplary patient care through compassion and skilled communication.



### **Outstanding Class Engagement & Outstanding Leadership Achievement | Stephanie Middleton**

A genetic counseling graduate who actively participated in class discussions and activities earns this award, which recognizes a graduate who was outstanding in representing the profession in different settings, including the classroom and healthcare community.



### **Best Poster Award | Emily Huth**

A genetic counseling graduate earns this award if the poster presentation of their required research project was the most impressive among judges. The impressiveness of the poster is determined by a rubric provided to the judges.

## **STUDENTS VISIT TEXAS SCREENING LAB FOR NEWBORNS**

First-year genetic counseling students visited the Texas Newborn Screening Laboratory in Austin. The laboratory screens newborns for congenital medical conditions. These screenings help to prevent death or disabilities. During the visit, the students toured the laboratory’s departments and learned about the screening process for 55 conditions Texas law requires to test in newborns.







## GC PROGRAM PARTICIPATES IN GLOBAL WALK TO RAISE AWARENESS OF GENETIC DISORDERS

Genetic counseling students and faculty participated in The Marfan Foundation's Walk for Victory at Grace Event Lawn at Discovery Green Park in Houston. The Marfan Foundation is a nonprofit organization raising awareness and promoting treatment research about Marfan syndrome and similar aortic or vascular conditions. The organization hosts its annual Walk for Victory around the world.



## PROGRAM DIRECTOR SECURES POST-GRADUATE GRANT FOR GENETIC COUNSELORS

Dan Riconda, program director of the Genetic Counseling Program and professor of molecular and human genetics, is among the sub-awardees of a \$1.3 million grant which will be allocated over five years to five medical institutions. Funded by the Warren Alpert Foundation, a philanthropic organization for public health, the grant will allow two genetic counselors who graduated from Baylor to participate in genomics and genetic counseling training to develop research skills. In total, at least 40 counselors from the College will complete the training. At least eight of these counselors will be Baylor faculty members.

## GENETIC COUNSELING STUDENTS COMPLETE STATE PROGRAM, EARN CERTIFICATES

First-year genetic counseling students Fatima Khan (front row, second from right) and Nhi Ho (front row, third from right) were among students who completed the Texas Society for Advancement of Health Professionals Student Leadership Development Program. Through TSAHP, students obtain professionalism, management and leadership skills. The students received their certificates at the 2022 TSAHP conference on health professions practice and research.



# ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS PROGRAM



*“I feel confident that we will be entering the profession in the best position possible to create a significant and positive impact for our future patients.”*

— Samantha Johnson, Class of 2025 president

## STUDENT AWARDS

### Orthotics and Prosthetics Academic Excellence Award

This award is given to an orthotics and prosthetics graduate who obtained the highest academic achievement among the cohort. Some graduates tie for this award.



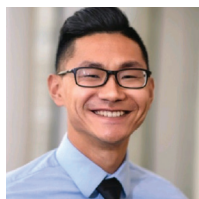
**Jordan Remont**



**Karrigan Smith**



**Jocelyn Strom**



### RIITE Values Award | Nathan Shimabukuro

In honor of Earl Fogler, founding manager of the Orthotics and Prosthetics Program’s Fabrication Lab, an orthotics and prosthetics graduate who demonstrated respect, integrity, innovation, teamwork and excellence while working in the program’s lab earns this award.



### Lucille M. Becker Clinical Achievement Award | Elizabeth Bebow

An orthotics and prosthetics graduate who demonstrated passion for patient care and excellence during clinical residency earns this award. Lucille M. Becker is a pioneer in orthotics and prosthetics who invented the first non-protrusion locking knee joint and double action ankle joint.

## O&P PROFESSORS, RESIDENTS CELEBRATE NATIONAL STEM DAY

The Orthotics and Prosthetics Program honored National STEM Day by leading a science curriculum at Stafford STEM Magnet Academy with patient model Sandy Crisp. Faculty and residents informed sixth through ninth-grade students about the development and use of orthotics and prosthetics. Students participated in a prosthetic design challenge. The winning design became a 3D-printed prototype.

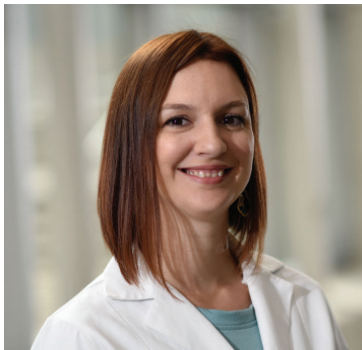


## RESIDENTS PARTICIPATE IN INTERNATIONAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION TO HELP UNDERSERVED AMPUTEES

Second- and third-year residents in the Orthotics and Prosthetics Program traveled to Zacapa, Guatemala to volunteer for the Range of Motion Project. ROMP strives to improve the mobility and independence of patients who live in poverty and have amputations. Volunteers, the ROMP team and local practitioners provided prostheses and rehabilitation to local patients.



## ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR EARNS PRESTIGIOUS GRANT FROM NATIONAL O&P ORGANIZATION



Lisa Abernethy, associate director of clinical education and assistant professor of the Orthotics and Prosthetics Program in the School of Health Professions, earned The Orthotics and Prosthetics Foundation for Education and Research's Early Career Research Grant to fund her project, "Cosmetic Only? Assessing the Long Term Non-Cosmetic Outcomes of Positional Cranial Deformities." The project will compare the learning, physical growth or social and emotional well-being between children who wore corrective helmets to treat flat head syndrome and those who didn't to determine lasting effects.

## THREE RESIDENTS EARN NATIONAL O&P SCHOLARSHIPS

Orthotics and prosthetics residents Keyaira Crudup, Matthew Ho and Emily Tully earned the 2022 American Board for Certification Orthotist and Prosthetist Scholarship. ABC awards a \$10,000 scholarship to 10 promising students in orthotics and prosthetics who are committed to the profession and volunteering in their communities.



# PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM



*“Our faculty has done a really good job of making campus home and really making (the Physician Assistant Program) community a family for us.”*

— Juliana Abel, Class of 2023 president

## STUDENT AWARDS



### **Lewis A. Leavitt Academic Excellence Award | Mikaela Young**

In memory of Dr. Lewis A. Leavitt, former professor and chair of Baylor’s Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, this award is given to a physician assistant graduate who achieved the highest academic ranking in their class.



### **Henry D. McIntosh Award | Sabrina Agbabian**

In honor of Dr. Henry D. McIntosh, former professor and chief of Baylor’s Department of Medicine, this award is given to a physician assistant graduate whose classmates and professors believe accomplished the highest academic excellence and service.



### **Joan Wilson Appel Award for Excellence in Clinical Research | Emily Equitz**

Recognizing Joan Wilson Appel, distinguished physician assistant and clinical research coordinator in neurology and infectious disease, the Physician Assistant Program gives this award to a physician assistant graduate who demonstrated superior work in their didactic and clinical phases.



## **STUDENTS RANK HIGH IN MEDICAL GAME SHOW AT AAPA CONFERENCE**

A team of first-year students in the Physician Assistant Program ranked in the top 36 among 89 programs who participated in the National Medical Challenge Bowl at the American Academy of Physician Associates 2023 conference in Nashville. During the game show, participants answered questions about different subjects, including physical diagnosis, microbiology and primary care. The 36 top-scoring teams advanced to onstage rounds and answered free-response questions.

## PA PROGRAM SUPPORTS HOUSTON FOOD BANK



Students and faculty in the Physician Assistant Program volunteered at the Houston Food Bank in March 2023. Known as the largest U.S. food bank in size and distribution, the food bank serves about 1 million residents within Texas' 18 southeast counties, who face food insecurity or live in poverty. The food bank provides nutritious food and other essential items through a network of community partners, programs and services.



### PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDENTS CHOSEN FOR NATIONAL PROGRAM

The High-Value Practice Academic Alliance, an organization improving access to high-quality healthcare, selected first-year physician assistant students Colby Moreland and Kaylyn Cole to participate in the Choosing Wisely STARS program. The program prepares and supports students who promote positive change within their schools based on healthcare value and the concepts they learn.

### PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM DIRECTOR PRESENTS AT NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Elizabeth Elliott, program director and associate professor of the Physician Assistant Program, delivered presentations at the American Academy of Physician Assistants' 2023 We Are Family (Medicine) conference in San Diego. Elliott presented "Pediatric Viral Illnesses" and "Well Child Care:



The Cornerstone of Pediatric Healthcare." She taught "Workshop: Sick or Not Sick," as well. The workshop reminded healthcare providers about skills they could use to determine the temperament and outcomes of patients.

**541**  
**CLINICAL**  
**ROTATION**  
**SITES**

## Featured Sites

- Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center — Houston
- Texas Children's Hospital — Houston
- Michael E. DeBakey Veterans Affairs Medical Center — Houston
- Cabell Huntington Hospital — Huntington, West Virginia
- Hanger Clinic — Austin
- Cornerstone Prosthetics & Orthotics — Everett, Washington
- Ben Taub Hospital — Houston
- Cypress Health Center — Houston
- St. Paul Children's Clinic — Tyler, Texas

## 2022 SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS STUDENT AWARDS

### Alumni Association Lehmann Outstanding Student Award

In honor of Dr. Robert P. Lehmann, Baylor ophthalmology resident alumnus and active volunteer, a graduate of the Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, Nurse Anesthesia, Orthotics and Prosthetics Program and Physician Assistant Program earn this award.



**Sarah Jazzar**

*Doctor of Nursing Practice  
Program, Nurse Anesthesia*



**Michelle Cole**

*Orthotics and Prosthetics Program*



**Mikaela Young**

*Physician Assistant Program*

## J. David Holcomb Health Professions Research Day

Named for the founding dean of the Baylor College of Medicine School of Health Professions, J. David Holcomb Health Professions Research Day is an annual event where the College's faculty and affiliates judge the research projects of graduates from the Orthotics and Prosthetics Program and Physician Assistant Program. The judges select three graduates from each program who demonstrated the top research paper among their peers.

### Orthotics and Prosthetics Program



**Keyaira Crudup**  
*First Place*

“Barriers to Orthotic and Prosthetic Care and Their ‘Association with Patient and Provider Demographics”



**Michelle Cole**  
*Second Place*

“Comprehensive Catalog for ‘Upper Limb Terminal Devices”



**Priscila Aguilar**  
*Third Place*

“Provider-Patient Disparity in High-Risk ‘Demographics in Texas OP Care”

### Physician Assistant Program



**Laura Hall**  
*First Place*

“Determination of Optimal Management of the Adult Patient with Hyponatremia: A Systematic Study”



**Katerina Tsai**  
*Second Place*

“Outcomes of Clinical Skills Assessment After Implementing Online Learning During COVID-19 Pandemic”



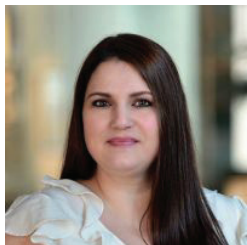
**Meagan Oglesby**  
*Third Place*

“A Prospective Study of Sleep Disordered Breathing in Children with Heart Failure”

## BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AWARDS

### Dr. James R. Walker Clinical Education Excellence Award

In honor of Dr. James R. Walker, associate professor of anesthesiology and health professions at Baylor, this award is given to an individual who exemplifies the College's values and contributes significantly to the clinical education of nurse anesthesia students.

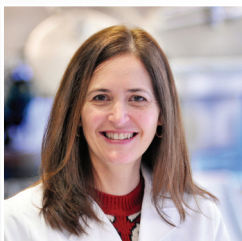


**Abigail Caswell, D.N.P., C.R.N.A.**

*Assistant Professor, Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, Nurse Anesthesia*

### Carl E. Fasser Physician Assistant Visionary Leadership Award

This award was established in honor of Carl E. Fasser, professor in the Physician Assistant Program, for his sustained demonstration of visionary leadership toward the profession through education, research, clinical practice and service. The award is given annually to a physician assistant student or program alumni who demonstrated exceptional leadership through these domains.



**Elissa Love, P.A.-C.**

*Assistant Professor  
Physician Assistant Program*



**Isabel Valdez, P.A.-C.**

*Assistant Professor  
Physician Assistant Program*

### Featured Norton Rose Fulbright Award Winners

The Norton Rose Fulbright Faculty Excellence Award is given to Baylor faculty who meet the standards of quality, quantity and breadth for their sustained and exemplary contributions to teaching and evaluation, leadership, educational materials or research.



**Vicki Waters, P.A.-C.**

*Assistant Professor, Physician Assistant Program; Teaching and Evaluation*



**Aimee Langley, D.N.P., C.R.N.A.**

*Assistant Professor, Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, Nurse Anesthesia; Educational Leadership*



## Teaching Excellence Award

At the end of their didactic phase, students expected to graduate the following year nominate educators for the Teaching Excellence Awards. Graduating students finishing their clinical phase nominate these educators for the awards, as well.

### Didactic



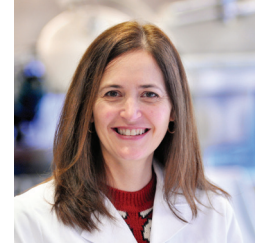
**Jessica Gaines, D.N.P., C.R.N.A.**

*Assistant Professor, Department of Anesthesiology; Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, Nurse Anesthesia*



**Jeremy Sherman, C.P.O., L.P.O.**

*Assistant Professor Orthotics and Prosthetics Program*



**Elissa Love, P.A.-C**

*Assistant Professor Physician Assistant Program*

### Clinical



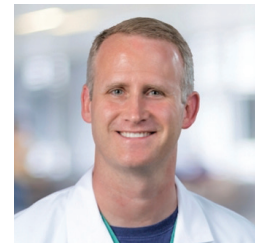
**Clint Montya, D.N.A.P., C.R.N.A.**

*Texas Health Huguley Hospital, Fort Worth; Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, Nurse Anesthesia*



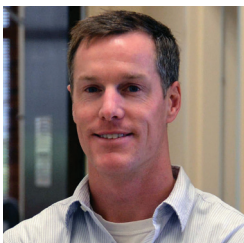
**Jennifer Rios, D.N.P., C.R.N.A.**

*Instructor, Baylor's Department of Anesthesiology; Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, Nurse Anesthesia*



**Laurence Tippin, D.N.P., C.R.N.A.**

*UT Health, San Antonio Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, Nurse Anesthesia*



**Robert Latham, C.P.O.**

*Bulow Orthotic & Prosthetic Solutions, South Carolina Orthotics and Prosthetics Program*



**Alex Hedquist, C.P.O.**

*Bulow Orthotic & Prosthetic Solutions, South Carolina Orthotics and Prosthetics Program*



**Steven Mulik, M.C.M.Sc., P.A.-C.**

*Instructor, Baylor's School of Health Professions Physician Assistant Program*

## FEATURED ACHIEVEMENTS

---



### **Sally Kenworthy, M.P.O., C.P.O.**

Assistant Professor Sally Kenworthy was interviewed by Dr. Steve Gard, editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Prosthetics and Orthotics*, on the American Academy of Orthotists and Prosthetists' O&P Research Insights podcast. Kenworthy discussed her research about how workers on rehabilitation healthcare teams see their job duties.

---



### **Megan Bullerwell, D.N.P., C.R.N.A.**

Assistant Professor Dr. Megan Bullerwell earned the Certified Healthcare Simulation Educator certification. The certification allows healthcare educators to perform simulations without restrictions such as modality, setting and location.

---



### **Rachel Davis, D.N.P., C.R.N.A.**

Associate Professor Dr. Rachel Davis was selected to serve a three-year term as a council director for the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs. The council leads the accreditation of institutions and programs of nurse anesthesia at the doctoral level.

---



### **James Walker, D.N.P., C.R.N.A.**

Associate Professor Dr. James Walker was one of four individuals elected to serve on the International Federation of Nurse Anesthetists' World Congress for Nurse Anesthetists 2026 Scientific Committee for the "IFNA 2026 WCNA: Where Dedication Meets Innovation" event in Brisbane, Australia. Walker's role includes identifying current trends and topics and recruiting international speakers.

---



### **Megan Castille, C.P.O., L.P.O.**

Assistant Professor Megan Castille published "T1 Tilt: The Goldilocks of In-Brace X-Ray Assessment" in the American Academy of Orthotists and Prosthetists' magazine, *The Academy TODAY*. The article discusses how T1 tilt can help clinicians determine if they're putting the correct pressure on patients with scoliosis who wear braces, by examining X-rays.

---

## SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

### FEATURED ACTIVITIES

**Dr. Megan Bullerwell** is participating in the Baylor College of Medicine Office of Faculty Affairs and Faculty Development 2023 – 2025 Master Teacher Fellowship Program.

**Elizabeth Elliott** facilitated the Physician Assistant Education Association New Faculty Jump Start Workshop.

**Dr. Jessica Gaines** attended the 2022 American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology Annual Congress in Chicago.

Assistant Professor **Jayne Chirido-Taylor** was a panelist for the Baylor Interprofessional Ethics Panel.

**Dr. Aimee Langley** was involved in Baylor's Career Advancement Series: Women in Leadership Track.

Assistant Professor **Dr. Sarah-Ann Keyes** participated in Baylor's Coordination and Delivery of QI Patient Safety Workshop for inpatient medicine in psychiatry physician assistant students.

Assistant Professor **Kathleen Thompson** was an instructor for the Society of Critical Care Medicine Pediatric Fundamental Critical Care Support course.

Assistant Professor **Salma Nassef** served as a mentor to Baylor College of Medicine OBGYN resident Alvin To for his research on the uptake and use of genetic testing following recurring pregnancy loss.

**Jeremy Sherman** attended the Texas Interprofessional Education Consortium and obtained a certificate in IPE facilitation.

Assistant Professor **Katherine Erdman** participated in the International Association of Medical Science Educators' spring 2023 web series, "Developing Accelerated 3-Year M.D. Programs."

### FEATURED FUNDING



**Organization:** Warren Alpert Foundation

**Awardee:** Dan Riconda, Program Director of Genetic Counseling Program

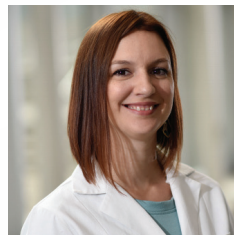
**Fund:** WAF-Career Ladder Education Program for Genetic Counseling Program



**Organization:** Genentech

**Awardee:** Dr. Ashley Mullen, Program Director of Orthotics and Prosthetics Program

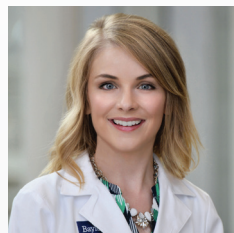
**Fund:** Health Equity and Diversity in STEM Innovation Fund



**Organization:** The Orthotics and Prosthetics Foundation for Education and Research

**Awardee:** Lisa Abernethy, Assistant Professor in Orthotics and Prosthetics Program

**Fund:** Early Career Research Grant



**Organization:** Baylor College of Medicine

**Awardee:** Dr. Sarah-Ann Keyes, Assistant Professor in Physician Assistant Program

**Fund:** Department of Education, Innovation and Technology Faculty Pilot Grant

# RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

## FEATURED PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

### Doctor of Nursing Practice Program Nurse Anesthesia

**Dr. Aimee Langley** co-wrote “Endocrine Conditions,” a chapter for the book, *Pediatric Anesthesia: A Comprehensive Approach to Safe and Effective Care*.

**Dr. Rachel Davis** delivered “Prevention of Renal Injury in Surgical Patients: A Review of New and Old Strategies,” at the Texas Association of Nurse Anesthetists Annual Meeting in Austin.

### Genetic Counseling Program

**Dan Riconda** and **Dr. Robert McLaughlin** co-wrote the article, “Perceptions of Motivational Interviewing in Genetic Counseling Practice and Training” in *Journal of Genetic Counseling*.

**Salma Nassef** presented “And Then There Were Three: Genetic Counseling Training Programs in Texas” at the Texas Society of Genetic Counseling Annual Conference in Dallas.

### Orthotics & Prosthetics Program

**Dr. Ashley Mullen, Lisa Abernethy, Amandi Rhett, Megan Castille, Dr. Graci Finco, Jeremy Sherman** and **Sally Kenworthy** co-wrote “The integrated model and sustainability of entry level orthotics and prosthetics education” in the *Journal of Prosthetics and Orthotics*.

**Megan Castille** presented “Assessing the Mental Health Landscape and Need for Counseling in the Scoliosis Community” at International Society on Scoliosis Orthopaedic and Rehabilitation Treatment Spine Week in Melbourne, Australia.

**Amandi Rhett** delivered “Inclusion Diversity and Equity in Practice: Microaggressions,” as a panelist for the American Academy of Orthotist-Prosthetists’ 48th Annual Meeting and Scientific Symposium in Atlanta.

### Physician Assistant Program

**Elissa Love, Kathleen Thompson** and **Elizabeth Elliott** co-wrote “Prospective Physician Assistant Student Perspectives on an In-Person vs. Virtual Admissions Interview Process” in the *Journal of Physician Assistant Education*.

**Dr. Sarah-Ann Keyes** wrote the paper, “Battle for the Faculty’s Soul” in *Academic Medicine*.

**Vicki Waters** presented, “Substance Use Disorders in Primary Care” at the American Academy of Physician Assistants’ We Are Family (Medicine) conference in San Diego.



## BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

### FACULTY, STAFF VOLUNTEER AT KIDS' MEALS, INC.

The School of Health Professions' faculty and staff volunteered at Kids' Meals, Inc. The nonprofit strives to end childhood hunger in Houston by providing free, healthy meals to preschoolers living in poverty.



### NURSE ANESTHESIA STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN HOUSTON MARATHON

Students from the Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, Nurse Anesthesia ran in the 2022 Houston Half Marathon & 10K. Houston Striders, a nonprofit running club, hosted the annual races.

### O&P PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS AT CAMP LOVE WITHOUT LIMITS

Jeremy Sherman, associate program director for curriculum and assistant professor of the Orthotics and Prosthetics Program in the School of Health Professions, and first-year students were among the volunteers in 2022 for Camp Love Without Limits in Burton, Texas. Shriners Children's Texas, a treatment and rehabilitation hospital for kids with specialized needs, created the camp to support young patients with limb loss or limb differences.



### GC STUDENT BECOMES COUNSELOR FOR CAMP SUPPORTING KIDS WITH RARE DISORDER

Kari Johnston, second-year student in the Genetic Counseling Program, became a summer 2022 camp counselor for Camp PHEver in Burton, Texas. The camp allows kids with phenylketonuria, a rare genetic disorder, to enjoy a normal camp experience while taking precautions to protect their health. PKU can result in learning disabilities, seizures and behavioral difficulties if left untreated.



### PA STUDENTS PARTNER WITH DOWN SYNDROME ORGANIZATION

First-year students in the Physician Assistant Program hosted a 2022 Trunk or Treat with the Down Syndrome Association of Houston. Students handed out candy from the trunks of Halloween-decorated cars to kids and their families.



## FEATURED ALUMNI



### **Megan Bullerwell, D.N.P., C.R.N.A. ('13)**

School of Health Professions Assistant Professor Dr. Megan Bullerwell was elected as a member of the Faculty Senate at Baylor College of Medicine. Members represent their schools or departments in the College's decision-making process for education, faculty affairs and benefits, strategic planning, communications and public affairs and administrative operations.



### **Blake Vuocolo, C.G.C. ('22)**

Research Genetic Counselor Blake Vuocolo was one of two members from Baylor's Department of Molecular and Human Genetics to be selected for a yearlong research training program at the University of Pennsylvania's Perelman School of Medicine. The program allows genetic counselors to take online education courses and receive training in genetic counseling and genomics research.



### **Megan Castille, C.P.O., L.P.O. ('18)**

School of Health Professions Assistant Professor Megan Castille presented "The Role of Mentorship in Brace Compliance" at the Columbia University Irving Medical Center's "9th Annual Symposium on the Pediatric Spine: Best in Class Non-Operative Treatment" in New York City.



### **Ann Wang, P.A.-C. ('22)**

Former physician assistant student Ann Wang co-wrote the article, "Right Bundle Branch and Bifascicular Blocks: Insensitive Prognostic Indicators for Acute Myocardial Infarction," for *Current Problems in Cardiology*. The article discusses right bundle branch block or bifascicular block in heart attacks. It also explains how the visibility of RBBB with ST-elevation in certain leads might mean urgent treatment is needed.

## THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING US

Your support to Baylor College of Medicine School of Health Professions is invaluable. We appreciate you for helping us to prepare the next generation of healthcare professionals. Thanks to your generous philanthropy, we have the tools needed to shape our students into passionate, skilled, innovative and collaborative leaders who can thrive in the everchanging healthcare environment.

The listed memorial and scholarship funds represent the causes to which our supporters donated. These contributions are aimed at furthering our mission and vision to advance healthcare scholarship and practice.

### MEMORIAL FUNDS

#### **J. David Holcomb Memorial Fund**

The J. David Holcomb Memorial Fund honors J. David Holcomb, professor emeritus and founding dean of the School of Health Professions, following 30 years of distinguished leadership of Baylor's Division of Allied Health Sciences in the Department of Family and Community Medicine. The School of Health Professions owes a debt to his visionary leadership in education, research and scholarship that set a standard of excellence sustaining the national reputations of our health professions programs across affiliated institutions and the nation. This fund in his name provides discretionary funding for special projects in the school.

#### **Carol Ann Sammet Legacy Fund**

In memoriam of Carol Ann Sammet, an orthotics and prosthetics student who lost her battle with cancer in 2019, the Carol Ann Sammet Legacy Fund is intended to honor her legacy by providing small financial grants to health professions students in need of assistance. Sammet had a giving personality which her family hopes to show through this fund.

### SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

#### **Carl E. Fasser Physician Assistant Student Scholarship**

The Carl E. Fasser Physician Assistant Student Fund provides tuition and fee scholarships for physician assistant students. This fund was initiated in 1986 through donor gifts. The thoughtful philanthropy is helping physician assistant students on the road to promising careers in healthcare.

#### **Nurse Anesthesia Alumni Student Scholarship**

The Nurse Anesthesia Alumni Student Scholarship supports and recognizes outstanding students pursuing a career in nurse anesthesia. This scholarship strives to alleviate financial burdens and encourage excellence in didactic and clinical performance.

## **GIVE TO OUR DEPARTMENT GENERAL FUNDS**

Visit <https://bit.ly/give-bcm-shp> to give.

### **School of Health Professions**

This fund allows the School of Health Professions to administer exemplary educational programs driven by continuous quality improvement that delivers an exceptionally prepared healthcare workforce grounded in evidence-based care and competent interprofessional practice. Consequently, the school can become a leader in developing a diverse workforce that will transform healthcare through science, scholarship and innovation.

### **Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, Nurse Anesthesia**

This fund supports the Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, Nurse Anesthesia in continuing its mission of producing future generations of nurse anesthetists who are leaders in clinical practice, healthcare research, education and policy. The fund also helps the program work toward its vision of being recognized as an exemplar of nurse anesthesia education.

### **Genetic Counseling Program**

This fund is intended to support the mission and vision of the Genetic Counseling Program. The program's mission is to provide students with a transformative education in genomic medicine and the practice of genetic counseling. The clinical, laboratory and research faculty will empower graduates to become empathetic professionals with effective critical thinking skills. The program's vision is to become leaders of genomic medicine integration, so its graduates can serve as indispensable navigators of genetic service delivery.

### **Orthotics and Prosthetics Program**

This fund helps the Orthotics and Prosthetics Program meet its mission of preparing orthotists and prosthetists who provide high quality, evidence-based and equitable patient-centered care, participating as active members of the interprofessional rehabilitative team, serving in leadership and advocacy roles while engaging in professional development, research and the education of future professionals. Funds may be used to support student professional development, research and community engagement activities.

### **Physician Assistant Program**

This fund assists the Physician Assistant Program in continuing its mission of educating physician assistants who will provide excellent healthcare to individuals and communities in a broad range of settings. The fund also supports the program's core values of honesty, integrity, self-motivation, flexibility, lifelong learning, reflective practice, teamwork and primary concern for the patient's welfare.



## FACULTY

### Leadership

Dr. Jennifer Christner  
*Senior Dean*

Dr. Todd Reinhart  
*Dean*

Dr. Robert McLaughlin  
*Dean Emeritus*

Dr. Rachel Davis  
*Director of Doctor of Nursing  
Practice Program, Nurse  
Anesthesia*

Dan Riconda  
*Director of Genetic Counseling  
Program*

Dr. Ashley Mullen  
*Director of Orthotics and  
Prosthetics Program*

Elizabeth Elliott  
*Director of Physician Assistant  
Program*

### Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, Nurse Anesthesia

Dr. Megan Bullerwell  
*Assistant Professor*

Dr. Aimee Langley  
*Assistant Professor*

Dr. Jessica Gaines  
*Assistant Professor*

Dr. Mary Hortenstine  
*Instructor*

Nathan Jones  
*Assistant Professor*

Dr. James Walker  
*Associate Professor*

Dr. Leslie Archibald  
*Chief C.R.N.A.,  
Ben Taub Hospital*

Navroz Ali  
*Assistant Professor*

Dr. Michael Byars  
*Assistant Professor*

Dr. Abigail Caswell  
*Assistant Professor*

Dr. Stephanie Cioci  
*Assistant Professor*

Dr. Wesley Dupriest  
*Assistant Professor*

Dr. Brant Grundy  
*Assistant Professor*

Dr. Christy Lee  
*Assistant Professor*

Dr. Elizabeth McMillan  
*Assistant Professor*

Dr. Christyna Morgan  
*Assistant Professor*

Dr. Armando Perez Jr.  
*Assistant Professor*

Dr. Carla Roberts  
*Assistant Professor*

Dr. Meredith Tabladillo  
*Assistant Professor*

Dr. Audrey Weldon  
*Assistant Professor*

### Genetic Counseling Program

Salma Nassef  
*Assistant Professor*

Abigail Yesso  
*Genetic Counselor*

Dr. Lindsay Burrage  
*Associate Professor*

Sarah Scollon  
*Assistant Professor*

Taylor Beecroft  
*Genetic Counselor*

Andrea Moon  
*Assistant Professor*

Dr. Ning Liu  
*Assistant Professor*

Cathy Sullivan  
*Assistant Professor*

Michelle (Shelly) Zelnick  
*Genetic Counselor*

Blake Vuocolo  
*Genetic Counseling Researcher*

Darwin Argueta  
*Genetic Counselor*

Emily Magness  
*Genetic Counselor*

Morgan Nutter  
*Instructor*

Amanda Gerard  
*Genetic Counselor*

Dr. Linyan Meng  
*Associate Professor*

Emily Soludczyk  
*Genetic Counselor*

Dr. Erin Atkinson  
*Genetic Counselor*

Patricia Robbins-Furman  
*Assistant Professor*

Farah Ladha  
*Instructor*

Dr. Melissa Richard  
*Assistant Professor*

Pilar Magoulas  
*Associate Professor*

Georgiann Garza  
*Instructor*

Hannah Helber  
*Instructor*

Grant Bonesteele  
*Genetic Counselor*

Haley Streff  
*Assistant Professor*

Jamie Fong  
*Assistant Professor*

Ashley Spector  
*Genetic Counselor*

Dr. Austin Brown  
*Assistant Professor*

Nhi Ho  
*Genetic Counselor*

Katie Chan  
*Instructor*

Laura Ellis  
*Assistant Professor*

Hailey Hein  
*Instructor*

Lauren Westerfield  
*Assistant Professor*

Elizabeth (Liz) Mizerik  
*Instructor*

Veena Mathur  
*Instructor*

Lisa Saba  
*Genetic Counselor*

Dr. Ning Liu  
*Assistant Professor*

Rachel Franciskovich  
*Instructor*

Stacey Edwards  
*Genetic Counselor*

Josephine (Josie) Minick  
*Instructor*

Shontiara Johnson  
*Instructor*

Lauren Desrosiers-Battu  
*Instructor*

Sandra Darilek  
*Associate Professor*

Dr. Melissa Stuebben  
*Instructor*

Tamara Solomon  
*Assistant Professor*

Jill Mokry  
*Associate Professor*

Tanya Eble  
*Associate Professor*

Jessica Honkomp  
*Genetic Counselor*

Shannon Bonner  
*Genetic Counselor*

Robert "Rob" Rigobello  
*Consultant*

Dr. Nichole Owen  
*Assistant Professor*

## **Orthotics and Prosthetics Program**

Jeremy Sherman  
*Assistant Professor*

Lisa Abernethy  
*Assistant Professor*

Megan Castille  
*Assistant Professor*

Jared Howell  
*Assistant Professor*

Vinson Hu  
*Instructor*

Sally Kenworthy  
*Assistant Professor*

Amandi Rhett  
*Assistant Professor*

Fanny Schultea  
*Assistant Professor*

Dr. Jonnae Atkinson  
*Associate Professor*

Dr. Beth Garland  
*Associate Professor*

Christi Guerrini  
*Associate Professor*

## **Physician Assistant Program**

Vicki Waters  
*Associate Director*

Valerie DeGregorio  
*Assistant Professor*

Katherine Erdman  
*Assistant Professor*

Carl E. Fasser  
*Professor*

Dr. Jonnae Atkinson  
*Associate Professor*

Stephanie DeSandro  
*Assistant Professor*

Elissa Love  
*Assistant Professor*

Dr. Sarah-Ann Keyes  
*Assistant Professor*

Jayne Chirido-Taylor  
*Assistant Professor*

Kathleen Thompson  
*Assistant Professor*

Dr. Elisabeth Shell  
*Assistant Professor*

## **STAFF**

Jeannette Adams  
*Lead Coordinator of  
Business Operations*

Miya Lewis  
*Business Operations  
Manager*

Jasmine Edmonson  
*Communications Associate*

Emily Hughes  
*Lead Coordinator of  
Project Management,  
Doctor of Nursing Practice  
Program*

Ramona Miller  
*Coordinator of Project  
Management, Doctor of  
Nursing Practice Program*

Jannette Cruz  
*Coordinator of Business  
Operations, Genetic  
Counseling Program*

Liz Haecker  
*Senior Coordinator  
of Program Management,  
Orthotics and Prosthetics  
Program*

Juan Guzman  
*Coordinator of Business  
Operations,  
Orthotics and Prosthetics  
Program*

Kavata Robinson  
*Senior Coordinator of  
Program Management,  
Physician Assistant Program*

Carolyn "Yvonne" Baier  
*Senior Coordinator of  
Business Operations  
Physician Assistant Program*

Angelica Almarez  
*Senior Coordinator of  
Business Operations,  
Physician Assistant Program*

Diana Romero  
*Coordinator of  
Business Operations,  
Physician Assistant Program*

Leah Oren-Palmer  
*Project Manager of  
Academic Data and  
Reporting, Physician  
Assistant Program*



*Texas Medical Center*

# Baylor College of Medicine

**BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE  
SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS**

1 BAYLOR PLAZA  
DEBAKEY BUILDING  
HOUSTON, TX 77030

[BCM.EDU/HEALTHPROFESSIONS](https://bcm.edu/healthprofessions) | [✉ @BCMHEALTHPROF](https://twitter.com/bcmhealthprof)

