# FALL 2021 CHAT WITH ALUMNI MD VS MD-PHD

#### **ADRIAN COSCIA**

Adrian Coscia (UConn '17), was born and raised in Connecticut and is a New Englander through and through. At UConn, he caught the research bug and completed a combined MS/BS degree in Structural Biology, and Molecular and Cell Biology. A firm believer in following your nose, Adrian took three gap years to pursue full-time research on virus structure and the development of new antiviral therapies at Harvard Medical School before returning to the classroom as a student. He is a first-gem in healthcare now pursuing a combined MD/PhD degree in the Harvard-MIT Health Sciences and Technology (HST) program.



HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL MD-PHD PROGRAM

#### ERICKA RANDAZZO



Ericka Randazzo (UConn '19, '20) is currently in her second year as a medical student in the MD/PhD program at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. She graduated from UConn in May 2019 with a double degree in Physiology and Neurobiology and Pathobiology. She then stayed an additional year to complete a research Master's degree in Physiology and Neurobiology. During her time at UConn, she competed as an athlete on the Women's Cross Country and Track & Field Teams, served as president of the Pre-Medical Society, was an active student in the Special Program in Medicine, service abroad in Tena, Ecuador through the MedLife Program, and served as a Teaching Assistant for UConn's Human Physiology and Anatomy course. She did the majority of her basic science research in developmental neuroscience, studying the cellular and molecular mechanisms of a pediatric brain tumor in the lab of Dr. Joseph LoTurco. She also conducted research in organic chemistry and kinesiology. She is currently planning to unite her passions for medicine and research by pursuing a career as a physician scientist, specializing in a surgical subspecialty such as pediatric or trauma neurosurgery, sports orthopedic surgery, or pediatric cardiac surgery.

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE MD-PHD PROGRAM

### XIUYI ALEXANDER YANG

Xiuyi Alexander Yang (UConn 18') is currently a 4th year med student at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. As a university scholar he received both a bachelors and masters in molecular and cell biology in 18'. While at UConn he performed research in Dr. Zweifach's lab and was a student leader within the AsACC community. He will be entering orthopaedic surgery residency next year. In his free time he likes rock climbing, playing basketball, running, and lifting with friends.



ALBERT EINSTEIN MEDICAL COLLEGE MD PROGRAM



PRE-MEDICAL AND PRE-DENTAL ADVISING OFFICE

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