

**UConn** | UNIVERSITY OF  
CONNECTICUT

PRE-MEDICAL AND PRE-DENTAL ADVISING OFFICE

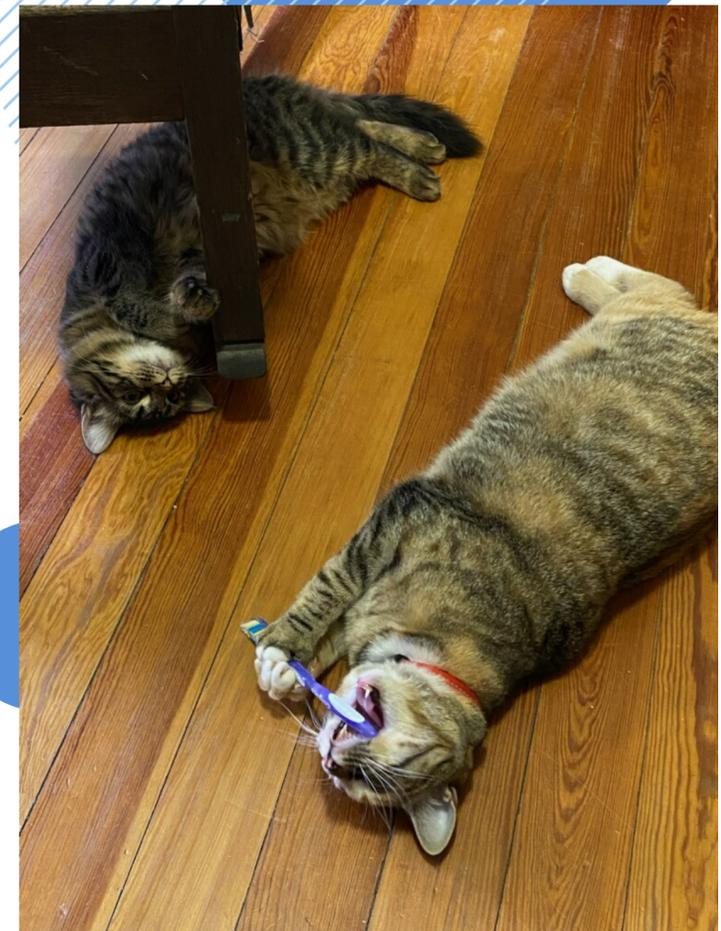
**Spring 2022**

**Stamford Group Advising**



## Pet Policy

*If a pet enters the camera frame of a presenter during our orientation, we will "paws" our discussion for an introduction to that pet and admiration by all.*

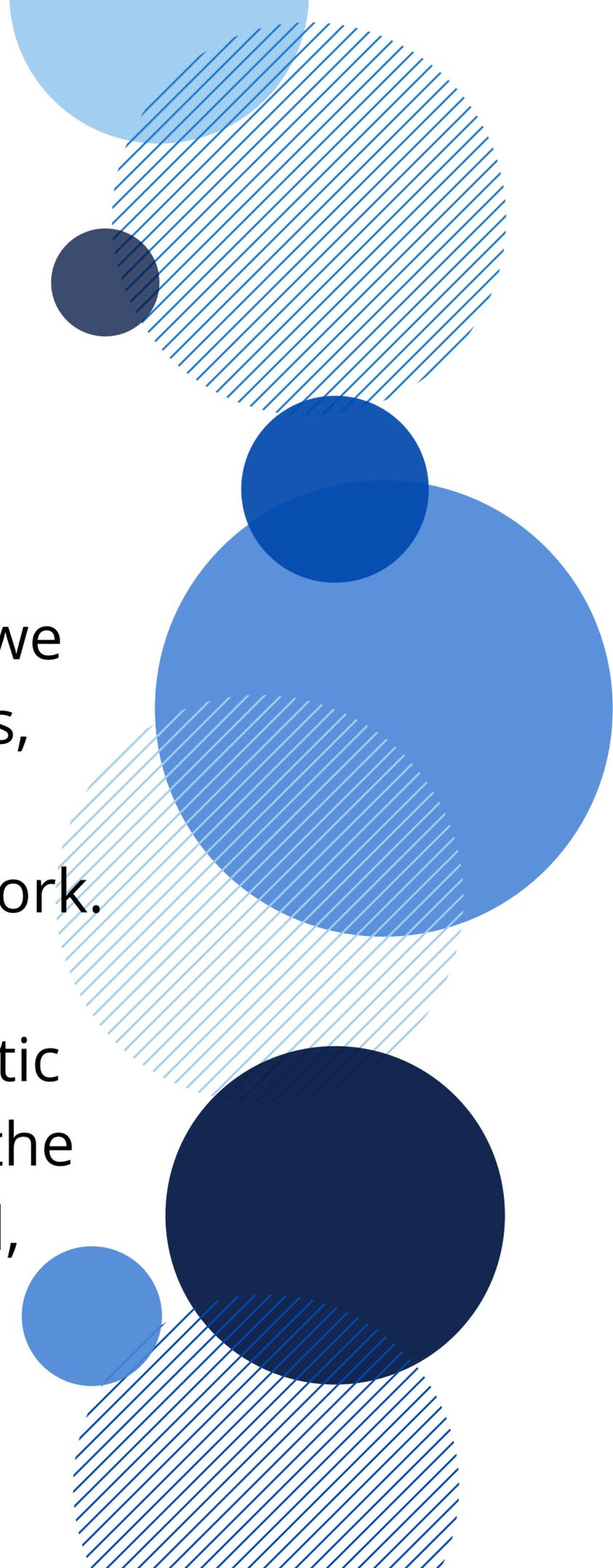


## Foreword

### ~Our commitment~

At the Pre-Medical and Pre-Dental Advising Office, we recognize the importance of Black and Brown lives, acknowledge systems of oppression, and center diversity, equity, and inclusion in all aspects of our work.

To this end, we are committed to a sustained, holistic approach to advising that supports and celebrates the success of students from historically marginalized, underrepresented groups.



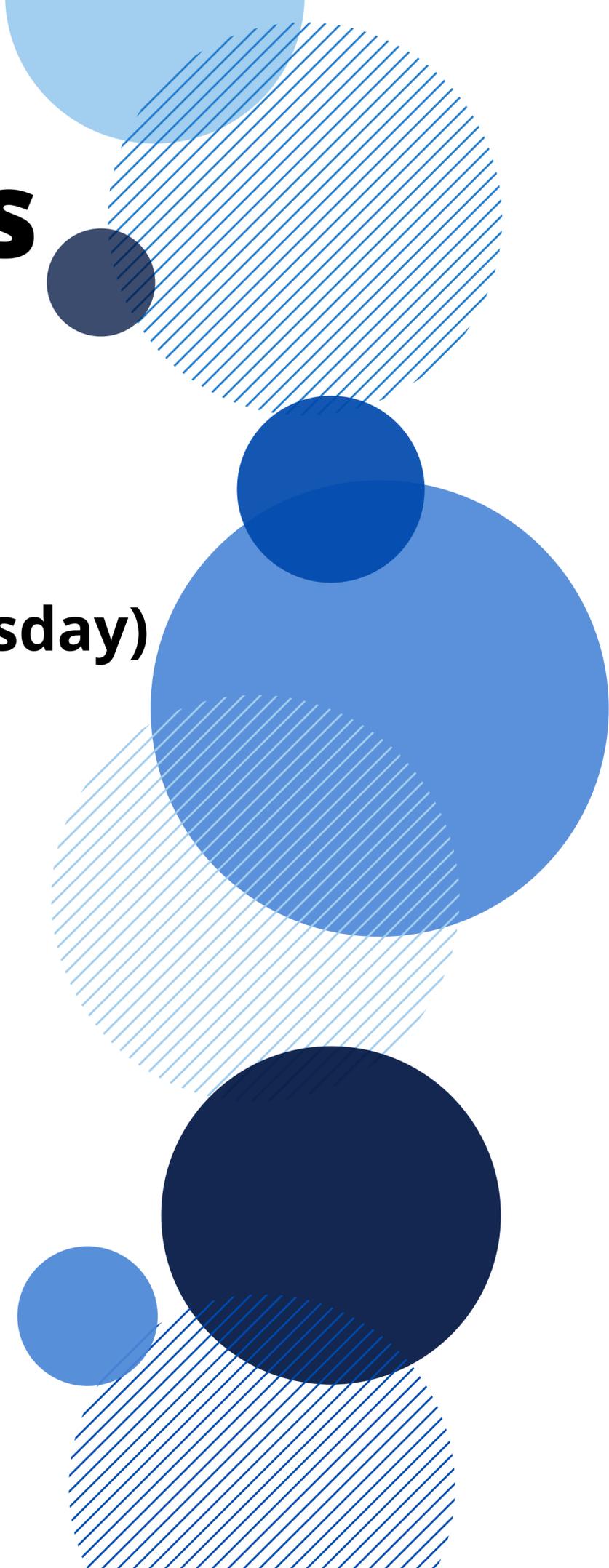
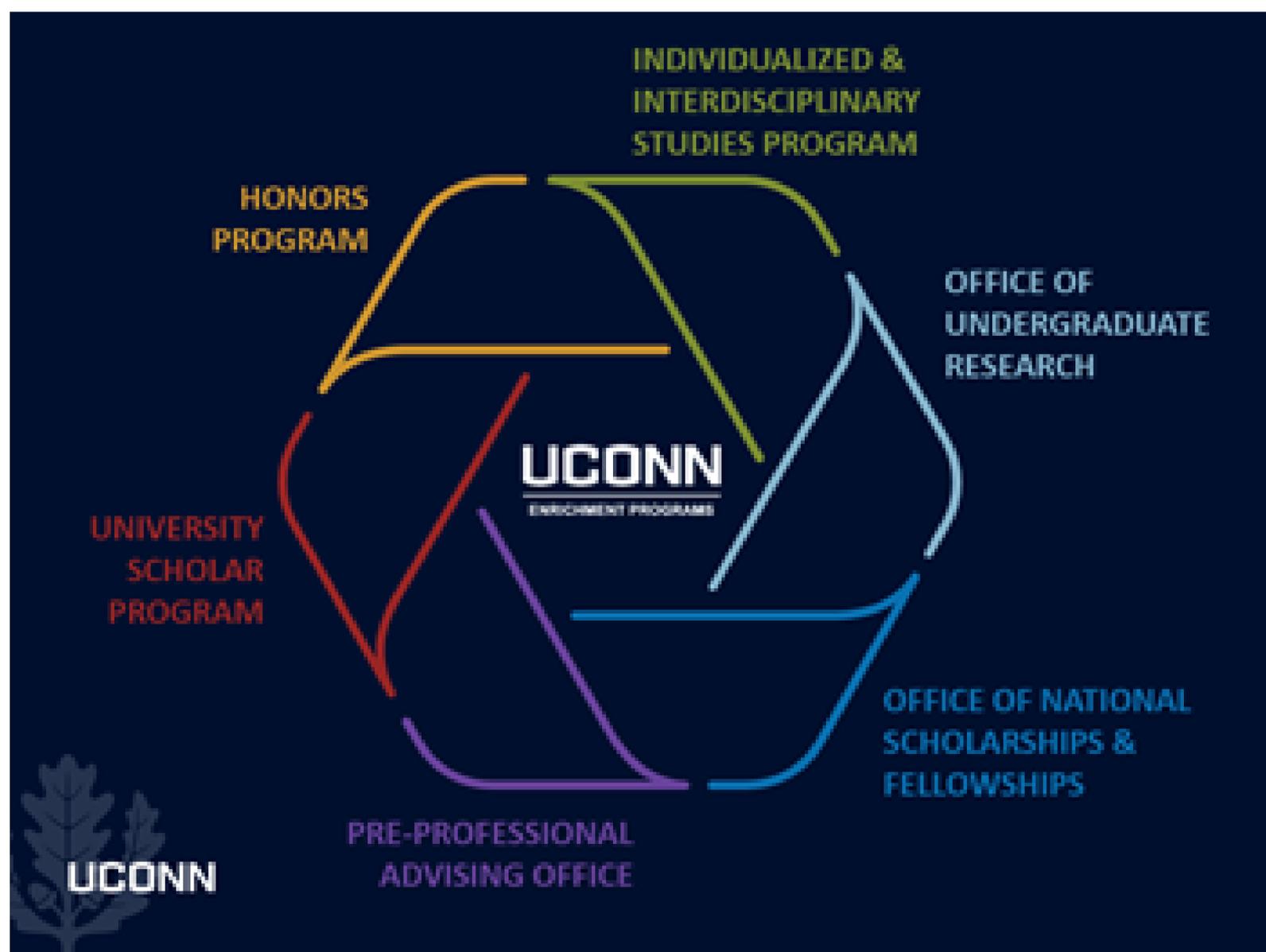
# Get to Know Us

[premed.uconn.edu](http://premed.uconn.edu)

[premed\\_pre dental@uconn.edu](mailto:premed_pre dental@uconn.edu)

Instagram: [uconn\\_pre med\\_pre dental](https://www.instagram.com/uconn_pre med_pre dental)

**Rowe Building, 4th floor (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday)**



# Enrichment Programs

- **Enrichment Programs Department**

- Honors Program
- Individualized and Interdisciplinary Studies Program
- Office of National Scholarships and Fellowships
- Office of Pre-Professional Advising
  - Pre-Law Advising Office
  - Pre-Medical and Pre-Dental Advising Office
- Office of Undergraduate Research
- University Scholar Program



# Enrichment Programs

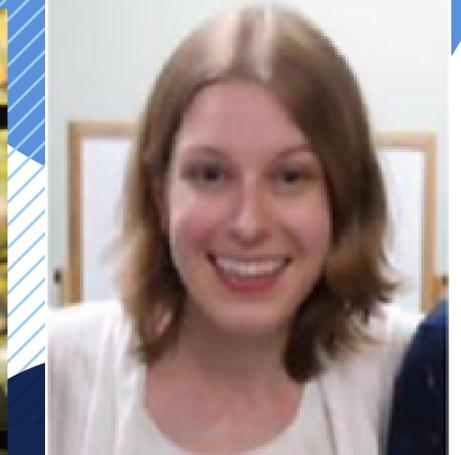
## Akshayaa Chittibabu '19



- STEM Scholar in the Honors Program
- 2016 Holster Scholar
- Individualized Major: Health, Policy, and Social Medicine
- Health Research Program participant
- 2018 Truman Scholar
- 2019 Marshall Scholar
- Plans a career in public service as a physician and policymaker

## Advisors

- Erin Ciarimboli, PhD, Director
- Thomas Abbott, PhD (Pre-Dental)
- Emma Belliveau, BS
- Heather Nunes, MS
- Paris Pruitt, MA
- Krista Rogers, MA
- Susan Ruggiero, MS
- Keat Sanford, PhD
- [Advisor profiles](#)



## Let's Connect

- **Group advising (attend at least once)**

- 2/3 (9-10:30 am)
- 2/8 (12-1:30 pm) UConn Hartford
- 2/22 (12:30-2 pm) UConn Waterbury
- 3/2 (12-1:30 pm) UConn Stamford
- 3/21 (2-3:30 pm)
- 4/7 (12:30-2 pm)
- UConn Avery Point TBD



- **1:1 advising**

- Making a pre-med appt ([website](#))
- Making a pre-dent appt ([Dr. Abbott on Nexus](#))
- Th 3-6 pm: Virtual open office hours with Paris at <https://uconn-cmr.webex.com/meet/pcp13001>

# Let's Connect

- **Health Professions Peer Ambassadors**

- Six inaugural members
- [Bios, hours, and Ask a Q here!](#)
- [HPPA Blog](#)



**Aesha  
Anthony  
Keely  
Nour  
Kristine  
Yulianny**



## Planning Ahead

- **Emailing list/weekly newsletter**
  - Email [pemed\\_predental@uconn.edu](mailto:pemed_predental@uconn.edu) to join
- **Spring MCAT review course**
- **Pre-Medical and Health Professions Post-Baccalaureate Program**



# Workshops

- **Fall 2021 Husky health foundations workshops**  
(Tu / 2-3 pm)
  - 9/28: Co-curricular engagement
  - 10/19: Competencies, motivation, leadership
  - 11/9: Exploring health professions
- **Spring 2022 application workshops (various times)**
  - 1/26: 2023 Cycle Application Orientation
  - 1/27: Letters of Rec: Whom and How to Ask
  - 3/22: Personal Statements

# Workshops

- **Chat with alumni (W / 7:30-8:30 pm)**
  - 2/23: Osteopathic (DO) Journey
  - 3/9: Choosing Schools to Apply to
  - 3/30: Mental Health in Medicine

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## CHAT WITH ALUMNI

VIRTUAL SPRING SERIES 2022



Liz Gernert (UConn '18) is currently a second-year medical student at Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine. She graduated from UConn in May of 2018 with a B.S. in Cognitive Science. She was an Honors Scholar, and her thesis was titled "Auditory Brainstem Responses to Self-Generated Sounds." During her time at UConn she was heavily involved in the Auditory Brain Research Lab under the direction of Dr. Erika Skoe. She was also the Vice President of the UConn Alzheimer's Association and continues to have a passion for community service. She is a first-generation medical student and spent two gap years as an emergency department scribe before beginning medical school. When not studying, she loves spending time with friends and binge-watching her favorite series.

Learn more about what it means to choose DO

**Wed, Feb 23rd 7:30pm**

[HTTPS://UCONNVTC.WEBEX.COM/MEET/PREADVIS](https://uconnvtc.webex.com/meet/preadvis)

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## CHAT WITH ALUMNI

VIRTUAL SPRING SERIES 2022



Sandy A. Durosier is a first-year osteopathic medical student at A.T. Still University - School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona. She was born in Boston, MA, and raised in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Sandy graduated from UConn's Post-Bacc Program in May 2020. She has a BA in Biology from Wesleyan University and an MS in Cellular & Molecular Biology from the University of New Haven. Before medical school, Sandy worked in research, healthcare, and higher education. She is passionate about diversity, equity, inclusion, and mentoring the next generation of STEM and medical students. She speaks French and Haitian Creole fluently. When not studying for exams, Sandy enjoys traveling, cooking, and spending quality time with family and friends.

Learn more about what it means to choose DO

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# Past Workshops

## Chat with Alumni

Representation Matters in Healthcare:  
Black Males in Medicine

Tuesday, 4/20 6:00-7:00 pm  
[uconnvtc.webex.com/meet/preadviz](https://uconnvtc.webex.com/meet/preadviz)

**Ireoluwatomiwa "Ire" Opayemi (UConn '28)** is a first-year student at the UConn School of Medicine (UConn Med '24). Ire has recently earned his Bachelors of Science in Molecular and Cell Biology and minor in Psychology this past May. Being a big proponent of mental health, advocacy and equity, he is the Vice President of Medical Minds Matter, Secretary of the Medical and Dental Student Government and the Secretary of the UConn Chapter of the Student National Medical Association. Through these positions, he wants to help eliminate the stigma of mental health in healthcare and more specifically in minority cultural



John Der



**Timothy Mason (UConn '28)** is currently a first-year medical student at the UConn School of Medicine. Outside of class, he is a part of an interprofessional student group focused around raising vaccine confidence in the community. He graduated from UConn in May 2020 with a B.S. in Molecular and Cell Biology. During his time at UConn he rowed for the men's crew team, coordinated the mentoring program for BIOL 1107, and participated in two of UConn's Learning Communities, SCHOLARS and Public Health House. In his spare time he enjoys skating at local bike trails and rowing at the community boathouse in Hartford.



## Navigating the Healthcare Admissions Interview

Wednesday, July 21st

9:00AM to 10:15AM - Workshop presentation for current cycle applicants

10:30AM to 11:45AM - Alumni Panel 1



5:30PM to 6:45PM - Alumni Panel 2



All events will take place at [uconnvtc.webex.com/meet/preadviz](https://uconnvtc.webex.com/meet/preadviz) and will be recorded.

We can't wait to see you soon!



# Holistic Admissions

- “Holistic review is an admissions process that considers each applicant individually by balancing their **academic metrics with experiences and attributes.**” (AAMC)
- “Holistic review—a flexible, individualized applicant assessment tool—provides admissions committees a balanced means of considering candidates’ **personal experiences, attributes and academic credentials, along with qualities and characteristics** that would prove valuable in both dental school and the oral health profession.” (ADEA)



## Academics

- Your major can be anything as long as you demonstrate strength in the core entrance requirements!
- Breadth, depth, rigor
- Coursework requirements
- AP credit policies



# Co-curricular engagement

- Clinical experience
    - Shadowing
    - Direct patient care
  - Service
  - Research, independent scholarship
  - Extracurriculars for fun and interest!
- 
- Community Outreach
  - Office of Undergraduate Research
  - UConntact



# Core Competencies

- “Successful medical school applicants are able to demonstrate skills, knowledge, and abilities in these areas. One experience can illustrate proficiency across multiple competencies.”  
(AAMC)
- 15 Core Competencies
- Examples



## Takeaways

### ~Pursue your passions~

- Health professional schools are interested in interesting people
- Explore: What do you want to get out of your undergraduate education?
- Make the most of your 3-4 years ahead!
- "Don't have such an orgo personality"



# Applicant Support

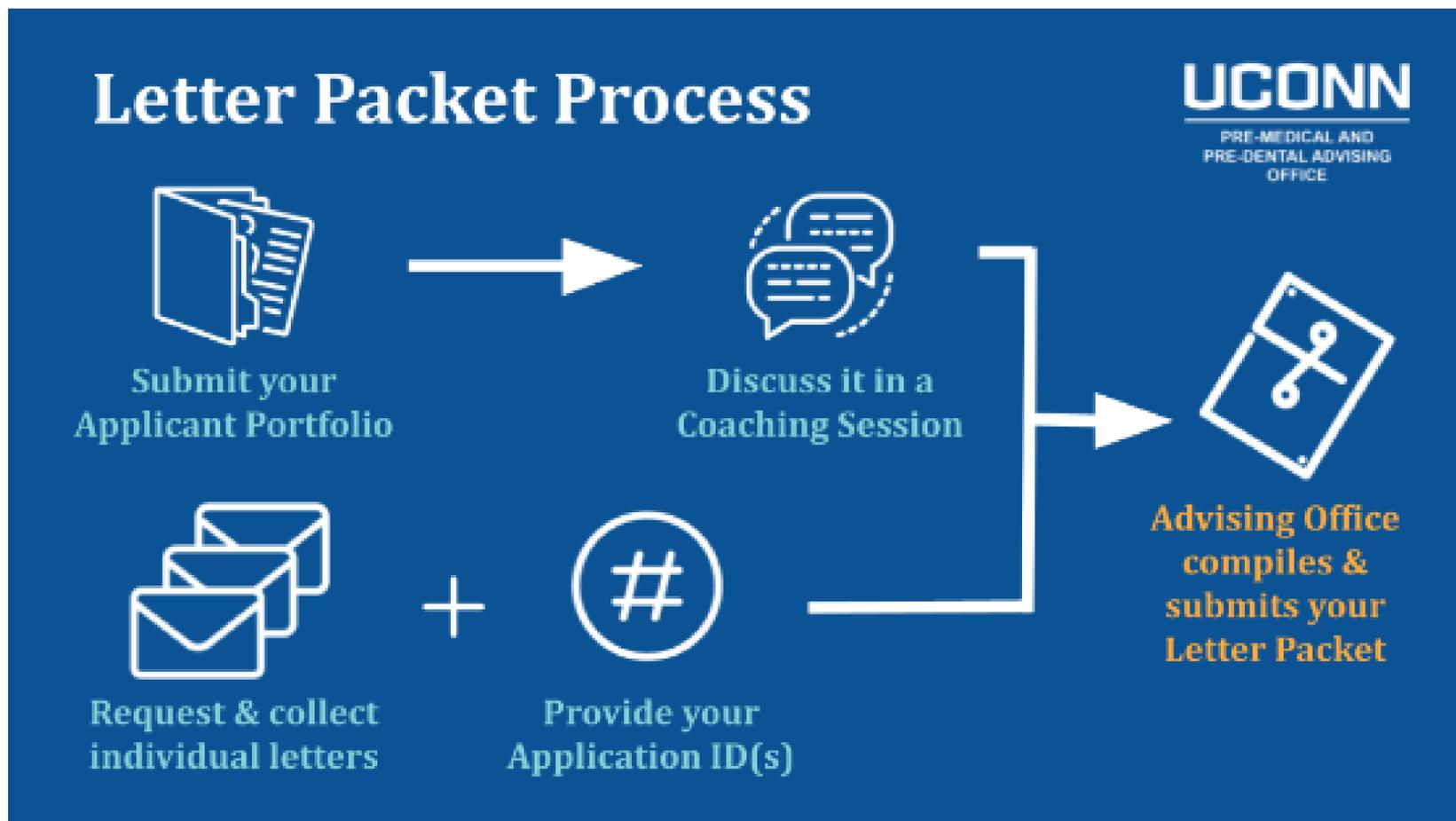
- **Applicant workshops (2023)**

- Application orientation
- Selecting schools
- Personal statements
- Secondaries
- Interviews
- Alumni interview pairing



# Applicant Support

- **Comprehensive applicant support process**
  - Health Professions Applicant Portfolio
  - Health Professions Letter Packet
    - Personalized cover letter
  - 45-minute Applicant Coaching Session



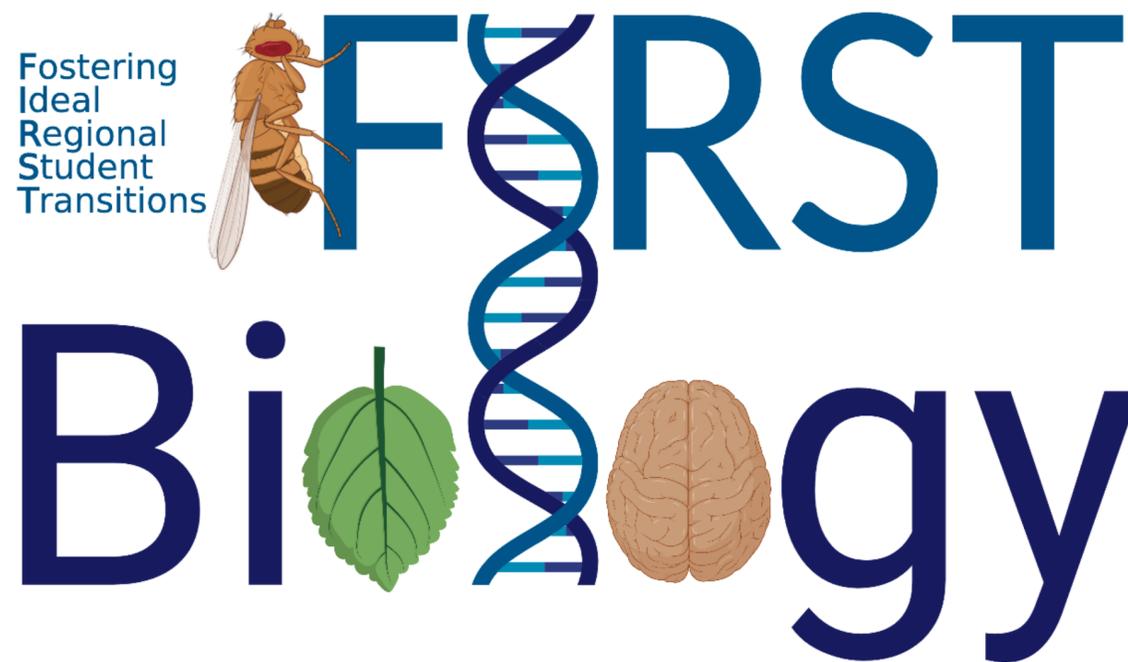
## Resources

- **Pre-Med/Dent Advising Office website:**
  - [premed.uconn.edu](http://premed.uconn.edu)
- **General**
  - [Explore Health Careers.org](http://ExploreHealthCareers.org)
  - [Preparing for medical school \(AAMC\)](http://PreparingforMedicalSchool.org)
  - [Preparing for medical school \(AACOM\)](http://PreparingforMedicalSchool.org)
  - [Preparing for dental school \(ADEA\)](http://PreparingforDentalSchool.org)
- **UConn**
  - [Center for Career Development \(CCD\)](#)
  - [Center for Students with Disabilities \(CSD\)](#)
  - [Q Center](#)
  - [W Center](#)
  - [Academic Achievement Center](#)



## FIRST

- Understand the barriers to successful campus change
- Offer academic support to students
- Build a nurturing community of faculty and undergraduates
- Create equity for campus change students



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# Thanks!

