



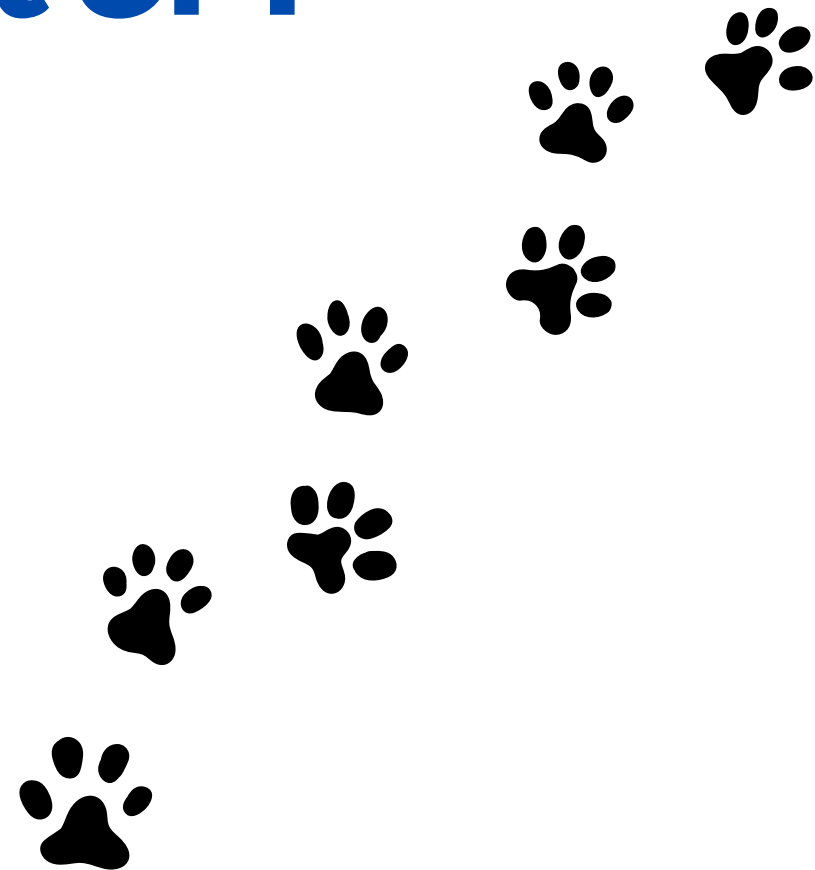
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

Chat with Alumni: Pursuing Your Own Path

October 11, 2023 at 7 pm

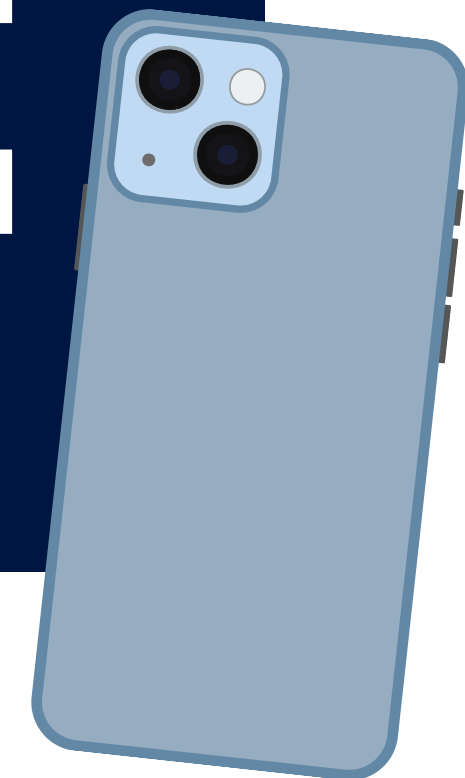
UConn | UNIVERSITY OF
CONNECTICUT

PRE-MEDICAL AND PRE-DENTAL ADVISING OFFICE



NEWSLETTER SIGN UP

Just scan
and we'll add
your email to
our mailing
list!



Agenda

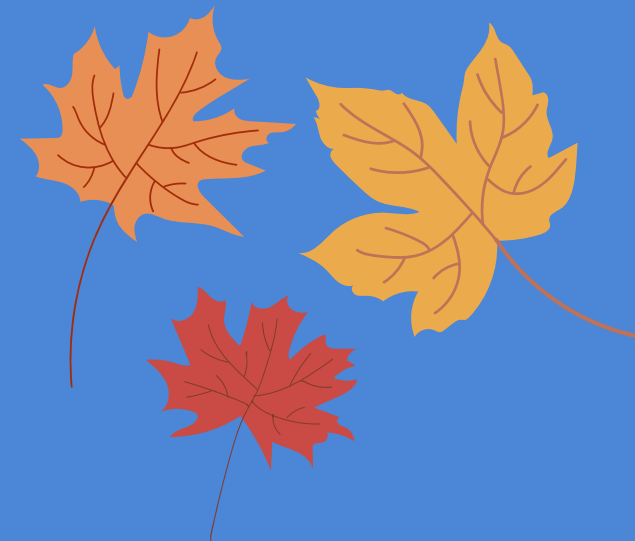
I. Introduction of Staff

II. Introduction of Alumni

III. Q&A with our Alumni

- Questions from PPA staff
- Audience questions--chat box or unmute

IV. Wrap Up



GET TO KNOW US!

PPA Staff



Dr. Sarah Scheidel
Director



Krista Rogers
Assistant Director



Chrissy Gray
Pre-Professional Advisor



Megan Baro
Health Professions Advisor



Tanya Miller
Social Media Coordinator



Sue Ruggiero
Program Assistant



Dr. Keat Sanford
Pre-Medical Advisor



GET TO KNOW US!

HPPAs



ANANYA AGGARWAL '24
MAJOR: MOLECULAR AND CELL BIOLOGY
PRE-DENTAL TRACK



SAHITI BHYRAVAVAJHALA '24
MAJOR: CHEMISTRY & MOLECULAR AND CELL BIOLOGY
MINOR: ANTHROPOLOGY OF GLOBAL HEALTH
PRE-MEDICAL TRACK



TY ZACCAGNINI '25
MAJOR: PHYSIOLOGY & NEUROBIOLOGY
MINORS: NEUROSCIENCE, MOLECULAR & CELL BIOLOGY
PRE-MEDICAL TRACK



GENESIS ROSARIO '24
MAJOR: ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES
PRE-MEDICAL TRACK



EMILY STRICKLAND '24
MAJORS: MCB & NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES
PRE-MEDICAL TRACK



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS

Olasubomi “Mini” Ajayi (UConn School of Medicine)



Olasubomi ‘Mini’ Ajayi

earned her B.S. in **Allied Health Sciences** from UConn in 2021, and is now a first-year medical student and a distinguished Health Career Opportunity (HCOP) Scholar at **UConn School of Medicine**.

★ As an **Honors Scholar**, she studied the effects of the local food environment on food security status in low-income Hartford neighborhoods. This gave rise to her passion for service and research to address inequities in disadvantaged communities, along with her years as a health educator with the **Collegiate Health Services Corps**.

★ She is an advocate and mentor for underrepresented minorities pursuing careers in medicine, a past President of the UConn Minority Association for Pre-Med Students (**MAPS**), and a former National Future Leadership Project Fellow with the Student National Medical Association (**SNMA**).

★ Mini loves the freedom of laughter, the art of connection, and exploring new cultures and foods through travel. You may find her watching or playing basketball when not walking in nature, reading, or journaling.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS

Darlene Burckson (UConn Graduate School/UConn Health)



Darlene Burckson

earned her B.A. in **Biological Sciences** from UConn in 2022 and began her **Ph.D. studies in Biomedical Sciences at UConn Health** this fall.

★ While at UConn, she was involved in many activities and leadership positions, such as being a Senior Resident Assistant for the Women in Math Science and Engineering Learning Community (**WIMSE**), a member of the **BOLD Women's Leadership Network**, a Peer Mentor for the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students (**MAPS**), and many more.

★ Darlene's passion for research led her to apply to the **Yale Summer Enrichment Research Experience program (YSERE)** after graduation. YSERE is an intensive biomedical sciences research program that gave her experience in how clinical-based research was done. She worked with Dr. Maor Sauler, whose research focuses on understanding the pathobiology of chronic lung diseases.

★ During her growth year, Darlene continued her work in Dr. Sauler's lab through a Yale Post Graduate Fellowship. Her project focused on understanding the molecular regulation of alveolar homeostasis.

Additional Resources



- **TOMORROW: Storrs Research Connections**
- **Chat with Alumni series:**
 - 11/1: TBD
 - 11/29: TBD
- **Husky Health Foundation Workshops:**
 - 10/26: Co-Curricular Engagement
 - 11/9: Exploring Health Professions



CONNECT WITH US!



Hey UConn Alumni,

Looking for a meaningful way to unwind after a long day of being a medical/dental/PA student?

pre-med freshman

first year medical student

Consider volunteering to support current pre-health huskies!

#LiftAsYouRise #HuskiesForever

A promotional graphic for the pre-med and pre-dental advising office. It features two huskies: a small one on the left and a larger one on the right. The text is arranged around them, including a call to action for alumni to volunteer and support current pre-health huskies. The background is white with blue and green floral accents.

Visit our website
premed.uconn.edu
if you want more information
about our office

Email us at
premed_predental@uconn.edu
at any time with questions

Follow us on Instagram
[@uconn_premed_predental](https://www.instagram.com/uconn_premed_predental)

UCONN | UNIVERSITY OF
CONNECTICUT

PRE-MEDICAL AND PRE-DENTAL ADVISING OFFICE

