Congratulations to the class of 2022!

HERE’S WHERE THEY MATCHED:

**Julie Conrad**  
Medicine/Pediatrics  
at University of Illinois at Chicago

**Debra Eluobaju**  
Obstetrics & Gynecology  
at Johns Hopkins University

**Ava Graf**  
General Surgery  
at University of Chicago

**Robert Haemmerle**  
Internal Medicine  
at Mayo Clinic

**Meghna Nagam**  
Internal Medicine  
at Cleveland Clinic

**Mohannad Safadi**  
Internal Medicine  
at University of Illinois at Chicago

**Yaseen Saleh**  
Emergency Medicine  
at University of Miami

**Hoda Sayegh**  
Internal Medicine  
at Stanford University

**Georgina Sorrentino**  
Emergency Medicine  
at Ohio State University

**Stefan Vidovich**  
Otolaryngology  
at Medical College of Wisconsin

**Nihmot Adebayo**  
Northwestern University

**Kavya Anjur**  
Johns Hopkins University

**Ahmadou Babana El Aloui**  
Northern Illinois University

**Saneha Borisuth**  
University of Illinois Chicago

**Diane Edwards**  
Texas Christian University

**Gabriela Gonzalez-Perez**  
University of Florida

**Lina Issa**  
University of Illinois  
Champaign-Urbana

**Israel Makinde**  
University of Illinois at Chicago

**Gayatri Sanku**  
University of Illinois at Chicago

**Eman Sharif**  
University of Illinois at Chicago

Meet our new M1 class!

HERE IS WHERE THEY COMPLETED THEIR UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES:

**Nihmot Adebayo**  
Northwestern University

**Hana Ahmed**  
University of Illinois at Chicago

**Kavya Anjur**  
Johns Hopkins University

**Ahmadou Babana El Aloui**  
Northern Illinois University

**Saneha Borisuth**  
University of Illinois Chicago

**Diane Edwards**  
Texas Christian University

**Gayatri Sanku**  
University of Illinois at Chicago

**Gabriela Gonzalez-Perez**  
University of Florida

**Lina Issa**  
University of Illinois  
Champaign-Urbana

**Israel Makinde**  
University of Illinois at Chicago

**Gayatri Sanku**  
University of Illinois at Chicago

**Eman Sharif**  
University of Illinois at Chicago
GMED Updates

GMED has made many updates over the past several years, largely based on student feedback.

MEDICAL COLLOQUIA
With the new three-phase College of Medicine curriculum, GMED launched a series of new colloquia integrated with the COM schedule in 2018. These colloquia have allowed GMED to expand its curriculum and are associated with skills-building workshops. Students participate in three colloquia in the fall of M1 year focused on community engagement with skills focused on doing a community health needs assessment, writing MOUs (memorandums of understanding), and planning for community-based research. In the M1 spring, colloquia focus on building research skills that help students with their capstones including doing literature reviews, applying to the IRB, and writing for scientific audiences. In the M2 fall, the colloquia focus on global health policy and advocacy with workshops focusing on Op-Ed writing, writing policy briefs, and using social media for advocacy. We hope that these colloquia not only provide knowledge but increase skills for students to use in their future global health work and expand their toolkit. With the addition of these colloquia, increased scholarly requirements, and mandatory extra-curricular and simulation sessions, GMED is now a six-week decompressed elective.

MENTORING PROGRAM AND SCHOLARSHIP
With the expansion of CGH faculty and the leadership of Dr. Jarrett, in 2019, GMED launched a new Mentoring Program. Under the new structure, all GMED students are assigned an Academic Mentor, and students themselves identify a Capstone Project Mentor. Students meet with this mentorship team at least twice yearly to discuss capstone project plans and progress and academic career guidance. With greater support for student scholarship, capstone projects now include completing and submitting a global health abstract in the M3 year and completing a final capstone paper at the end of the M4 year. Student successes have been tremendous - just in the past two years, GMED students have had 35 national abstract presentations and 17 global health publications!

DECOLONIALITY AND ANTI-RACISM
In the wake of George Floyd’s murder in 2020 and the national reckoning on issues concerning structural racism that ensued, GMED students and CGH faculty developed several student-faculty working groups to evaluate GMED and CGH activities and identify areas to strengthen. Subsequently, GMED incorporated many changes including adding a new two-day orientation that allows entering students to explore in greater depth topics including power and positionality, the history of global health, personal motivations, cultural humility, and structural violence, among others. Discussions of decoloniality and racism are also embedded into mentorship discussions and all curricular elements. Upcoming plans include building more opportunities for using the humanities to explore these essential topics including a global health film series. Related to these efforts, you should check out the excellent paper by GMED alum, Dr. Sayegh, and CGH faculty, Dr. Goba, on Global health education in high-income countries: confronting coloniality and power asymmetry, published in BMJ Global Health in 2022.

PRE-DEPARTURE TRAINING
With COVID-19 temporarily putting a pause on international travel (and the health safety concerns of travel highlighted by the pandemic), it allowed an opportunity to explore how GMED could better support students planning to travel internationally for global-health work. A fantastic GMED student-led committee spearheaded the development of a GMED Pre-Departure Field Training Guide launched in 2021, to better prepare students for travel. This includes considerations for travel logistics, health and safety, cultural considerations, personal resilience, and professional expectations and goals. We have also added didactic sessions to the curriculum that focus on pre-departure training. The student and faculty team have written an academic paper on their work which they are planning to publish soon!
The Center for Global Health continues to expand and has hired several new faculty over the past few years. In addition to their global health work, they have been great teachers and mentors for many of the GMED students.

**Dr. Olamide Jarrett**, MD, MPH, joined CGH in 2019 as the Associate Director of Academic Programs where she supports GMED students in their capstone projects and runs the GMED Mentorship Program. She is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Infectious Diseases with research interests in HIV and other sexually transmitted infections in women in sub-Saharan Africa, particularly in Sierra Leone where she has family.

**Dr. Mary Bunn**, PhD, LCSW joined CGH in 2019. She is a Research Scientist at the UIC Department of Psychiatry and Deputy Director of Global Mental Health in the Center for Global Health. She provides therapy services to survivors of war and forced migration in the Mood and Anxiety Disorders Clinic. Her research program focuses on the long-term effects of political violence and forced migration on culturally diverse communities and mental health and psychosocial interventions including research projects in Jordan and Thailand.

**Dr. Lelia Chaisson**, PhD, MSc, joined CGH in 2020. She is a Research Assistant Professor in the Division of Infectious Diseases. Her research interests center on tuberculosis and HIV, including global epidemiology and control, prevention, and diagnostics. Her current work in Brazil and Uganda focuses on scale-up of tuberculosis preventive therapy for people living with HIV and active case finding for tuberculosis.

**Dr. Catherine Ford**, MD, MPH, FACOG joined CGH in 2021 as the Director of Graduate Global Health Programs. She oversees the multi-disciplinary Graduate Global Health Certificate Programs for UIC residents and fellows. She is also an Assistant Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and has a strong interest in infectious diseases and Global Women’s Health. She completed a two-year fellowship in Global Women’s Health in Zambia, and her experiences in Zambia continue to impact her work today, with her current academic focus on resident education and research in obstetrics care.

**Dr. Abiola Ibraheem**, MD, joined the CGH in 2021. She is an Assistant Professor of Hematology/Oncology. Her research work is focused on improving cancer globally by making innovative cancer treatments available and affordable to cancer patients living in Low- and Middle-Income Countries. She is involved in conducting interventional cancer trials in Nigeria.

**Dr. Linda Humaidan**, MPH, joined the Center for Global Health in August 2022 as our new Senior Research Specialist. Her MPH focused on health education/promotion and epidemiology. She is obtaining her PhD in Public Health focusing on Community Health Research. She has research experience in domestic violence, HIV/AIDS, and community health needs for the Arab American population. Her recent work focuses on intimate partner violence and contraceptive practice among the Arab American community.
Teresa Liu (2016) was a Johnson and Johnson Global Health Scholar during residency and did rotations abroad in Ecuador and Rwanda.

Chase Westra (2019) is in his final year of emergency medicine residency at the University of Southern California. He won the Challoner Award through the USC Department of Global Emergency Medicine to allow residents protected time and funding for global health projects. He is developing a simulation curriculum to train medical staff on trauma-informed care for refugees, victims of sexual violence, and the LGBTQ community in Colombia. He is also teaching a WHO basic emergency care and train-the-trainer course in Kenya. He is applying for a post-residency fellowship in global emergency medicine.

Patrick Lanter (2017) completed an ultrasound fellowship after EM residency and is continuing in another year of fellowship to focus on global applications of POCUS (point of care ultrasound). He has done an US needs assessment project in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, and is currently working on developing an ultrasound training program in Kigali, Rwanda. He is also planning an Ocular POCUS project to reduce unnecessary cataract surgery for eye surgery clinics as part of One World Site Project.

GMED has graduated 7 classes!

Here’s where they went to residency.
Greg Klazura (2018) took a two-year research sabbatical as the Global Surgery Fellow at UIC. During this time he spent half a year in Uganda as a Fulbright Fogarty Fellow in Public Health working on a quality improvement project for a surgical education course.

Tsige Gebreslasse (2017) was a part of a global medicine pathway during residency and completed a global health chief year where she worked with folks in Tanzania virtually and in a Native American Reservation in-person.

Tegan Gomez (2019) is planning to become involved with RAD-AID and hopefully travel to Nepal during residency.

Amina Basha (2017) went to Pakistan during her second year of residency to do a needs assessment on safe needle use in clinics in and around Lahore, Pakistan.

Katherine Reifler (2018) has been working on research related to Chagas disease for a Central/South American migrant population in Boston. She’s working to improve screening rates and diagnostics to predict risk for progression to cardiomyopathy.

Shelbi Olson (2020) is a surgical resident at the University of Minnesota. She is preparing for a global surgery research fellowship involving capacity building in colorectal surgery in Honduras.
**Teresa Liu** (2016) completed residency at Stanford for Internal Medicine, followed by a health services research fellowship at UCLA, where she received a Masters in Health Policy and Management. Currently she is the Medical Director for the hospitalist group at Providence Saint John’s Hospital in Santa Monica.

**Flavius Beca** (2020) recently won a suturing competition. He finished his first year of ophthalmology residency at Bascom Palmer.

**Patrick Lanter** (2017) completed residency in emergency medicine at Washington University in St. Louis, including a year as chief resident. He then completed an Ultrasound Fellowship at Stanford and is currently a Global Health Fellow at Stanford.

**Greg Klazura** (2019) recently completed a UIC Global Surgery Fellowship and UIC Global Health Scholars Certificate Program. He was also a Fulbright Fogarty Fellow in Public Health and a Center for Health Equity in Surgery and Anesthesia Fellow at UCSF.

**Shuvani Sanyal** (2016) has recently accepted a new position as a Med-Peds Hospitalist at Rush University Medical Center as of August 2022!

**Tegan Gomez** (2019) previously matched into IM, then re-matched into Diagnostic Radiology which she started this summer!

**Stefan Vidovich** (2022) just started residency at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. He says “feels so good to finally be practicing medicine as a resident!”

**Aaron Case** (2016) is a Research Fellow at Johns Hopkins in Pulmonary Critical Care Medicine.

**Amina Basha** (2017) is in her second year of fellowship. She was a Chief Resident and won a poster award for translational research on Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease last year!

**Prinston Varghese** (2019) started a Pediatric Cardiology Fellowship at Yale this summer.

**Katherine Reifler** (2018) is currently starting her second year of Infectious Disease Fellowship at Boston Medical Center.

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**Check out these selected GMED alumni publications!**

• Jansen NA & Agadjanian V. Polygyny and Intimate Partner Violence in Mozambique. Journal of Family Issues. 2020
• Saleh Y, et al. Completeness of Medical Records of Trauma Patients Admitted to the Emergency Unit of a University Hospital, Upper Egypt. Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2020
• Conroy M, et al. Information, support, and follow-up offered to women who experienced severe maternal morbidity. Int J Gynecol Obstet 2018
• Arya A, et al. The CHAMPIONS NETWork: Training Chicago High School Students as Health Advocates to Improve Health Equity in Their Communities. Health Promotion Practice. 2018
Alumni Updates: Personal

**Teresa Liu** (2016) got engaged in Ecuador in 2018, got married (twice!) in 2019, added a fur baby in 2020 (mini bernedoodle), and had a real human baby in 2022!

**Stefan Vidovich** (2020) thoroughly enjoyed his trip this summer to Europe. He spent 8 days in the south of France and Monaco, followed by two weeks split between Budapest, Vienna, northern Serbia, and Amsterdam - a much needed vacation after finishing medical school!

**Greg Klazura** (2018) had a son, Leo, born on May 30, 2021!

**Amina Basha**’s (2017) first baby, Zain, that she had during medical school, is now 6 years old! She also has a 2 year old daughter, Aliya.

**Tsige Gebreslasse** (2017) married her wonderful husband Fitsum Tesfamicael, and they have a beautiful daughter named Selam Gedam Tesfamicael. Selam means peace.

**Prinston Varghese** (2019) got married on July 17, 2021 to Emily Abraham.

**Katherine Reifler** (2018) got engaged to Darin Kurti just outside of Yosemite earlier this year, with a wedding planned for summer 2023.

**Tegan Gomez** (2019) is not married but moved to Colorado with her amazing boyfriend!

**Shaun Harty** and **Darshana Bhattacharyya** stopped by the CGH this summer with their 3-year old daughter, Anya. They live and practice medicine in Minnesota.

**Tosha Songolo** (2018) and her husband Rogelio, had a baby girl this summer named Nova.
Stay Connected

The UIC Center for Global Health and GMED would love to stay connected with GMED alumni! Here are some ways to stay connected or give back:

- **Send updates** to Jeanne or Dr. Chamberlain!

- Let us know if you have a **global health project** that would be a good opportunity for a GMED student!

- Reach out if you’d like to **be a guest speaker** for CGH or GMED on your global health work!

- Join our **monthly global health colloquia** (and other events) on Zoom. You can find upcoming events at: https://chicago.medicine.uic.edu/departments/centers/center-for-global-health/events/

- Join our **GMED Facebook group** at UIC GMED Official Page

- Follow CGH on **Twitter** at @UIC_CGH

**Make a gift** at:

https://chicago.medicine.uic.edu/departments/centers/center-for-global-health/make-a-gift/

You can designate a specific fund including one to support GMED!