Menerva Lobe, New PA Faculty, Joins U Health Medical Professionals in Vaccination Video

Vaccinating the public is one of the most important undertakings of the next phase of the COVID-19 pandemic. A new video from University of Utah Health encourages Utahns to get the vaccine while still following public health guidelines of keeping adequate distance from others, wearing masks, and washing hands. Physician Assistant alumna Menerva Lobe MPAS, PA-C (Class 49), who recently joined UPAP, lent her expertise to the video’s important message.

Visit our website for more news.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE

A Season of Optimism

By Jared Spackman, MPAS, PA-C

Greetings from the University of Utah PA program!

It is early April as I write this. This week, I walked outside of my house and noticed the first of many crocus flowers beginning to blossom in the front yard. It reminded me that days are getting longer and warmer, leaves will soon be back on the trees and winter is concluding. It also reminded me that we have been living in a pandemic for over a year now. These signs of spring in part represent my hope that 2021 brings a brighter outlook, more ability to connect, more social justice and less cause for mourning, social distancing and disruption of daily life.

Despite all the challenges of this worldwide pandemic, there have been some remarkable things happening around the program...

Read more

UPAP NEWS and ACTIVITIES

2021 HRSA Scholars Announced

UPAP is thrilled to announce the 2021 HRSA Scholars! The program was awarded a 5-year training grant, The PA Primary Care Training for Substance Abuse and Mental Health, from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) in 2019. The focus of the grant is to...
MAKING A DIFFERENCE DURING COVID-19

UPAP has exhibited amazing outreach over the past months of the pandemic, showing leadership and providing excellent health services to Utah as individuals and as a program.

- In February, UPAP students and faculty volunteered to distribute COVID-19 to the Ute Tribes on the Uintah and Ouray reservations, and many faculty and students in both Salt Lake and St. George continue to volunteer with local and state vaccination efforts.
- On the research front, our faculty are hard at work determining best practices and examining healthcare systems as they relate to the pandemic—for example, “Public Health and immunizations—PAs move forward in disease prevention,” a look at how PAs can shape the conversation around vaccine hesitancy, written by Physician Assistant Studies Division Chief Virginia Valentin.
- UPAP has innovated the education of physician assistant students during the pandemic, including incorporating remote distance learning, dividing classes into smaller groups to allow for social distancing, modifying the elective clinical rotation schedule, and providing more clinical simulations for students to keep them safe. The program also joined groups across campus advocating for early student vaccination for COVID-19.

Get Ready for the 50th Year Celebration of UPAP

2020 marked the 50th year of UPAP operating in the Mountain West, and the program is excited to celebrate our founding and history in 2021. Events are being planned for the early fall, so watch your email for details and invitations.

Stay in the loop! Update your email address with the UPAP program here.