

UPAP TODAY news & updates

Newsletter of the University of Utah's Physician Assistant Program

December 2020



The New Quarterly UPAP Newsletter

Welcome! In this newsletter, you will find feature stories about the University of Utah Physician Assistant Program (UPAP) and our attendant programs and activities.

[Visit our website for more news.](#)

PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



UPAP in an Era of COVID

By Jared Spackman,
MPAS, PA-C

Everyone is currently living in remarkable and disrupted times during this pandemic. The University of Utah Physician Assistant Program has been no exception. In late February of this year, I was fortunate to be in Las Vegas, watching my senior daughter (unbeknownst to me) playing her last competitive soccer game. At that time, there were 14 known cases of COVID-19 in the United States. We were staying near the Las Vegas airport, and I recall watching innumerable planes land one evening and had the thought that this might not be an ordinary year...

[Read more](#)

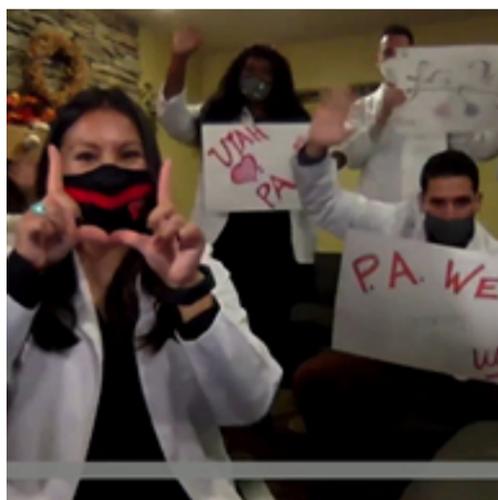


An Interview with Division Chief Virginia Valentin

Virginia Valentin, DrPH, PA-C was appointed Division Chief of UPAP in August of 2020. In our exclusive interview, Dr. Valentin discusses the transition, COVID-19, and the future of the program.

[Read more](#)

UPAP NEWS and ACTIVITIES



UPAP graduate Chanda Duncan featured on the *Today Show*

Recent UPAP graduate Chanda Duncan was part of an October 6, 2020 spotlight on the *Today Show* featuring Physician Assistants across the country as they celebrated Physician Assistant Week. Duncan appeared masked alongside several other PAs from Utah as they joined the *Today Show* virtually for the segment.

[WATCH THE SEGMENT](#)

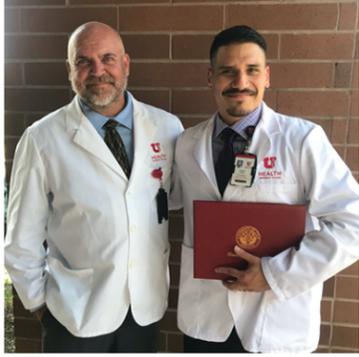
Growing in St. George

In 2016, the Utah Legislature granted funding for the expansion of the University of Utah Physician Assistant Program distant campus located in St. George, Utah. Since then, the southern Utah campus has been growing by leaps and bounds.

[READ MORE](#)



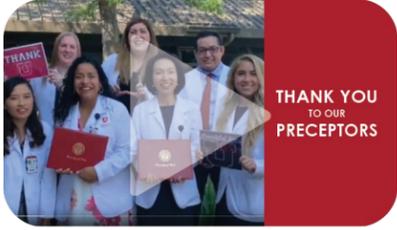
More diverse than ever: a changing



UPAP cohort faces challenges and opportunities

Trends of the last decade include an increase in cohort diversity and more expensive tuition for UPAP students. [Visit our infographic of the past ten years to check the numbers.](#)

GET INVOLVED! Become a Preceptor



There are options available for preceptors who work in all areas of medicine. [Find out more and join us in supporting our efforts.](#)

Click [here](#) to watch a video thanking our preceptors for the 2020 cohort.

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH PHYSICIAN
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