

**WEILL CORNELL MEDICINE
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH SCIENCES FOR
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS PROGRAM**



**Weill Cornell
Medicine**

**PRESENTATION OF THE CERTIFICATES AND AWARDS
CLASS OF 2021**

FRIDAY, MAY 21, 2021

1:00 PM

PROGRAM

- Augustine M.K. Choi, M.D.** – *Dean, Weill Medical College Provost for Medical Affairs Cornell University, Professor of Medicine*
- Barbara L. Hempstead, M.D.** – *Dean, Weill Cornell Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Professor of Medicine*
- Randi B. Silver, Ph.D.** – *Associate Dean and Co-Chair, Weill Cornell Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Associate Professor of Physiology and Biophysics*
- Gerard J. Marciano, Ed.D., PA-C** – *Program Director and Co-Chair, Master of Science in Health Sciences for Physician Assistants Program, Assistant Professor of Physician Assistant Studies in Surgery (Education)*
- Katherine A. Hajjar, M.D.** – *Senior Associate Dean for Faculty, Weill Cornell Medicine, Medical Director, Master of Science in Health Sciences for Physician Assistants Program, Professor of Pediatrics*
- Sandip Kapur, M.D.** - *Surgical Director, Master of Science in Health Sciences for Physician Assistants Program, Associate Professor of Surgery*
- Gary J. Bouchard, Ph.D., PA-C** – *Associate Director, Director of Research, Master of Science in Health Sciences for Physician Assistants Program, Assistant Professor of Physician Assistant Studies in Medicine (Education)*
- William J. Ameres, M.S., PA-C** – *Director of Preclinical Education, Master of Science in Health Sciences for Physician Assistants Program, Instructor of Physician Assistant Studies in Clinical Medicine*
- David S. Reed, MPH, PA-C** – *Director of Clinical Education, Master of Science in Health Sciences for Physician Assistants Program, Instructor of Physician Assistant Studies in Clinical Surgery*
- Maria Compte, M.D., MPH, TM** – *Director of Assessment, Master of Science in Health Sciences for Physician Assistants Program, Assistant Professor of Teaching in Medicine*
- Shari A. LeFauve, M.S., PA-C** – *Assistant Director of Clinical Education, Master of Science in Health Sciences for Physician Assistants Program*
- Lisa Doron, M.S., PA-C** – *Assistant Director of Preclinical Education, Master of Science in Health Sciences for Physician Assistants Program*
- Carol Fiore, PA-C, MEd, AT-C** – *Instructor of Physician Assistant Studies in Surgery, Master of Science in Health Sciences for Physician Assistants Program*
- Aisha Khalid Khan, PA-C, M.S., MHS** – *Instructor of Physician Assistant Studies in Surgery, Master of Science in Health Sciences for Physician Assistants Program*
- Kelly Ragusa Porta, M.S., PA-C** – *Instructor of Physician Assistant Studies in Medicine, Master of Science in Health Sciences for Physician Assistants Program*

- WELCOME.....Gerard J. Marciano, Ed.D., PA-C**
Program Director and Co-Chair
- Augustine M.K. Choi, M.D.**
Dean
- Barbara L. Hempstead, M.D.**
Dean
- Randi B. Silver, Ph.D.**
Associate Dean and Co-Chair
- STUDENT ADDRESSNina Koester**
Class of 2021
- FACULTY AND STUDENT AWARDS Gerard J. Marciano, Ed.D., PA-C**
Program Director and Co-Chair
- PRESENTATION FOR THE CERTIFICATE OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT.....Gerard J. Marciano, Ed.D., PA-C**
Program Director and Co-Chair
- PROFESSIONAL OATH.....Gary J. Bouchard, Ph.D., PA-C**
Associate Director and Director of Research

RECIPIENTS OF CERTIFICATE - CLASS OF 2021

**Nicole Anderson
BA, Dartmouth College**

**Roma Benfanti
BS, University of Tennessee**

**Emily Bhutiani
MS, George Washington University**

**Jessica Bonet
BS, Boston University**

**Tyler Brown
BA, University of California**

**Erica Burke
BS, University of Massachusetts**

**Jason Calcagno
BS, University of Pittsburg**

**Chloe Cecchini
BS, University of Michigan**

**Darby Chait
BS, University of Florida**

**Kaitlin Chamberlain
BS, University of California**

**Christine Chen
BS, Drexel University**

**Ida Chen
BA, University of Miami**

**Michelle Chen
BS, Michigan State University**

**Leah Cohen
BA, Barnard College**

RECIPIENTS OF CERTIFICATE - CLASS OF 2021

Alexis Diaz
BS, University of Michigan

Savannah Francis
BS, University of Florida

Emily Gale
BS, University of Georgia

Connie Giang
BS, University of California

Lindsey Goncalves
BS, University at Albany

Alexander Gruber
BS, Lawrence Technological University

Emily Hodson
BS, Clemson University

Olivia Jackson
BA, University of California

Nina Koester
BS, Cornell University

Annika Kossayda
BS, Clemson University

Colleen Lawrenz
BS, Binghamton University

Tirza Lehrfield
BS, College of Staten Island

Qiong Liu
Ph.D., Chinese Academy of Science Graduate School

Kevin Naranjo
BA, Lehigh University

RECIPIENTS OF CERTIFICATE - CLASS OF 2021

**Julia Radossich
BS, Lehigh University**

**Marielle Renehan
BS, University of Michigan**

**Mia Ruggiero
BS, University of Delaware**

**Ethan Sim
BS, University of California**

**Nicole Simon
BS, University of Delaware**

**Melissa Steadman
BS, Bridgewater State University**

**Cristina Tovar
BS, University of Houston**

**Diane Tsang
BA/BS, Cornell University**

**Fiona Wang
BS, University of California**

**Alexander Wark
BS, Binghamton University**

**Elana Weintraub
BA, Binghamton University**

**Maria Wright
BA, University of Washington**

**Kelsey Zuckerman
BS, Chapman University**

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROFESSIONAL OATH

I pledge to perform the following duties with honesty and dedication:

- **I will hold as my primary responsibility the health, safety, welfare and dignity of all human beings.**
- **I will uphold the tenets of patient autonomy, beneficence, nonmaleficence and justice.**
- **I will recognize and promote the value of diversity.**
- **I will treat equally all persons who seek my care.**
- **I will hold in confidence the information shared in the course of practicing medicine.**
- **I will assess my personal capabilities and limitations, striving always to improve my medical practice.**
- **I will actively seek to expand my knowledge and skills, keeping abreast of advances in medicine.**
- **I will work with other members of the health care team to provide compassionate and effective care of patients.**
- **I will use my knowledge and experience to contribute to an improved community.**
- **I will respect my professional relationship with the physician.**
- **I will share and expand knowledge within the profession.**

These duties are pledged with sincerity and upon my honor.

HISTORY OF THE PROFESSION

The Physician Assistant (PA) profession began in the late 1960's at Duke University School of Medicine out of a need to provide quality healthcare to a greater number of people. As the need grew, physician assistant programs began in other medical schools around the country.

In 1973 Cornell University Medical College and The New York Hospital began the Surgeon Assistant Program. Founded by Dr. Peter Dineen, Professor of Surgery, the purpose was to educate qualified persons to be Surgeons Assistants. The Program remained with both institutions until 1989 at which time the Medical College assumed responsibility. In an effort to reflect its broad, based education and its alliance with the profession, Cornell University's Surgeon Assistant Program formally changed its name to a Physician Assistant Program *A Surgical Focus* in 1994. The Program's most recent accomplishment was incorporation in the Weill Cornell Graduate School of Medical Sciences, making this the thirteenth class eligible to receive a Master of Science in Health Sciences for Physician Assistant's degree.

Through their graduate level education in the basic and clinical sciences, Weill Cornell physician assistant students upon graduation are proficient in primary care and the surgical aspects of medicine. Our graduates are employed in a variety of clinical settings including academic medical centers, hospital based and private practice, HMO's and rural health care clinics.

After five decades of education, Physician Assistants have become a familiar and well-respected part of the health care team, working in all types of surgical and medical practices.

Today, we are proud to celebrate our 47th class of Physician Assistants.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
CLASS OF 2021!**

PROGRAM FACULTY AND STAFF

PROGRAM DIRECTOR/CO-CHAIR
ASSOCIATE DEAN/CO-CHAIR
MEDICAL DIRECTOR
SURGICAL DIRECTOR
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR/DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH
DIRECTOR OF PRECLINICAL EDUCATION
DIRECTOR OF CLINICAL EDUCATION
DIRECTOR OF ASSESSMENT
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF CLINICAL EDUCATION
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF PRECLINICAL EDUCATION
INSTRUCTOR OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES
IN SURGERY
INSTRUCTOR OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES
IN SURGERY
INSTRUCTOR OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES
IN MEDICINE
SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST
PROGRAM SPECIALIST
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Gerard J. Marciano, Ed.D., PA-C
Randi B. Silver, Ph.D
Katherine A. Hajjar, M.D.
Sandip Kapur, M.D.
Gary J. Bouchard, Ph.D., PA-C
William J. Ameres, M.S., PA-C
David S. Reed, MPH, PA-C
Maria Compte, M.D., MPH, TM
Shari A. LeFauve, M.S., PA-C
Lisa Doron, M.S., PA-C
Carol Fiore, PA-C, MEd, AT-C

Aisha Khalid Khan, PA-C, M.S., MHS

Kelly E. Ragusa Porta, M.S., PA-C

Alexis Blount
Ann Worrell
Rose Jackowski
Crisann Doyley