CANISIUS PA PROGRAM

The Bi-Weekly Newsletter of the Physician Assistant Program at Canisius College

JANUARY NEWS

Welcome 2021

Happy New Year to our readers. We hope all enjoyed a restful and joyous holiday season with friends and family, whether in person or virtually. While this season may have been different from those experienced in years past, we hope the spirit of the holidays remained present for all. We continue to progress towards a resolution to the pandemic, and celebrate the rollout of the vaccine and its impact across the populace.

Though the college was closed through the new year, we can assure you that the department has continued preparing for the arrival of our inaugural class. Lessons are being planned, simulators programmed, and the Anatamage tables are humming away. In a few short weeks we look forward to a room full of students utilizing this new, ground-breaking equipment as a part of their educational experience. For now, we urge you all to stay safe, take care of yourselves and each other.



Professor Larson checks on a patient



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CAMPUS HIGHLIGHT

As some of you may not have yet visited campus - let us introduce you to one of the newest buildings on campus, and also our home base - Science Hall. The Physician Assistant Department is located on the Ground Floor of this state-of the art building. Just descend the stairs and you'll find us! Everything you need, classrooms, study rooms, labs, and simulation rooms, are all on this floor. Yes, those are living walls, we have one outside of our offices as well.



Dr. Bernosky gives a demonstration of the Anatamage table to high school students as part of the 'emerging scholars' program with Canisius

Meet Your Faculty

Prof. Donna Anderson

Clinical Coordinator Clinical Assistant Professor of Physician Assistant Studies

How did you come to be at Canisius?

I came to Canisius in September Of 2018 as the 3rd person admitted to this most wonderful group. It was actually by a fluke. I was working as a surgical PA at Kenmore Mercy Hospital. One morning on ortho rounds I met a patient who was a professor here at the college. He ask me if I was involved with the "New PA Program" at Canisius. I kindly replied "Oh sir there is no PA program at Canisius that I know of" he of course responded " well it is in the development stages". My head spun around like the exorcist, I immediately ran to the closest phone and called Canisius. I met with the newly appointed program director, Aimee Larson the next day, and the rest is history.

What was your college major?

I have been a perpetual student since graduating from High School. I attended D'Youville college School of nursing and graduated in 1980. I worked for 14 years as a Registered Nurse. I then entered the D'Youville PA program in 1994 and graduated with the 2nd class in 1996. I then went on to complete my Master's Degree on-line from State University of New York at Stonybrook.

What would you consider the best and worst part of graduate school?

The best part of graduate school was the fact that it was completely online, and we were mostly able to work at our own pace. I feel the worst part of it was that I was not able to meet my professors and fellow students in person during the time I was enrolled.

Your advice to incoming students:

My advice to incoming student...just be prepared to work hard, but enjoy that knowledge and the friendships that you will make while you are here.

What wellness resources do you utilize and/or recommend?

Wellness for me includes, relaxation, entertainment, cooking and being with friends and family

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