NEW STUDENT

ORIENTATION 2020

Physician Assistant Studies

June 1 – 5

Office of Admissions and Student Affairs
Dear Morehouse School of Medicine Student:

Our school is graced by an overwhelming number of exceptionally well-qualified applicants. You are in good company, and I am delighted to help you begin your journey into the remarkable profession of medicine.

Professional school study is a time of exploration and immersion in your desired specialty. It is a time for the free exchange of ideas, acquisition of new skills, and creation of knowledge. It is a time when faculty will change from being your teachers to being mentors and colleagues.

Morehouse School of Medicine was founded in 1975 as the Medical Education Program at Morehouse College. In 1981, Morehouse School of Medicine became an independently chartered institution and the first established at a Historically Black College and University in the 20th century. Our focus on primary care and addressing the needs of the underserved is critical to improving overall health care.

During the course of my career, I have had the privilege to work in several other major health sciences centers, and I believe our faculty is second to none. Our faculty and staff are committed to exceptional teaching, research, and patient care. We will never lose sight of the responsibility to guide, support, and teach. Morehouse School of Medicine has graduated many medical students over the years, and we remain the leading educator of primary care physicians in the United States.

Our medical school is inextricably linked to our principal teaching hospital, Grady Memorial Hospital, and several affiliates: The Atlanta VA, WellStar Atlanta Medical Center, and Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. Grady Memorial Hospital is the largest safety-net hospital in the Atlanta area, from core primary-care services for the Atlanta region to complex cutting-edge referral services for patients from all over the world with our students as part of the clinical team. Here at Morehouse School of Medicine, students learn the basics of clinical practice by actually contributing.

We are also excited about the many research and community engagement opportunities afforded our students. Morehouse School of Medicine understands the valuable link among research, community participation, and patient care. As we work to realize our vision to lead the creation and advancement of health equity, we recognize that in order to improve health outcomes we must foster innovative research that moves beyond the lab and directly to the patients who need it most.

We are proud of our institution, our facilities, and our programs, but it is the people who make it all work. We are enormously proud of our faculty, staff, students, and alumni. I look forward to meeting each of you personally and hearing your story; please let me know if I can help you in any way.

Sincerely,

Valerie Montgomery Rice, MD
President and Dean
Greetings Physician Assistant Entering Class of 2020,

On behalf of the Admissions and Student Affairs Team, it is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the Morehouse School of Medicine family!

We look forward to an opportunity to help you navigate your way through the challenging pursuit of your graduate degree. You will find that the faculty, staff, and administrators of MSM have created an environment that is conducive to learning, enhances emotional well-being, and helps in your professional growth. We look forward to assisting you in achieving your full potential.

We understand the challenges of performing well in your coursework, and we hope that our carefully cultivated “user-friendly” approach provided by our supportive student services team will aid you in your successful navigation toward obtaining your advanced degree.

Our students have a great sense of purpose and are noted for their outstanding effort, persistence, exemplary academic performance, and true grit. Our students come from various cultures and socioeconomic backgrounds and go on to become scientists and public health professionals who truly embody and carry out the great mission of this school:

“Improving the health and well-being of individuals and communities; increasing the diversity of the health professional and scientific workforce and addressing primary health care needs... with emphasis on people of color and the underserved urban and rural populations across Georgia and the nation.”

We hope you will take full advantage of what we have to offer, and we look forward to you becoming a student who embodies the MSM ideals of Excellence, Service, Knowledge, Wisdom, Integrity, and Innovation. Join us as we Lead the Creation and Advancement of Health Equity!

Warmest Regards,

Ngozi F. Anachebe, Pharm.D, MD, ’98, FACOG
Associate Dean, Admissions & Student Affairs
Associate Professor of Clinical Obstetrics & Gynecology
Dear MSM PAS Program Class of 2022,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Morehouse School of Medicine. Congratulations on your acceptance into the MSM Physician Assistant Studies program! Whether you are coming to us from throughout Georgia or across the country, you are joining an interprofessional community of service-oriented scholars aspiring to change lives through education, research, service, and patient care.

Our vision of leading the creation and advancement of health equity is central in all that we propose to do at MSM. The addition of the PAS program offers another approach in addressing the healthcare provider shortage and health care disparities in rural and underserved communities. The program you have chosen to join exists to equip aspiring learners to become competent and compassionate healthcare providers. As a future leader, you will embark upon a training and educational experience that will prepare you to respond to the increasing healthcare demands across Georgia and around the globe. You will be empowered to impact your community and improve healthcare outcomes.

This life-changing journey will be unlike anything you have experienced before today. Like the great Olympians around the world, you have trained and prepared for this race. This is your moment. Remember you are running a marathon and not a sprint. Your perseverance (GRIT), passion, and courage have brought you to this point. These same attributes will be pivotal in guiding you across the finish line. Embrace. Embark. Endure…and most importantly, Enjoy! Well done! We are looking forward to watching you cross the finish line.

Sincerely,

Pangela Dawson, PhD, MSPAS, PA-C
Founding Program Director
MSM Physician Assistant Program
Physician Assistant Studies

Ngozi F. Anachebe, PharmD, MD, ’98, FACOG  
Associate Dean of Admissions and Student Affairs  
Associate Professor of Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology

Pangela H. Dawson, PhD, MSPAS, PA-C  
Founding Program Director  
Folashade Omole, MD, FAAFP  
MSM Director of Family Medicine

Sheena D. Brown, PhD, MSCR  
Director of Curriculum Innovation and Evaluation

Donny Ard, PhD, MHA, PA-C  
Academic Director

Debra Nickel, PhD, MBA, PA-C  
Interim Academic Director

Stephanie Banks, MPH  
Director of Community Heath Engagement

Felicia Slaton, MHS, PA-C  
Clinical Director

Ijeoma Amobi, DMSc, MSPAS, PA-C  
Assistant Clinical Director

Susan Robinson, M.S, PA-C  
Principal Faculty

Carl A. Frizell, DMSc, MSPAS, PA-C  
Principal Faculty  
Admissions Chair

Mieshia Baker-Dunn, MBA  
Program Manager

Roselle Caruth, MEd  
Curriculum Manager

Keisha Chandler, MPA  
Clinical Curriculum Manager

Corey Smith  
Program Coordinator

Dominique Young, MEd  
PA Admissions Specialist

Tyra Willingham, MPH  
Administrative Assistant III
PA Orientation Schedule
Monday, June 1, 2020
JUMPstart

Zoom Host: Tyra

Zoom link: https://zoom.us/j/94974778705?pwd=bDFoN29vejB5vE54TWJSeDRlSnFkQT09
Password: 791430

8 – 9:50 am  Making the Transition to PA School
Pangela H. Dawson, PhD, MSPAS, PA-C
Founding Program Director

9:55 – 10:25 am  Tools for Success in Basic Science Courses
Sarah J. Greene, PhD
Assistant Professor, Pathology & Anatomy

10:30 – 11:30 am  VARK Learning Styles Inventory
Sheena D. Brown, PhD, MSCR
Director of Curriculum Innovation and Evaluation
Keisha Chandler, MPA
Clinical Curriculum Manager

11:30 am – Noon  Lunch

Zoom Host: Mieshia
Zoom Link: https://zoom.us/j/91116611265?pwd=a0xNtbUgvNnIQUoEovd0hwdmQzWHiw09
Password: 916608

Noon – 1 pm  OSLER Overview
Kimberly C. Redding, MD, MPH, FCAP, FASCP
Interim Director, Office of Student Learning and Educational Resources
Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology and Anatomy

1:05 – 2:35 pm  Myers Briggs Discussion
Shawn Garrison, PhD
Director, Counseling Services

2:35 – 2:45 pm  Closing
Pangela H. Dawson, PhD, MSPAS, PA-C
Founding Program Director
PA Orientation Schedule
Tuesday, June 2, 2020
JUMPstart

Zoom Host: Takelion
Zoom Link: https://zoom.us/j/93420012973?pwd=MUFsdkQyT2JyaGE1eFZ1UHZhbDJsUT09
Password: 720898

8 – 8:45 am  Wellness/Balance for PA School – Overview
Vaughn Gay, DSW-C, LPC, MAC
Assistant Director, Counseling Services

8:50 – 9:20 am  Stress Management through Consciously Resting
Kofi Kondwani, PhD, MS
Assistant Professor, Community Health and Preventive Medicine

9:25 – 10:25 am  Goal Setting
Felicia Slaton, MHS, PA-C
Clinical Director
Roselle Caruth, MEd
Curriculum Manager

10:30 – 11:15 am  Letter to Self
Miesha Baker-Dunn, MBA
Program Manager

11:20 – 11:50 am  Buddy Session
Pangela H. Dawson, PhD, MSPAS, PA-C
Founding Program Director

11:50 am – Noon  Closing
Pangela H. Dawson, PhD, MSPAS, PA-C
Founding Program Director
Physician Assistant Orientation Schedule
Wednesday, June 3, 2020
Office of Admissions

Zoom Host: Dominique
Zoom Link: https://zoom.us/j/94107040996?pwd=Y0REK1hHYi9NanpiYnVLbW1ZT2EwQT09
Password: 192167

9:15 – 10:15 am  
Greetings & Welcome / Introduction of Faculty
Valerie Montgomery Rice, MD
President & Dean

Introduction of Students
Ngozi F. Anachebe, Pharm.D, MD, ’98, FACOG
Associate Dean of Admissions and Student Affairs

10:15 – 10:45 am  
Student Health Services
Sarita Cathcart, RN
Assistant Director – Family Medicine

11 – 11:30 am  
HSA Consulting – Student Insurance
Daryl Hall

11:30 pm – Noon  
Advisor/Advisee Check-In

Noon – 2 pm  
Lunch on Your Own

2 – 5 pm  
Laptop Distribution on Campus (communication sent separately)
Physician Assistant Orientation Schedule
Wednesday, June 3, 2020
Concurrent Family Session

Zoom Host: Roselle
Zoom Link: https://zoom.us/j/97968175536?pwd=ak5INHVhVGxlbTVEdkk0bmcwNEc1UT09
Password: 686010

Noon – 12:15 pm  Welcome
Folashade Omole, MD, FAAFP
MSM Director of Family Medicine

12:15 – 12:45 pm  Program Expectations & Curriculum
Pangela H. Dawson, PhD, MSPAS, PA-C
Founding Program Director

12:45 – 1:15 pm  What Your Student Needs from You
Carl Frizell, PhD, PA-C
Principal Faculty

1:25 – 1:55 pm  Letter to Student
Carl Frizell, PhD, PA-C
Principal Faculty
Mieshia Baker-Dunn, MBA
Program Manager

2 – 2:30 pm  Counseling Services
Shawn Garrison, PhD
Director, Counseling Services
Vaughn Gay, DSW-C, LPC, MAC
Assistant Director, Counseling Services

2:30 – 3 pm  Closing
Valerie Montgomery Rice, MD
President and Dean
Pangela H. Dawson, PhD, MSPAS, PA-C
Founding Program Director
Physician Assistant Orientation Schedule
Thursday, June 4, 2020
Office of Admissions

Zoom Host: Dominique
Zoom Link: https://zoom.us/j/95407049746?pwd=NC9OU0hDYU50NmxwZjVURVB1L0NUdz09
Password: 153294

8:30 – 9:30 am  Debt Management/Money Matters
                Kathy Odom, BBA
                Student Fiscal Affairs Office Manager

9:30 – 10 am  Public Safety

10 – 11 am  Understanding Title IX & Disability Services
              Marla Thompson, MPA
              HR Manager

11 – 11:30 am  Library Orientation
                Tara Douglas-Williams
                Library Manager

11:45 am – Noon  Compliance Awareness
                Carl Ware
                Training Coordinator - Compliance

Noon –12:30 pm  Lunch on your own

12:30 – 1 pm  Registrar
              Angela Freeman, MAAS
              Registrar Specialist

1 – 2 pm  Finance Office
          Trina Cohen
          Account Receivable & Student Accounts Manager
Physician Assistant Orientation Schedule
Friday, June 5, 2020
PA Program Administration

Zoom Host: Keisha
Zoom Link: https://zoom.us/j/99667617403?pwd=Q2pKRHNNTkwvTEpRVjcyUGx6Qzd0Zz09
Password: summer2020

8 – 9 am  Overview of Program Policies
Pangela H. Dawson, PhD, MSPAS, PA-C
Founding Program Director

9 – 9:30 am  Pre-Clinical Curriculum Overview
Donny Ard, PhD, MHA, PA-C
Academic Director
Deborah F. Nickel, PhD, MBA, PA-C
Interim Academic Director

9:30 – 10 am  Exam Soft Training
Allison Legister, Sr. Learning Technology Specialist
Michelle N. McIver, Office of Digital Learning

10 – 10:15 am  Break

10:15 – 10:45 am  Clinical Year Overview
Felicia Slaton, MHS, PA-C
Clinical Director

10:45 – 11:15 am  TBL (Make it Stick)
Pangela H. Dawson, PhD, MSPAS, PA-C
Founding Program Director

11:15 – 11:45 am  Class Pledge – Statement of Engagement and Accountability
Shawn Garrison, PhD
Director, Counseling Services

11:45 am – Noon  Orientation Wrap-Up
Pangela H. Dawson, PhD, MSPAS, PA-C
Founding Program Director

Noon – 1 pm  Lunch

1 – 4 pm  Community Service Project
Stephanie Y. Banks, MPH
Director of Community Health Engagement
OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS AND STUDENT AFFAIRS
Dr. Ngozi F. Anachebe
Associate Dean of Admissions and Student Affairs
Associate Professor of Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology
LaRonda Evans
Administrative Assistant to Dr. Ngozi Anachebe
Dr. Shawntel Jordon
Director of Admissions
LaZondra Hill
Assistant Director of Admissions
Jessica Collier
Admissions Specialist
Natalia Cook
Admissions Specialist
Rashad Ramsey
Admissions Specialist
Dominique Young
Admissions Specialist, Physician Assistant Studies
Qiana Williams
Data Management Specialist
Angela Freeman
Registrar & Director, Student Information Systems
Mario Graydon
Senior Registrar Specialist
Jannette Revere
Administrative Assistant, Registrar’s Office
Denisha Wise
Program Manager of Student Life
Travis Copeland
Program Manager UME
Alease Carter
Pre-Clinical Science Curriculum Manager
Mekeon Yarber
Pre-Clinical Science Curriculum Coordinator
Jasmin Bland
UME Clinical Curriculum Manager
Isaiah Kettles
UME Clinical Curriculum Coordinator

OFFICE OF STUDENT FISCAL AFFAIRS
Cynthia Handy
Director of Student Fiscal Affairs
Chandra Flowers
Assistant Director of Student Fiscal Affairs
Kathy Odom
Manager, Debt Management/Default Prevention
Israel Demercado
Financial Aid Coordinator
Stacey Smoak
Scholarship/Financial Aid Coordinator

OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH AND HEALTH CAREERS
Dr. Rita Finley
Assistant Dean, Educational Outreach and Health Careers
Dr. Jalessa Garth
Program Manager, MSMS Program
Nakisha Green
Administrative Assistant III, Educational Outreach and Health Careers

OFFICE OF PIPELINE INITIATIVES
Dr. Rahmelle Thompson
Assistant Dean, Pipeline Initiatives
Dr. Ryan Clark
Associate Director, Pipeline Initiatives
Dr. Christina Muhammed
Program Manager, Undergraduate Health Sciences Academy
Linda Nelson
Administrative Assistant III, Undergraduate Health Sciences Academy
Jarrod Lockhart
Assistant Director, Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP)
Jasmine Mattison
Program Coordinator, Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP)
Jacqueline Thrash
Program Coordinator, Tuskegee Academy CONNECT Mentoring
Stephanie Mathuran
Program Coordinator, MSM STEAM 4-8

OFFICE OF COUNSELING SERVICES
Dr. Shawn Garrison
Director of Counseling Services
Vaughn Gay
Assistant Director of Counseling Services
Tyese Murphy
Administrative Assistant II
Morehouse School of Medicine
Physician Assistant Studies
2020 Incoming Class

Obinna Akuma        NJ | Rowen University | Biology | 2016
Calbeth Alaribe     NV | University of Nevada, Reno | Nutrition/Dietetics | 2015
Sayed S. Bahadari   GA | University of Georgia | Public Health | 2015
Michaela Bennet     SC | Coastal Carolina University | Exercise & Sports Science | 2017
Deidra Bohannon     GA | Georgia State University | B.S. Respiratory Therapy | 2016
James Brown         GA | University of North Georgia | Biology | 2019
Rebeka Bryan        GA | Armstrong Atlantic State University | Biology | 2014
Ojiaje Ehimen       GA | University of Georgia | Biology | 2017
Adesikemi Ewedemi   GA | Columbus State University | Health Science / Premedical | 2014
Erinn Fincher       GA | University of Georgia | Biology | 2018
Tia Flowers         TX | University of Texas at San Antonio | Biomedical Engineering | 2016
Islam Galgal        GA | Georgia State University | Biology | 2017
Annette Ginigeme    TX | Texas Tech University | Nursing | 2018
Teyaijah Givens     GA | Georgia Southern University | Biology/Pre-Medicine | 2016
Rhe’a Green          GA | Savannah State University | Biology | 2014
Douglas Hernandez   GA | University of Georgia | Biology | 2014
Samantha Hippolyte  GA | Georgia Southern University | Chemistry | 2016
LaDawnna Linnear    HW | Columbus State University | Biology | 2015
Isabelle Loureiro   GA | Florida State University | Psychology | 2017
Cameron Martin      NC | Clemson University | Microbiology | 2014
Cydni Martin        GA | Georgia Southern | Public Health | 2014
Kimia Nezefat       GA | Georgia Perimeter College | Health | 2018
Vuong Nguyen        MN | University of Minnesota – Twin Cities | Biology | 2017
Noble Ogbu Jr.      GA | Morehouse College | Biology | 2016
Fatima Oyaifo       CA | San Francisco State University | Biology | 2019
Fantasia Remonvil   GA | Liberty University | Biological Sciences | 2016
Nicholas Seenath    NJ | Rutgers – State University of NJ – New Brunswick | Biological Sciences | 2014
Maya Stokes         GA | Fort Valley State University | Biology | May 2019
Morgan Stokes       GA | Fort Valley State University | Biology | May 2019