

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2024

CHAASE STUDENT INTERNS

Our CHAASE Student Interns, Emma Cochrane ('26) and Grace Krenn ('27) are starting the year off strong with their continued efforts for CHAASE and the HCAD program! Emma, now in her second year as a CHAASE Intern, has transitioned into the Junior Intern role. She continues to provide invaluable support to the CHAASE and HCAD team and has been a great collaborator with our new Sophomore Intern, Grace. Without hesitation, Grace has quickly jumped right in, bringing fresh ideas and outstanding organization to the team.



(L-R: Kandis Fieber '25, Dr Savantini, Sara lacoursiere '26, Dr. Hawes, Emma Cochrane '26)



(L-R: Emma Cochrane '26, Grace Krenn '27)

ENGLAND INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

In the spring semester, Dr. Hawes and student assistants Emma Cochrane ('26), Kandis Fieber ('25), and Sara Lacoursiere ('26) studied dementia and its comorbidities in U.S. nursing homes. Funded by an International Fellowship Program (IFP) grant, they were able to travel to England for two weeks, touring care homes and interviewing dementia professionals to expand their research in the UK. Thank you to CHAASE for generously funding our farewell group dinner with guest host Dr. Savatini (second from left).

RESIDENCY FALL MODULE '24 - '25

The residency students returned to campus in the beginning of September for their first in-person module of the year. They were able to learn about leadership, networking, and communication challenges. The cohort participated in the Dementia Live simulation, meant to help them understand how it may feel to live with a dementia diagnosis. Leadership projects were also highlighted to allow students to continue thinking about what they may want to lead implementation on in their residency sites. The fall module was helpful in reconnecting the students in the cohort and getting to be back on campus again!



CHAASE BOARD MEETING

The CHAASE Board meeting and reception was a success, serving as a platform for building connections and meaningful conversations related to health care administration. Following a networking lunch, HCAD residency students had the opportunity to rotate among tables, engaging with several CHAASE board members. Great discussions took place centering on the shared goals for enhancing long-term care. All participants emphasized the importance of collaboration and continuous improvement in services. A special thank you to our CHAASE board members for sharing their time and wisdom, and for their ongoing support of our future health care leaders!



(L-R: Dr. Creapeau, Ella VanderBloemen '25, Emma Hamilton '25, UWEC Mascott - Blu, UWEC Chancellor - Jim Schmidt, Dr. Johs-Artisensi)

DR JOHS - 2 YEAR TERM AS NAB CHAIR

Dr. Johs' new role as National Association of Long Term Care Administrator Boards (NAB) Chair is off to a great start. After being sworn in at the NAB Annual meeting in June 2024, Dr. Johs met with her new leadership team in August in order to discuss a number of items. This included strategic planning, as well as an in-depth examination of significant drivers of change that are likely to influence the long-term care profession and regulatory space in coming years. Recently she attended the Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards where she gained further insights into challenges and opportunities health-related licensing boards are facing around the country.

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

HCAD residency students Emma Hamilton ('25) and Ella VanderBloemen ('25) were invited to present at the inaugural Night at the Children's Museum of Eau Claire on September 18th. Emma and Ella were able to share the results of their student/faculty research (conducted in 2023-2024 with Dr. Johs-Artisensi and Dr. Creapeau) with the Eau Claire community, along with UWEC faculty, staff, and researchers. The students were the only presenters from the College of Business, and two of eight UWEC posters presented- what an honor. They even had time to snap a quick photo with the UWEC Chancellor and Blu!



WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S

On October 28th, volunteers from UWEC's student chapter of ACHCA rallied together as volunteers for the Walk to End Alzheimer's event on campus. By volunteering their time and energy, these students contributed to a meaningful cause while making a positive impact in the community. The event was a wonderful demonstration of their commitment to raising awareness and support for those affected by Alzheimer's. Their involvement reflects a deep understanding of the issues surrounding Alzheimer's and a dedication to advocating for those affected. The event served as a powerful reminder of the strength of community and the vital role that young leaders can play in driving awareness and support for important health initiatives.



(L-R: Dr. Johs-Artisensi, Emma Sullivan '25)

PATHWAY SUMMIT

On October 3rd-5th, HCAD students Kate Aukes ('25), Sabrina Pilney ('25), Karla Gomez ('25) and Kaylee Tauferner ('25), attended the Pathway Summit. Alumni Michael Beckfield ('23), Rose Riedmaier ('24) and Chandler Hulke ('19), who all work with Pathway Health now, were also seen at the event. The students found the summit to be immensely beneficial and an incredible learning experience. They were able to network with staff from Pathway, fostering a chance to build meaningful connections and explore future career opportunities.



(L-R: Michael Beckfield '23, Kate Aukes '25, Sabrina Pilney '25, Karla Gomez '25, Rose Riedmaier '24)



(L-R: Ella VanerBloemen '25, Gabey Lezendorf '26, Emma Sullivan '26, Susan LaGrange Chief Nursing Officer - Pathway Health, Lisa Thomson Chief Operating Officer - Pathway Health, Delia Pullen '26)

HCAD FALL OPEN HOUSE

The HCAD Fall Open House, held on the evening of October 28th, drew an awesome crowd of students excited to engage with the faculty, staff, and administrative residency students. The addition of the "Halloween Bingo" allowed for students to connect with these individuals in a fun, energetic way. The Fall Open House provided an invaluable opportunity for HCAD faculty, current, and prospective students to make connections within HCAD. This event was a great representation of the program's commitment to fostering a collaborative, welcoming, and inclusive environment.

WHCA/WiCAL FALL CONVENTION & EXPO

This fall, the WCHA/WiCAL Convention took place on October 23-25th, in Elkhart Lake, WI. Delia Pullen ('26), Emma Sullivan ('26), Gabey Lezendorf ('26) and Ella VanderBloemen ('25) had the opportunity to attend and volunteer. The students assisted with scanning individuals in and out of educational sessions, as well as had the chance to listen in themselves. Throughout the event, the students were able to network with professionals while at dinners and the expo, allowing for an exchange of experiences and insights. This event served as a great way for students to get involved and learn in process.



LOOKING AHEAD



(L-R: Inessah Cernohous '27, Dr. Hawes)

WINTER IMMERSION TRIP

The 2025 HCAD Immersion Trip is set for Wednesday, January 15 through Friday, January 17th. Students will be visiting several residency sites, along with Direct Supply - senior care's #1 supplier of all things healthcare: technology, supplies, furnishings, equipment, and more. This trip serves as a great opportunity to learn something new, bond with peers, network with professionals in the industry, and have lots of fun. Look out for the chance to register on our social medias. Reach out to Professor McMurry for any questions: mcmurrnk@uwec.edu

GERONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Dr. Hawes is presenting at the Gerontological Society of America on intergenerational programming in nursing homes in Seattle, Washington from November 13th through November 16. This presentation is a part of a symposium featuring universities that have adopted the Age-Inclusivity in Higher Education (AIHE) model to promote innovative caregiver support and foster intergenerational connections. The project is in collaboration with HCAD student, coauthor, Inessah Cernohous ('27).



MEET THE ACHCA EXECUTIVE BOARD



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Inessah Cernohous ('27)
Director of Fundraising - La
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Ryan McNicoll ('26)
Director of Retention and
Recruitment - Green Bay,
Wisconsin

RESIDENCY HIGHLIGHTS



We are so proud of the 2025 Cohort and their efforts toward bettering long-term care communities and the lives of their residents around the country!



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Our UW-Eau Claire alums include: Dinah Martin, Samantha Gerland, Katelyn Hudson and Tessa Peterson (clockwise from upper left)

