



**Northwestern University
Department of Emergency Medicine
Class of 2015**



Sarah Elizabeth Dearing, MD

Undergraduate: Vanderbilt University
Medical School: University of Kentucky College of Medicine

Elizabeth Dearing is a member of *Alpha Omega Alpha* and the Gold Humanism Honor Society. Elizabeth was awarded the Dean's Opportunity Fund Scholarship to the University of Kentucky College of Medicine for exceptional academic performance. She was elected by her peers to represent the Class of 2011 on the Medical Student Government Association, served as Vice President of the Emergency Medicine Interest Group, and was Student Representative of the Southern Medical Association for the University of Kentucky. Elizabeth has volunteered as a health coach with Walking Works, a program of the American Academy of Pediatrics that is designed to combat childhood obesity. She also was the group leader of Jumpin' for Jaguars, an after-school exercise program for children that promotes good health habits. Elizabeth volunteered at a hospital in Kijabe, Kenya between her second and third years of medical school. She enjoys running with her dog, golfing, and traveling.



Theodore Elsaesser, MD

Undergraduate: Marquette University
Medical School: University of Vermont College of Medicine

Ted Elsaesser graduated from Marquette University with a degree in Physiologic Sciences. While at the University of Vermont, he was awarded the Albert Schweitzer Fellowship for his work improving healthcare access for local underserved farmers. Ted was the recipient of a community research grant and presented his research studying the impact of limited access to health care in underserved populations at the 2009 American Public Health Association Conference. He is the co-founder and an active chair member of a student-run mobile clinic serving the medical and social needs of immigrant farm workers. He organized two medical missions to Tegucigalpa, Honduras through Global Medical Relief, Inc. Ted is a Tae Kwon Do black belt, an EMT-B, a rock climbing instructor, an Ultimate Frisbee champion, and an avid home-brewer.



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Christopher Frantz, MD

Undergraduate: College of William and Mary
Medical School: University of Virginia School of Medicine

Christopher Frantz earned his degree in Psychology from the College of William and Mary. He was a participant in the Science and Engineering Apprentice Program at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, where he studied the effects of stress proteins in lung parenchyma following blast over-pressure injury. During medical school, Chris represented the University of Virginia as an applicant tour guide and earned a Commendation for Performance in Healthcare Policy. He has volunteered with the UVA Medical Reserve Corps and has served with an organization that provided meals and shelter to a local homeless community. He has long been a licensed mono-hull sailor and enjoys extended sailing expeditions. He is also an accomplished Eagle Scout and spends much of his free time outdoors.



Kristen Grabow, MD, M.Ed.

Undergraduate: College of William and Mary
Graduate (M.Ed.): Loyola Marymount University
Medical School: University of Southern California - Keck School of Medicine

Kristen Grabow graduated from the College of William and Mary with a degree in Biology. She worked as a middle school Life Science and Health teacher for two years with Teach for America in the Los Angeles United School District while earning her Master in Education from Loyola Marymount University. Of note, Kristen was named an Amgen Fellow for her accomplishments with Teach for America. During medical school, Kristen represented USC-Keck as a tour guide and student interviewer and was a member of the Emergency Medicine Interest Group. Kristen served as Co-President of a community outreach organization dedicated to teaching nutrition and sex education at high-risk schools, and volunteered as a mentor to foster children in LA County. She was awarded the Mike Moreland Humanitarian Rotary Scholarship for her noteworthy achievements in volunteer activities. She has participated in several research studies resulting in journal publications in both *Blood* and *Contraception*. In her spare time, Kristen enjoys running, collecting records and yoga.



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Dana Hirsch, MD

Undergraduate: University of Dayton
Medical School: University of Cincinnati College of Medicine

Dana Hirsch is a member of *Alpha Omega Alpha*. Dana was named a President's Scholar at the University of Dayton, where she was on the Dean's List each semester, received the University Presidential Scholarship, and was a member of the Gold Key Honour Society. While in medical school, Dana was a Gross Anatomy Tutor and Physiology small group leader. She was a committed volunteer to the underserved, assisting with medical care and therapy for senior citizens with limited means through the SeniorLink program, as well as working at a homeless shelter and free clinic. She has also participated in Big Brothers Big Sisters Club and has mentored children from the Cincinnati Public School System. In her spare time, Dana enjoys running, cooking, and reading.



Jude Kieltyka, MD, MPH

Undergraduate: Illinois Institute of Technology
Medical School (MD/MPH): Northwestern University - The Feinberg School of Medicine

Jude Kieltyka is a member of the National Engineering Honors Society, *Tau Beta Pi*. As an undergraduate, he was awarded Best Overall Project and Best Presentation at the Illinois Institute of Technology Inter-professional Conference. Before medical school, Jude worked as a research assistant at the Biomedical Acoustics Research Group of Rush University, developing non-invasive methods for identifying pathological processes using digital acoustic recordings. As part of his MD/MPH coursework at Northwestern, Jude served as a youth counselor and activity programmer at the Broadway Youth Center for at-risk teens. He has acted in several short films and plays the guitar in a band comprised of fellow medical students. Jude continues to enjoy engineering as a pastime by spending several hours a week rebuilding motorcycles.



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Aaron Kraut, MD

Undergraduate: Middlebury College
Medical School: University of Vermont College of Medicine

Aaron Kraut is a member of *Alpha Omega Alpha* and the Gold Humanism Honor Society. Aaron earned his degree in Biology and Environmental Studies from Middlebury College, where he was awarded a research grant and received departmental high honors for his senior thesis. He spent one year employed as a Business Development Manager in technology hardware sales in Denver, CO, during which he was a weekly volunteer with Boulder County Hospice and Palliative Care. While at University of Vermont, Aaron has demonstrated deep interests in medical student education and community mentoring. He has volunteered with several high school and middle school outreach programs, delivering basic health lessons to elementary school students and teaching high school students about careers in medicine. Aaron organized a group of medical students in designing and implementing a personalized physical fitness program for impoverished families, resulting in a study that he presented at the UVM Public Health Research Day. He is one of only four Class of 2011 recipients of the Schechtman Prize for Excellence in Clinical Care at UVM.



Matthew Kuhns, MD

Undergraduate: Ball State University
Medical School: Indiana University School of Medicine

Matthew Kuhns is a member of *Alpha Omega Alpha*. Matt earned his undergraduate degree in Biochemistry from Ball State University and has worked in several laboratories as a chemical researcher. He has provided analytical chemistry services to industrial clients, tested organic compounds as potential pesticides or herbicides, and was a teaching assistant for freshman students. At Indiana University, Matt was a member of the Emergency Medicine Interest Group, the IU Medical Student Council, and was Editor of the medical student newspaper. He participated in an NIH Traineeship Program in which he studied the speech intelligibility of children with cochlear implants, ultimately presenting his research to the Society for Music Perception and Cognition. Matt is the recipient of numerous academic awards and scholarships.



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Department of Emergency Medicine
Class of 2015



Jason Palmatier, MD

Undergraduate: Augustana College
Medical School: Loyola University of Chicago - Stritch School of Medicine

Jason Palmatier graduated from Augustana College with degrees in both Biology and Religion. He has been the recipient of multiple scholarships and was a National Merit Scholar. Jason has worked as an EMT, an Assistant Pharmacologist at Abbott Laboratories, and as a Surgical Coordinator for the Gift of Hope Organ and Tissue Donor Network. He has mentored and tutored middle and high school students in inner-city Chicago and organized the AIDS Week talent show produced by University Ministry at Loyola. Also during medical school, Jason participated in medical volunteer programs in Miacatlan, Mexico and several cities in Zambia. He has co-authored two publications in the *Journal of Cardiovascular Pharmacology*, as well as two first-author chapters in the *Encyclopedia of Global Health*. Jason enjoys running, swimming, live music and playing the piano.



Andrew Pirotte, MD

Undergraduate: University of Kansas
Medical School: University of Kansas School of Medicine

Andrew Pirotte is a member of *Alpha Omega Alpha* and *Phi Beta Kappa*. Andrew earned his degrees in Microbiology and Medicine from the University of Kansas, where he has been the recipient of numerous scholarships. Before matriculating to medical school, Andrew volunteered with a social justice mission to Ecuador led by Patch Adams, MD, Medical Director of the Gesundheit Institute. He served as Co-President of the University of Kansas School of Medicine Academic Society and was a Student Advisory Committee Representative. Andrew co-founded the student interest group Supplementary Nutrition and Exercise Education Zone (SNEEZ) to teach students about the positive physical and psychological effects of nutrition and exercise. Andrew also volunteered as a student physician at the JayDoc Kansas City free clinic and served as the School of Medicine Habitat for Humanity Volunteer Coordinator. Prior to graduation, he volunteered on a medical mission in Ethiopia. His hobbies include playing intramural sports and the guitar.



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Peter (Rocky) Samuel, MD, MBA

Undergraduate: University of California, Davis
Medical School (MD/MBA): Harvard Medical School

Peter (Rocky) Samuel is a member of *Phi Beta Kappa*. Rocky has participated in a number of clinical and operations research studies, most recently focusing on health policy and health services. He has analyzed the reimbursement patterns and the value of an observation unit at Brigham and Women's Hospital. He has worked with the Institute for Strategy and Competitiveness to understand how health care costs are measured in various provider organizations. His efforts have resulted in a number of peer-reviewed articles, including a first-author publication in *Behavioral Brain Research*, and co-authored works in *Journal of Emergency Medicine* and *Journal of General Internal Medicine*. Rocky was elected as the Class of 2010 Curriculum Committee Representative and was Director of ImproveHealthCare.org, a student-run international organization focused on health policy education. Rocky enjoys spending time with his family and sailing.



Juliet Seery, MD

Undergraduate: Northwestern University
Medical School: Northwestern University - The Feinberg School of Medicine

Juliet Seery is a member of *Phi Beta Kappa*. She completed both her degrees in Environmental Science and in Medicine at Northwestern University. In medical school, Juliet co-authored a grant funded by NIH/NHLBI for a study aimed at reducing gestational weight gain in overweight, pregnant women. She was awarded the highly competitive National Toyota Community Scholarship for service and academics. She is a Sunday School Instructor and has served as a Pediatric Clinic Coordinator for Chicago Youth Programs. Juliet was a member of the Feinberg School of Medicine Interview Committee and provided tours and mentorship to prospective medical students. She was also a member of the Feinberg Formal Planning Committee, organizing a well-attended formal event for the School of Medicine. She has completed two marathons and enjoys scrapbooking.



Northwestern University
Department of Emergency Medicine
Class of 2014

The Class of 2014 welcomes two new members:



Jason Koob, MD

Undergraduate: Stanford University
Medical School: University of Chicago - Pritzker School of Medicine

Jason Koob earned his degree in Urban Studies from Stanford University, where he played NCAA Division I ice hockey for the Cardinal. After college, Jay spent several years as a financial analyst in commercial litigation at Cornerstone Research in New York. He later completed the post-baccalaureate pre-medical program at Columbia University, while employed as a research assistant at the Hospital for Special Surgery studying the outcomes of balloon kyphoplasty. He continued working as a research assistant during medical school, taking an additional pre-clinical year to work on peripheral nerve regeneration projects at Washington University in St. Louis. Jay has numerous poster presentations and publications in orthopedics and neuroscience, including a first author publication in *Laryngoscope*. He is a member of the AMA and a volunteer with Maggie's Miracle Makers.



Alicia Peterson, MD

Undergraduate: University of Kansas
Medical School: Georgetown University

Alicia Peterson is a member of *Alpha Omega Alpha* and *Phi Beta Kappa*. She was the recipient of a National Merit Scholarship to the University of Kansas, where she completed her degree in French with distinction. While in medical school at Georgetown University, Alicia served on the Admissions Committee, volunteered in several community health clinics, and was awarded a travel scholarship for a medical mission in Cachicatta, Peru. She earned the Argy Award at Georgetown, given to a senior medical student who best exemplifies excellence and professionalism in medicine. Alicia completed her residency training in Internal Medicine at Northwestern University in 2011 before joining the Class of 2014 in the Department of Emergency Medicine. She will be board-eligible for dual certification in IM and EM. During her IM residency, she earned two teaching awards, completed a first author publication in *Current Rheumatology Reports*, and was a member of the Northwestern Medical Jeopardy team that won first place at the 2009 American College of Physicians national conference. Alicia is fluent in French and enjoys running and cooking.