

knowledge changing life



**PRESIDENT'S INCLUSIVE
EXCELLENCE AWARDS**
OCTOBER 15, 2024

PROGRAM

10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Welcome and Refreshments

11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Program

Host
Janine Tucker

Remarks
John R. Raymond, Sr., MD
C. Greer Jordan, PhD
Adrienne Mitchell, MBA, SPHR, PMP

11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Lunch

2024 Presidential Inclusive Excellence Award Recipients

Abby Haak

Program Manager

Advancement of Women in Science and Medicine (AWSM)

Dr. Chelsea Willie

Associate Professor

Department of Anesthesiology

Asian Pacific American

Medical Student Association APAMSA

Adileen Sii, Co-President

O Aung, Co-President

Christopher Benny

Medical Student II

MCW - Central Wisconsin

Abby Haak

Program Manager

Advancement of Women in Science and Medicine (AWSM)

Abby Haak, MA is the Program Manager for the Center for the Advancement of Women in Science and Medicine (AWSM). Abby received her MA in Gender and Women's Studies and brings her knowledge of theory and activism to AWSM where she is able to build relationships with numerous centers and departments to work collaboratively toward positive social transformation.

Prior to joining AWSM, Abby was part of the administrative team in the Master of Science in Anesthesia (MSA) program and built long-lasting connections with five classes of Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants.

As a coalition builder with the National Coalition Builder's Institute (NCBI), Abby has facilitated the Welcoming Diversity and Building a MCW Culture of Inclusion workshops for over 8 years, sharing her enthusiasm for celebrating diversity and building intentional and meaningful partnerships throughout MCW. In 2022 Abby became a trained restorative practice facilitator and helped spearhead AWSM's Restorative Practice Team to promote proactive relationship building, sharing stories, practicing our freedom of expression, and strengthening allyship through community and listening circles.

Abby has been a mentor in MCW's Staff Mentorship Program since its inception in 2022 and has built strong connections with her six mentees.



Dr. Chelsea Willie

Associate Professor

Department of Anesthesiology

Dr. Chelsea Willie is an Associate Professor of Anesthesiology who is a pediatrician turned pediatric intensivist turned pediatric anesthesiologist that now splits her time between the operating room (OR) and pediatric intensive care unit (ICU).

Dr. Willie is nationally known for engaging in alternative modes of education including creating escape rooms to teach medical concepts, creating breakout boxes as a smaller experience, and instilling gamification principles into teaching endeavors. She serves as the director for the CW Midwest Pediatric Anesthesia Fellowship Bootcamp which is a regional event for pediatric anesthesia fellows to immerse in simulation events at the start of their training and allows faculty from neighboring Midwest institutions to network while providing multiple perspectives to educate fellows. Dr. Willie shares her enthusiasm for education by directing workshops at multiple national and international conferences, including the Society of Pediatric Anesthesia, the Society of Education in Anesthesia, and the International Meeting on Simulation in Healthcare.



Since July 2019, Dr. Willie has served as one of the Associate Program Directors for the Anesthesiology core residency program with a focus on developing the CA-1 resident curriculum. She ensures that the perceived lesser among us have a voice as a co-chair for the Children's Wisconsin Medstaff JEDI committee with a focus on health equity. This passion has expanded as she was selected to be the Director for DEI for the Department of Anesthesiology in July 2022.

When she is not moving the career needle forward, Dr. Willie is active at church teaching 6-year-olds, taking ballroom dance lessons, enjoying a theater performance, and traveling around the world. She is always willing to open her home to share her Southern hospitality.

Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association (APAMSA)

Adileen Sii, Co-President

O Aung, Co-President

The Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association (APAMSA) at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) is a student-led organization dedicated to addressing the unique healthcare challenges faced by Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander (AANHPI) communities.

We create a platform for medical students to connect, advocate for AANHPI-related health concerns, and serve our community. Through collaborations with the Milwaukee Consortium for Hmong Health (MCHH), educational segments on Nyob Zoo TV, pre-med initiatives with the Hmong American Peace Academy, and cultural events such as MCW's first APIA Cultural Celebration Banquet.

APAMSA promotes leadership and works to reduce health disparities within our communities.



Christopher Benny

MCW-Central Wisconsin
Medical Student II

Christopher Benny is a 2nd-year medical student at the Medical College of Wisconsin–Central Wisconsin, driven by a passion for advancing health equity and social justice. Born in Brooklyn, NY, and raised in Bangalore, India, he began his advocacy journey by founding the Socio-Environmental organization RISE, which quickly expanded to a global initiative with membership in nine countries. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, where he founded and chaired the Alliance of Multicultural and Diversity Organizations. His leadership directly impacted over 1,000 students and coordinated 20 member organizations, fostering a more inclusive and engaged campus community.



As the Inclusivity Director for UWSP’s Student Government Association, Christopher led significant efforts in diversity and inclusion, spearheading legislation, activism, and leadership training that resulted in lasting institutional changes. His commitment to social equity extended beyond academia, where he served as a voting member of the Portage County Diversity Affairs and Inclusiveness Committee, and contributed to the Marshfield Clinic Health System’s Health Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion work group, helping to guide policy and advocacy on a regional level.

Currently, Christopher serves as the President of the Health Equity Coalition at MCW-CW, where he continues to champion diversity, equity, and inclusion in healthcare. He is also the Executive Director of Difficult-Discussions Inc., a nonprofit dedicated to improving access to diversity, equity, and inclusion resources in rural America, further solidifying his commitment to underserved communities. His leadership across multiple sectors underscores his dedication to driving meaningful change through collaboration and community empowerment.

About the PIEA

The President's Inclusive Excellence Award (PIEA) is a testament to the dedication, commitment and outstanding contributions made by members of the MCW community in advancing health, fostering inclusion and promoting excellence. This year, we recognize three remarkable individuals and one student group who have exemplified the essence of inclusive leadership and profoundly impacted MCW and our broader community.

THANK YOU

PIEA Committee

Janine Tucker - Community Inclusion & Outreach Manager II - Office of Diversity & Inclusion

Tony Garcia - Program Director I - Office of Diversity & Inclusion

Ashleigh VanDeurzen - Business Operations Coordinator, Sr. - Office of the President

Janet Peshek - Administrative Associate - Office of Academic Affairs

Nina Zess - Manager Event Experience - Communications and Brand Strategy

Kelsey Potratz - Community Program Coordinator III - Office of Community Engagement

Regina Cole - ClinicalW Research Coordinator III - Department of Pediatrics

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