



UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

Spring 2025 Chat with Alumni

March 3 at 7 pm

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PRE-MEDICAL AND PRE-DENTAL ADVISING OFFICE



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Agenda

I. Introduction of Staff

II. Introduction of Alumni

- Ananya Aggarwal
- Sophia Gaspard
- Murphy Kenny
- Chloe LaFosse
- Noor Taweh

III. Q&A with our Alumni

- Panel questions
- Audience questions--chat box or unmute

IV. Wrap-Up



Get to know us!

Office of Pre-Professional Advising



Dr. Sarah Scheidel
Director



Krista Rogers
Assistant Director



Chrissy Gray
Pre-Professional Advisor



Megan Baro
Health Professions Advisor



Sue Ruggiero
Program Assistant



Dr. Keat Sanford
Pre-Medical Advisor

Health Professions Peer Ambassadors (HPPAs)

5 undergraduate peer ambassadors to help too!
30-minute appointments and 10-minute drop-in appointments

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS

Ananya Aggarwal

Current Dental Student at UConn SoDM!

Ananya graduated from UConn in 2024 and is a D1 at UConn School of Dental Medicine. At UConn, Ananya was a Molecular and Cell Biology Major, a University Scholar, a Trip Director for HASB & Community Outreach, a KUBE Team Leader, and a HPPA. At school Ananya is involved with several DEI initiatives and ADEA District 1. In her free time Ananya enjoys flower arranging, going to the gym, and spending time with friends.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS

Sophia Gaspard

Dental Student (Fall 25 Matriculant) at UConn SoDM!

Hi everyone! My name is Sophia, and I'm a senior MCB major on the pre-dental track. As a first-generation student, I'm passionate about fostering a sense of belonging at UConn through programs like Supplemental Instruction and the First Year Experience program. I know how challenging this journey can be, and I'm excited to support you in any way I can!



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS

Murphy Kenny

Current MD Student at Johns Hopkins University SoM!

Murphy (she/her) graduated from UConn in 2021 and is an M1 at Johns Hopkins with an interest in pathology. During her gap years, she did research at UConn, worked as a scribe, and worked at Party City. In her free time she enjoys going to concerts and is having fun getting to know the metal scene in Baltimore!



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS

Chloe Lafosse

Current First-Year DO Student at Rowan-Virtua SoM!

Hi! I'm Chloe Lafosse, Class of 2023. I am originally from France but live in upstate New York. I was in the honors program and graduated with a Bachelor's in Psychological Sciences and a double minor. I was a reapplicant and took a gap year to continue working part-time in the ER before starting school again. I am now a first-year at Rowan-Virtua SOM and am very proud to be a DO student.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS

Noor Taweh

Current Fourth-Year MD Student at UConn SoM!

Noor is a CT native and graduated from University of Connecticut with a dual degree in physiology & neurobiology and human rights in 2021. She then went on to attend UConn School of Medicine where she is currently a rising fourth year medical student. She plans to apply for internal medicine residency with hopes to ultimately pursue infectious disease fellowship, with research interests in HIV and substance use disorders. She is interested in academic medicine with teaching and mentoring as integral parts of her career. Outside of medicine, she is a professional contemporary dancer with Garet & co. Noor is so proud to be a double UConn grad and is more than happy to help any prospective applicants on their journey!



Panelist Q & A!



- Facilitator Questions
 - Topics include:
 - Personal Statement
 - Program Selection
 - Interviewing
 - Time Management
 - Application Advice
- Live Q&A - Audience Questions



Questions!

- How did you go about researching different medical/dental schools and deciding which ones to apply to?
- What was your process for writing your personal statement and framing your story as an applicant? Any tips/tricks to summarize your experience with medicine/dentistry in the personal statement? Are there anything you feel people should avoid when writing their personal statement?
- Do you have any advice on how to frame specific experiences that you've had within your application?
- What were your experiences in writing your secondary essays? How did you manage your time and decide on what to write while on a time constraint?
- What was the most challenging part of the application process for you and why?
- What overall advice do you have about the application process for pre-health students?



More resources



Application Workshops On-Demand

- Topics include personal statements, selecting schools, interviewing, financing your medical/dental education and more!
- Available on the “Workshops” page of our website

Interview Pairing Program

- When you receive interview invites, you can be matched with up to 3 UConn alum who have matriculated to the schools you’re interviewing at
- Stay tuned to our newsletter and Instagram when interviewing season gets closer





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about our office

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