

# Online Master of Science and Graduate Certificates in Palliative Care



## Palliative Care Chat - News & Updates

Brought to you by the University of Maryland, Baltimore  
Online Master of Science and Graduate Certificates in Palliative Care

[graduate.umaryland.edu/palliative/](http://graduate.umaryland.edu/palliative/)



Are you interested in earning your [Master of Science Degree or Graduate Certificate in Palliative Care?](#)

If the answer is **YES!**, then what are you waiting for?

[Apply Now!](#)

Our program is **100%** online!  
Interested in learning more? Check out one of our  
Virtual Information Sessions.

All disciplines welcome! But don't wait - get your application in  
before the **Dec. 15** deadline for Spring 2020!



### New Referral Program

Anyone current student or alumni, who sends a referral, and they enroll in either a certificate or the MS, will receive a package of goodies. All your referral has to do is e-mail [palliative@umaryland.edu](mailto:palliative@umaryland.edu) with your name and once they submit their application we'll send you the goods! What could be

easier than that?

Please check out our website - [graduate.umaryland.edu/palliative](http://graduate.umaryland.edu/palliative)  
Have a question? Send us an [e-mail](mailto:palliative@umaryland.edu) or call us at **410.706.7255**

Would you like to learn more about the Online  
Master of Science and Graduate Certificate  
Programs in Palliative Care?

Click [HERE](#) to  
register for a  
Virtual Open  
House.

[Register for one of our Virtual Information Sessions:](#)

Tuesday, Oct. 8 at 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. (EST)

Tuesday, Nov. 19 at 12 p.m. and 8 p.m. (EST)

Tuesday, Nov. 19 at 12 p.m. and 9 p.m. (EST)

or

View a recording from a [previous information session](#).

Participants in the  
Virtual Information  
Session will get a fairly  
magical purple gel pen!

Have a question? Send us an  
[e-mail](#) or call us at **410.706.7255**

## Congratulations!

### Class of 2019



Congratulations to the class of 2019! The Commencement ceremony for our first graduating class took place on Friday, August 16. Thank you for all those who were able to share in the celebration and congratulations to all our amazing graduates!

Check out these videos from the commencement ceremony:

[Palliative Care Graduation Convocation 2019](#)  
[Program Overview and Student Testimonials](#)

#### The Class of 2019

- Rafah Aboulhosn
- Deborah Araya\*
- Jenny Bergan
- Anjana Chacko
- Delia Chiamonte
- Martha Crittenden
- Sharon Daily\*



- Leilani Drayer
- Sara Edwards
- Austin Elder
- Laura Forsythe-Chisolm
- Sherri Fussell
- Katie Gast
- Jessica Geiger-Hayes
- Neive George
- Amy Goodman\*
- Nicole Graham
- Stephanie Greene
- Kenneth Scott Guess
- Angela House
- Angela Hunner-Davis
- Bethany Kutemeier
- Mindy Landau\*
- Kimberly Langdon\*
- Stephanie Lynn
- Beth Marchitelli
- Jean Marshall
- Martha Martin
- Christina McCurdy
- BJ Pilkins\*
- Thomas Pryor
- Shiney Sam
- Christine Schaeffer
- Christine Schiller\*
- Lisa Schneider
- Matthew Selle
- Elisabeth Setzler
- Samuel Sinnah
- Lesley Smith\*
- Monica Tong\*
- Michael Trager
- Chinasa Umeozulu+
- Fran Vakalahi+
- Charlene Vandiver
- Jason Ware
- Millicent Whyte
- Kelly Wozneak\*

\* Denotes Recipient of Graduate Certificate

+ Denotes Dual PharmD and MS in Palliative Care Degree Recipient



## Teacher of the Year

Congratulations to Dr. Ashlei W. Lowery, MD.

Dr. Lowery was selected as the inaugural Teacher of



the Year by the graduating class of 2019!

Dr. Lowery, teaches PALC605, *Symptom Management in Advanced Illness*, and PALC611, *Advanced Non-Pain Symptom Management*.

Thank you for all your work and dedication, and congratulations on your well-deserved recognition!



## Welcome to our New Faculty

Paul Tatum, MD and Eric Widera, MD

Paul Tatum is excited to join Dr. Eric Widera in teaching with the MS in Palliative Care program this year. Paul is a native Texan who has joined the new palliative medicine program at Dell Medical School at the University of Texas (UT). His two big highlights this year include submitting an application for accreditation to the ACGME for a fellowship program at

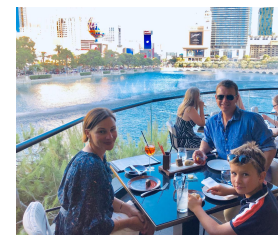
UT and hanging out in an arcade with Eric Widera this summer (while working hard with Strategic Planning with AAHPM.)

Photo courtesy of Shaida Talabreza.

Clever idea courtesy of Eric Widera

Scoring the points to get high score--mostly Tatum's work

Fun fact: Eric visited New York, Paris and Venice all in one day this summer. Sadly, it occurred in only one city, Las Vegas.



## Brag Book

We always saw we have the MOST amazing faculty and students in the universe.

Read on to see where they've spoken, what they've published, and what they're doing.



**Ryan C. Costantino, PharmD, BCPS, BCGP** (Class of 2020)

- Baltz A, Gressler LE, **Costantino RC**, McPherson ML. Nonprescription medication use in hospice patients. *American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine*. Accepted for publication.
- **Costantino RC**, Felten N, Todd M, Maxwell T, McPherson ML. A survey of hospice professionals regarding medical cannabis practices. *J Palliat Med* 2019 May 16. Doi: 10.1089/jpm.2018.0535

**Patrick Coyne, MSN, ACPN, ACNS-BC, FAAN, FPCN** (PALC 615)

- Seymore R, Manis M, **Coyne P**. Dexmedetomidine use in a case of severe cancer

pain. *J Pain Palliat Care Pharmacother*. 2019. DOI: 10.1080/15360288.2019.1629520

- Mazanec P, Rebekah R, Bullington J, **Coyne P**, Harris H, Dubois M, Aron J. Interdisciplinary palliative: Specialist in delivering palliative care. in Ferrell B, and Paice, J, (Editors), *Textbook of Palliative Nursing*, (5th edition). Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2019.
- Dahlin C, **Coyne P**, Goldberg J, Vaughn L. Palliative care leadership. *J Palliat Med*. 2019, Vol. 34(1) 21-28.

**Constance Dahlin, MSN, ANP-BC, ACHPN, FPCN, FAAN (PALC 601)**

- **Dahlin C**, Coyne P, Goldberg J, Vaughn L. Palliative care leadership. *J Palliat Med*. 2019, Vol. 34(1) 21-28.

**Jamie Goldberg, MSW, LCSW, ACHP-SW (PALC 603, 613)**

- Dahlin C, Coyne P, **Goldberg J**, Vaughn L. Palliative care leadership. *J Palliat Med*. 2019, Vol. 34(1) 21-28.

**Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD, MA, MDE, BCPS (PALC 601, 602, 605, 607, 612, 615, 617)**

- Baltz A, Gressler LE, Costantino RC, **McPherson ML**. Nonprescription medication use in hospice patients. *American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine*. Accepted for publication.
- Klingman A, Sera L, **McPherson ML**. Characterizing prescribed medications in hospice patients with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. *American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine*. Accepted for publication.
- Sera L, **McPherson ML**. Effect of a study skills course on student self-assessment of learning skills and strategies. *Currents in Pharmacy Teaching and Learning* 2019;11(7):664-668.
- Costantino RC, Felten N, Todd M, Maxwell T, **McPherson ML**. A survey of hospice professionals regarding medical cannabis practices. *J Palliat Med* 2019 May 16. Doi: 10.1089/jpm.2018.0535
- **McPherson ML**. Opioid utilization patterns by home-based hospice patients: A longitudinal review. Joint Meeting of the Drug Safety and Risk Management Advisory Committee and the Anesthetic and Analgesic Drug Products Advisory Committee, US Food & Drug Administration; Jun., 2019; Silver Spring, MD.
- **McPherson ML**. Davis MP. Maximizing safety and efficacy of methadone dosing in cancer patients. MASCC/ISOO 2019 Annual Meeting; Jun., 2019; San Francisco, CA. Read research.
- **McPherson ML**. One size may not fit all: The role of opioid stewardship for patients with serious illness. Eastern Medicaid Pharmacy Administrators Association EMPAA 2019 43rd Annual Meeting; Aug., 2019; Annapolis, MD.
- **McPherson ML**. Right sizing your pharmacy budget: Deprescribing in serious illness. Kentucky Hospice and Palliative Care Association Annual Meeting; Aug., 2019; Lexington, KY.
- **McPherson ML**. Opioid conversion MIScalculations. Kentucky Hospice and Palliative Care Association Annual Meeting; Aug., 2019; Lexington, KY.
- **McPherson ML**. Paving the road ahead in hospice and palliative care. Kentucky Hospice and Palliative Care Association Annual Meeting; Aug., 2019; Lexington, KY.
- **McPherson ML**, Hagar E. Engaging learners in outer space: Keeping it real in online learning. University of Maryland Eastern Shore Innovations in Teaching & Learning 2019 Conference; Jun., 2019; Princess Anne, MD.
- Davis MP, Sloan PA, **McPherson ML**. If it's not one case it's another! Complex cases in pain management. International Conference on Opioids; Jun., 2019; Boston, MA.

**Shirley Otis-Green, MSW, MA, ACSW, LCSW, OSW-C, FNAP (PALC 603)**

- Altilio T, **Otis-Green S**, Hedlund S, Cohen Fineberg I. (2019). Pain Management and Palliative Care. In S. Gehlert and T. Browne (Eds.), *Handbook of Health Social Work*, Third Edition, Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley and Sons.
- **Otis-Green S**. (2019). Reflections on End-of-Life Care of the Urban Poor: Cowboy's Legacy. In D. Moller, (Ed.), *Dying at the Margins: Reflections on Justice and Healing for Inner-City Poor*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press: 203-209.
- **Otis-Green S**. (2019). Passion, Purpose, and Preparation: The Power of Palliative Social Work (Blog Post: Social Workers are on the Frontlines of Palliative Care). California State University Institute for Palliative Care: <https://csupalliativecare.org/social-workers-2019/>
- **Otis-Green S**. Interview with Honor Care Network for Who Cares? The Future of Home Care: "The Power of Palliative Care: Helping Patients, Families and

Practitioners Feel Better." March 2019. Available at <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/the-power-of-palliative-care-shirley-otis-green/id1436238216?i=1000433532470&mt=2>.

- **Otis-Green S.** Advocacy in action: Enhancing leadership opportunities. Oral presentation at: Children's Hospital Los Angeles Psychosocial Leadership Retreat and Social Work Staff Workshops; Aug., 2019; Los Angeles, CA.
- **Otis-Green S,** Fineberg IC. Advancing oncology social work leadership in today's health care system: Demonstrating leadership skills and articulating value. Oral presentation at Association of Oncology Social Work Conference, Clinical Practice Intensive; Jun., 2019; Tuscon, AZ.
- **Otis-Green S.** Content Reviewer. Advance care planning: Making decisions for your future. Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (ILS). Available at [https://www.ils.org/sites/default/files/National/USA/Pdf/Publications/PS94\\_Advance\\_Care\\_Planing2019\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.ils.org/sites/default/files/National/USA/Pdf/Publications/PS94_Advance_Care_Planing2019_FINAL.pdf).

**Leah Sera, PharmD, MA, BCPS (PALC 611)**

- Klingman A, Sera L, **McPherson ML.** Characterizing prescribed medications in hospice patients with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine. Accepted for publication.
- Sera L, **McPherson ML.** Effect of a study skills course on student self-assessment of learning skills and strategies. Currents in Pharmacy Teaching and Learning 2019;11(7):664-668.

**JoAnne Reifsnyder, PhD, MSN, MBA, FAAN (PALC 608, 609)**

- **Reifsnyder J,** Bishop L, Morrison RS. Pain management for people with serious illness in the context of the opioid use disorder epidemic. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Workshop; May, 2019. "Proceedings" are available at <http://www.nationalacademies.org/hmd/Reports/2019/pain-management-for-people-with-serious-illness-in-the-context-of-the-opioid-epidemic-pw.aspx>.

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**Lisa Burris, PharmD (Class of 2020)** completed the Mission Hospice & Home Care Direct Care Volunteer Training program in June and is now a certified as a Direct Care Volunteer. Her first patient/client is a retired RN who used to work at the San Francisco General Outpatient Clinic with patients who have opioid addiction and are treated with methadone. She treated patients from the Haight Ashbury Clinic, a clinic that Lisa used to volunteer at while attending the University of California - San Francisco - Pharmacy School! Lisa also highly recommends the deep dish cornmeal crust sausage pizza from Gino's East Pizzeria in Chicago.



**Patrick Coyne, MSN, ACHPN, ACNS-BC, FAAN, FPCN (PALC 615)** is getting married in October. His program at the Medical University of South Carolina was a 2019 Circle of Life Awarded Program.

**Barbara Head, PhD, RN, CHPN, FPCN, ACSW (PALC 617)** is a PI on an [Interprofessional Education Exchange \(IPEX\)](#) project funded by NCI. Each year, 8 faculty teams are trained and mentored to develop an interprofessional palliative care education initiative at their home institution. Applications from faculty teams will be accepted starting in early 2020. She is also the President of the [Advanced Palliative and Hospice Social Work certification program](#).

**Stephanie Lynn, BSN (Class of 2019)** is taking a trip to Greece to celebrate completing her Master's of Science in Palliative Care!

**Marie J. Morrison, MD, HMDC (Class of 2020)** was granted the Hospice Medical Director Certified (HMDC) credential by the Hospice Medical Director Certification Board. The Press Release reads, "Dr. Morrison was recognized for her commitment to improving patient quality of life by displaying professional competency in the hospice industry."

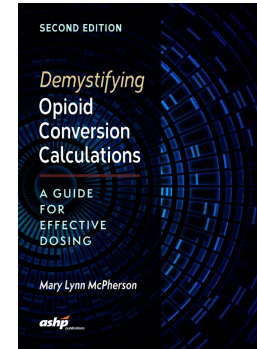
**Deborah Araya's, MA, PA-C (Class of 2020)** abstract poster presentation, Establishing an Effective Palliative Care Program in a Smaller Hospital: An Innovative Collaboration Model, to the CAPC National Seminar 2019 was accepted. The poster presentation will be held on Thursday, November 14, 2019.

**Pamela Weiss, RN, BSN, CHPN** (Class of 2021) recently received a promotion to a Divisional Mobile Administrator and is currently working out of the Santa Clara, CA office of Heartland Hospice. A veteran, having served in the US Air Force, Pamela started a chapter of HPNA called Rockford Stateline and is the newly appointed District Leader for the Northwest Central District of HPNA. Her daughter recently graduated with a degree in communications with a focus on rhetoric and her other daughter is getting married next year. She is a Board Certified Hospice and Palliative Care Nurse and is married to Dr. Howard Weiss, who is Board Certified in Hospice and Palliative Care.

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## PAINWeek 2019

Will you be at PAINWeek 2019? If so, check out what our faculty and students are up to and come visit us in **Booth T8**. Stop by to register for the drawing to WIN a copy of Dr. McPherson's book, *Demystifying Opioid Conversion Calculations: A Guide for Effective Dosing*.



Wednesday, Sept. 4

- 7:00 - 7:50am, **Pain Terminology: Knowing the Difference Makes a Difference!** (PEF01)
  - Jessica Geiger-Hayes, PharmD, BCPS, CPE
  - Alexandra McPherson, PharmD, MPH
  - Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD, MA, MDE, BCPS, CPE
- 9:30am - 12:30pm, **Hitting the Bullseye in Pain Management! Using All the Arrows in Your Quiver!** (WRK02)
  - Alexandra McPherson, PharmD, MPH
  - Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD, MA, MDE, BCPS, CPE

Thursday, Sept. 5

- 1:40 - 2:30pm, **The Curbside Consult in Pain Management** (PEF08)
  - Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD, MA, MDE, BCPS, CPE

Friday, Sept. 6

- 9:40 - 10:30am, **Opioid Math Calculations: Conversions, Titrations, and Breakthroughs** (PHM06)
  - Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD, MA, MDE, BCPS, CPE

Saturday, Sept. 7

- 9:40 - 10:30am, **That's Debatable! Does Cannabis Reduce Opioid Death, and Does Gabapentin Increase It?** (PAL01)
  - Alexandra McPherson, PharmD, MPH
  - Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD, MA, MDE, BCPS, CPE
- 1:40 - 2:30pm, **You're Using WHAT for Pain Management? Psilocybin, Ecstasy, and Ketamine** (PAL02)
  - Jessica Geiger-Hayes, PharmD, BCPS, CPE
  - Alexandra McPherson, PharmD, MPH
  - Mary Lynn McPherson, PharmD, MA, MDE, BCPS, CPE

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## Special Offer from the International Association for Hospice and Palliative Care (IAHPC)

Students enrolled in our Master's of Science and certificate programs in Palliative Care are eligible for a 1-year free membership to the International Association for Hospice and Palliative Care (IAHPC).

To qualify for the 1-year free membership, the post-graduate student must provide a copy of a current institutional identification card and a certification/letter from your school/university certifying that the applicant is a post-graduate student at the institution.

For more information or to enroll, visit <https://hospicecare.com/submit/join-iahpc/post-graduate-student/>.



Students who would like to attend the AAHPM Annual Assembly in March 2020 or the CAPC Annual Assembly in November 2019 qualify for special student registration rates. Please contact [Erika Pixley](#) for more information.

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**Want to join the fun?**  
**Get started on your [application](#) today!**

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