Margolis Internship Program Overview

May - July 2021
The mission of Duke University’s Robert J. Margolis, MD, Center for Health Policy is to improve health, health equity, and the value of health care through practical, innovative, and evidence-based policy solutions. Duke-Margolis brings together capabilities that generate and analyze evidence across the spectrum of policy to practice, supporting the triple aim of health care – improving the experience of care, the health of populations and reducing the per capita cost. This requires broad multidisciplinary capabilities that few institutions can bring together, and is fueled by Duke University’s entrepreneurial culture. The Center focuses on increasing opportunities to gain exposure to the field of health policy through collaborative curricular pathways and expanded mentored research opportunities for students interested in health policy.

Goals of the Internship Experience

- To learn through challenging and meaningful activities
- To link academic learning to policy and practice
- To gain professional experience within the field of health policy
- To build positive relationships with faculty and staff
- To identify, clarify, and/or confirm direction as it relates to your academic studies and future career path
- To develop strong networking/mentoring relationships
- To strengthen our Margolis student community
- To have fun in the process!

Summer 2021 Interns

This summer, we have 40 Margolis Interns coming from the undergraduate and graduate level at Duke and other Universities. Students are working closely with their mentors on research projects focusing on aspects of Health Care Transformation, Biomedical Innovation, Global Health, and Education. Through the remote internship program, interns are gaining experience in qualitative and quantitative research; receiving training and coaching on research skills/presentations/writing skills; participating in Margolis Seminars, Summer Research Symposium, Journal Club; and are building relationships with their peers through virtual socials and team projects.
Albert Racu
Albert Racu is a rising junior at Duke University from Clemson, South Carolina studying Biophysics on the pre-medical track, and is a current Margolis Scholar. He currently works in Dr. Wax’s BIOS research lab in the department of biomedical engineering which focuses on low-cost OCT solutions. Additionally, he’s a member of Dr. Diehl’s basic science research lab in the department of medicine at Duke University Medical School working to better understand the effect of aging on liver regeneration. Albert is interested in applying quantitative methods to solve public policy questions, and is particularly fascinated by how the connection between social responsibility and the pursuit of new scientific discoveries impacts healthcare policy. This summer, Albert will be working on research surrounding clinical trial modernization and biomedical innovation.

Amber Lemmons
Amber Lemmons is a rising senior at Duke University majoring in Public Policy. She came to health policy from a social policy background and is interested in how data can be used to better understand policy impact. Last summer she worked with the Florida Justice Institute on their lawsuit to abolish solitary confinement in Florida prisons. After graduation, she hopes to continue working with either health or criminal justice policy (or both!). This summer, Amber will be researching racial health disparities and geography.

Amy Labrador
Amy Labrador is a rising sophomore at Duke University from Miami, FL who is intending to major in Global Health and Psychology. At Duke, she is involved in the Student Collaborative on Health Policy (SCOHP), where she collaborates with her peers to engage with the Durham community and advocate for patient resources. She is also on The Scope podcast team where she interviews Duke faculty and records episodes in hopes of educating the Duke student body on health-policy related matters. Amy is a Huang Fellow at Duke and through this fellowship, she engages with issues at the intersection of science, policy, and ethics. As a Latinx student, Amy is interested in exploring cultural and language barriers to patient-centered care and aims to work on healthcare transformation in racial and ethnic minorities. This summer, through the Huang Fellows Program, she is working to address social drivers of health for young children and families in the clinical setting, specifically focusing on immigrant and refugee families.
Ana DeCesare

Ana DeCesare is a rising junior at Duke University majoring in Neuroscience and Political Science. At Duke, she studies cyberpolicy with the Sanford School of Public Policy. Beyond the classroom, Ana is the Marketing Director of Alexander Hamilton Society, Treasurer of IGNITE, and a Camp Kesem counselor, and a Bass Connections student. Her interests lie at the intersection of tech, healthcare, and policy, the ultimate goal being to improve healthcare disparities. This summer, Ana will be working on addressing social determinants of health.

Angela Huang

Angela Huang is a rising sophomore at Duke University pursuing a self-made Program II major exploring psychiatric disabilities & health policy through disability studies. She is active in Duke's mental health advocacy scene where she volunteers frequently with Threshold Clubhouse and leads on the executive board for the National Alliance on Mental Health@Duke. Eventually, she hopes to develop a career as a physician-scientist in the social science/humanities that incorporates disability studies research and policy into a psychiatric setting to improve patient well-being and provider efficacy. This summer, through the Huang Fellows Program, Angela will be exploring health systems and policy in global health.

Ankita Patil

Ankita Patil is a rising junior at The College of New Jersey majoring in Social Psychology and minoring in Public Health. She is currently a research assistant at the Brigham & Women's Hospital where she is evaluating data on the treatment of incarcerated individuals during the COVID-19 outbreak. Through her research and experiences outside of the classroom, she understands that providing proper medical care to patients involves decisions made by researchers and policy makers. Ankita hopes to contribute to the field of medicine by becoming a physician for those in ICE Detention Centers and carceral settings while also helping to set policy programs involving health care issues of public concern. This summer, Ankita will be researching population health management.
Anna Bartz

Anna Bartz is a Master in Public Policy candidate at Duke University concentrating in health policy, and a Bass Connections student. Prior to Duke, Anna worked as a consultant in the employer-sponsored health and benefits industry. During her first year at Duke, Anna worked on several research projects supporting local North Carolina communities in their response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Anna is eager to expand on her knowledge of the U.S. health care system and explore innovative solutions that promote health equity for vulnerable communities. This summer, Anna will be working on healthcare transformation, social drivers of health, and state health reforms.

Anthony Salgado

Anthony Salgado is a rising sophomore at Duke University majoring in Political Science. He is involved in the Chronicle Op-Ed and Duke Student Government. His goal is to increase the access and quality of healthcare for historically marginalized populations. In particular, he values the work of grassroots community-based organizations. He believes this intersection of policy and healthcare is a necessity to realize a truly equitable system. This summer, through the Huang Fellows Program, Anthony will be researching health systems and policy in global health.

Anu Warrier

Anu Warrier is a rising second-year doctoral student at the University of Michigan’s School of Public Health, studying health policy and health economics in the Department of Health Management and Policy. Born and raised in North Carolina, Anu earned her Bachelor of Art’s degree in public policy studies from Duke in 2017 and worked as a public health analyst at RTI International before returning to school. Her research at U-M (under the supervision of her advisor, Dr. Andrew Ryan) broadly concerns the evaluation of public policy through a health equity lens, and she plans to bring that same research outlook to her work at the Margolis Center. She currently resides in Ann Arbor, MI with her 3-year-old Tibetan terrier dog, but this summer the two of them can be found in North Carolina and Texas spending time with their loved ones (they haven't quite gotten the hang of “snowbirding” just yet!). This summer, Anu will be on projects focused on health policy, the economics of health and health care, and health services research.
Christy Craig

Christy Craig is a Master of Public Health student in Health Policy at the Gillings School of Global Public Health at the University of North Carolina. Christy developed an interest in public health after working as a medical scribe in the Emergency Department and taking a course on Global Health and the Sustainable Development Goals. These experiences led her to consider the effects of policy and the social determinants of health on health outcomes. As a result, she decided to pursue a Master's in Public Health. Christy is passionate about equitable access to quality care and solutions targeting fragmented services. This summer, Christy will be assisting with a project on care integration for the dual-eligible population.

Cokie Young

Cokie Young is a graduate student at Duke University studying Bioethics and Science Policy. Cokie is a current Margolis Scholar and Bass Connections student. Before Duke, she attended Vanderbilt University where she earned her BA in Neuroscience and Spanish. Cokie's interests center on creating health policy and bioethical interventions that center marginalized voices as a means to combat systemic injustices and improve equity in healthcare. This summer, Cokie will be working to focus on bridging the equity gap in our COVID-19 response.

Cynthia Dong

Cynthia Dong is a rising junior at Duke University pursuing a self-designed degree entitled "Health Disparities: Causes and Policy Solutions." Cynthia is an incoming Margolis Scholar, a Duke University Huang Fellow, and a Bass Connections student. She is greatly interested in understanding what causes social inequality and how it contributes to health inequity. She hopes to use the knowledge she gleans from her program of study to contribute effective health policy solutions. At Duke, Cynthia is the Social Chair of Duke Chinese Dance, a Senator on Duke Student Government (with a focus on mental health and equity), a Help Desk Community Resource Navigator, a COVID-19 contact tracer, and an undergraduate research assistant in the West Lab. In the future, Cynthia plans to pursue an MD/MPH and continue contributing to the fight against health inequity. This summer, Cynthia will be working to gain a better understanding of health care transformation in action.
Danah Younis

Danah Younis is a rising senior at Duke University majoring in Public Policy and minoring in Arabic. At Duke, she enjoys volunteering with the Kenan Institute for Ethics's Refugee Project and working on La fabrique du Caire moderne, a project mapping the urbanization of Modern Cairo, Egypt. She is passionate about addressing health disparities in minority groups in the medical field and wants to integrate her passions and love for humanities in a future career as a physician. Danah currently is a Bass Connections student, working on the Evaluating Strategies to Reduce the Global Burden of Hearing Loss team, and has enjoyed learning more about health economics with the team. This summer, Danah will continue to work on this research.

Devan Desai

Devan Desai is a rising junior at Duke University from Durham, North Carolina. He is majoring in Public Policy and minoring in Biology and Chemistry. At Duke, Devan serves as Chair of the Duke Honor Council, Senator of Academic Affairs in the Duke Student Government, and an undergraduate teaching assistant. He is also researching COVID-19 contact tracing policies through Bass Connections. As a Margolis Scholar, Devan hopes to expand his health policy experience through engagement with the Margolis Center and his position as a Co-Chair of Health Policy Education with the Student Collaborative on Health Policy. Ultimately, Devan hopes to earn an MD/MPH and work at the intersection of healthcare and policy to improve patient care and treatment outcomes with a specific interest in pediatrics and orthopedics. This summer, Devan will be researching guideline congruent care for spine disorders.

Earnest Wang

Earnest Wang is a rising senior at the University of California, Berkeley majoring in Public Health and Economics. At Cal, Earnest researches at the Nicholas C. Petris Center, currently engaging in research surrounding pharmaceutical drug development and private equity acquisitions of healthcare firms. Earnest is also involved in neuroimaging research regarding neurodegenerative disorders at the UCSF Memory and Aging Center, studying the role of enlarged perivascular spaces (ePVS) in patients with vascular dementia. He is interested in issues regarding health care accessibility, delivery, and quality. After graduating, Earnest hopes to pursue medicine and a graduate degree in healthcare management and administration. Through the Margolis Internship Program, Earnest hopes to gain a deeper understanding of health policy and apply this knowledge in medical field. This summer, Earnest will be researching the technology transfer process and strategies to promote better competition through policy.
Elaijah Lapay

Elaijah Lapay is a rising sophomore at Duke University from Greenville, North Carolina, currently planning on pursuing a Global Health and Cultural Anthropology Co-Major. He has been involved with a Bass Connections team investigating the impact of COVID-19 on food security and resilience among Latinx and immigrant populations in Durham and the United States. On campus, Elaijah is involved with Root Causes, a student organization focused on tackling food insecurity and housing access within the Durham community, as well with the Duke Medical Ethics Journal, a student-run publication on topical ethical issues related to healthcare and medicine. Moving forward, Elaijah hopes to investigate the intersection of cultural and migration studies with medicine and healthcare in order to ultimately improve the wellbeing of historically marginalized migrant and immigrant populations. This summer, Elaijah will be working on projects surrounding global health.

Elizabeth Hepburn

Elizabeth Hepburn is a rising junior at Duke University majoring in Economics, minoring in Chemistry, and pursuing a pre-med path. She is interested in exploring the intersection of health, economics, and policy to advocate for practical solutions to complicated healthcare problems. At Duke, she volunteers with FEMMES to foster interest in STEM for girls and underrepresented minorities. She also tutors local Durham students in math and science. This summer, Elizabeth will be working on projects related to health economics.

Elizabeth Kayzman

Elizabeth Kayzman is a rising junior at Duke University double majoring in Neuroscience and Global Health with a minor in Chemistry on the pre-med track. At Duke, she works with the "Evaluating Strategies to Reduce the Global Burden of Hearing Loss" Bass Connections Team. Elizabeth also leads the Student Outreach Committee of a mental health awareness organization on campus called NeuroCare for which she plans education and wellness events for the student body. At the Margolis Center, Elizabeth is working with the Lancet Commission Team for Reducing the Global Burden of Hearing Loss with a focus on evaluation of barriers, strategies, and models associated with promoting hearing healthcare around the world. Her goal is to contribute to evidence-based policy interventions and improved hearing health in international communities through the research of the project. This summer, Elizabeth will continue her work on the Lancet Bass Project.
Emma Clark

Emma Clark is a rising senior at UC Berkeley studying Cognitive Science and Data Science. She is incredibly passionate about the intersection of public health, technology, and neuroscience and exploring innovative approaches to understanding interactions among these fields. On campus, Emma is a Fung Fellow for public health and innovation, a publication writer for Neurotech@Berkeley, and a member of the Brain Exercise initiative. She collaborates with the Turner Lab at the George Washington University School of Medicine remotely as an undergraduate researcher investigating cognitive aging, Alzheimer’s Disease, and the impacts of brain injuries on health outcomes of former athletes. From these experiences, Emma continually learns the importance of interdisciplinary insight to successful problem solving, especially in the public health space. She hopes to apply her learning from the Margolis Internship Program to pursue a Master’s in Public Health and lead research focusing on community determinants of brain health. This summer, Emma will be working on projects related to value-based purchasing.

Fateha Zannath

Fateha Zannath is a rising junior at Johns Hopkins University majoring in Public Health Studies and minoring in Economics and Anthropology. At Johns Hopkins, Fateha is a college advising fellow for Matriculate, a brother in Alpha Phi Omega, and a co-founder of the public health podcast, "What in the Health?". At the Bloomberg School of Public Health, she works with Professor Kathryn McDonald to assess how visible factors such as race and gender affect the diagnosis process among patients. Specifically, she is analyzing solutions that mitigate diagnostic disparities. Her ultimate goal is to assess health policies by being mindful of institutional biases and community needs. She hopes to further explore aspects of health policy such as developing evidence-based solutions, communicating research results, and developing sustainable community partnerships. This summer, Fateha will be working on projects related to health and the environment.

James Zheng

James Zheng, a returning Margolis Intern, is a rising junior at Duke University, pursuing a B.S.E. in Biomedical, Electrical, and Computer Engineering, with a minor in chemistry. He is interested in understanding human health from the cell to the general population and hopes to eventually participate in improving it by pursuing a career as a physician. Currently, James is working with Dr. Will Bleser and Dr. Rebecca Whitaker on understanding implementation challenges and gathering stakeholder perspectives on payment and delivery reforms that target social needs, namely North Carolina’s Health Opportunities Pilots (HOP) program. Outside of Margolis, James also volunteers as a caller at the Duke Benefits Enrollment Center and serves as a community resource navigator for Duke’s Help Desk initiative, referring seniors and patients at Lincoln Community Health to organizations that provide services such as prescription medication assistance, food support, and transportation to medical appointments. This summer, James will continue his work on payment and delivery reforms.
Jeremy Jacobs

Jeremy Jacobs, a returning Margolis Intern, is a rising senior at Duke University from Memphis, TN. At Duke, Jeremy is majoring in English, with minors in chemistry and Spanish. Currently, Jeremy is a reporter for the Duke Research Blog, a Digital Media intern with the Duke English department, an editor for Juhood Journal, and an intern in Congressman Steve Cohen's office. Last summer, Jeremy worked with the Margolis Center's Payment and Delivery Reform team on a variety of topics relating to COVID-19 and value-based healthcare. In the long term, Jeremy is interested in the relationship between care delivery and policy reform. Whether as a physician or policy writer, Jeremy hopes to pursue a career in health, and he’s excited to be part of the Margolis Center's efforts to reform the U.S. healthcare system. This summer, Jeremy will be conducting research focusing on state health policy.

Josee Li

Josee Li is a rising junior at Duke University majoring in a self-designed Program II in “Global Health and Disability: Policy, Practice, and Narratives.” She studies how narratives support policy and practice implementation to improve equitable healthcare for those with disabilities. At the Margolis Center, Josee studies as a Margolis Scholar and is involved in addressing healthcare resource access during COVID-19 with Durham community based organizations. She is also a part of the Help Desk Bass Connections team which developed the Durham Digital Navigators program. On campus, Josee serves as the Co-President of the Duke Student Collaborative on Health Policy (SCOHP). As an aspiring physician, she hopes to take her experience in health policy with the Margolis Center to better understand healthcare and patient’s lives beyond the clinical setting. This summer, Josee will be researching disability policy, human rights, and justice.

Joslin Coggan

Joslin Coggan is a rising senior at Duke University double majoring in Global Health and Political Science. At Duke, she is the president of Duke Desarrolla, a student organization which aims to connect students to Latin America with a focus on sustainable development and community-based partnerships. Additionally, she works on a Bass Connections team researching privacy implications of contact tracing during the COVID-19 pandemic. Joslin is concerned with how conflict exacerbates health inequities and developing global health interventions for individuals experiencing or displaced by conflict. She is ultimately interested in addressing global health from a policy or legal perspective. In her free time, Joslin enjoys whitewater kayaking and is a member of the Duke Ski Club. This summer, Joslin will be researching topics related to COVID vaccine purchasing and manufacturing research, and global vaccine equity.
Kami Pullakhandam
Kami Pullakhandam is a rising senior at Duke University majoring in Global Health and Public Policy Studies. At Duke, Kami is involved in Project Heal, the Duke Children's Ambassador Program, and works with the WISH Bass Connections team. Kami hopes to blend her future medical education with knowledge regarding health policy and social determinants of health to examine systemic factors that prevent equitable healthcare. This summer, Kami will be working with Center for Child and Family Policy on an exploratory study examining intimate partner violence, in conjunction with Duke Health.

Lauren Holt
Lauren graduated with her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Angelo State University in 2013, where she participated as a student-athlete and later obtained her MSN in Nursing Education. Upon graduation, she then moved to Austin, Texas, where she worked as a registered nurse and adjunct faculty member at Austin Community College. Her work with HIV patients in Austin and Honduras, inspired her interest in sexual and reproductive health research and policy. At Duke, Lauren is currently a Margolis Scholar. Her ultimate goal is to promote adolescent and young adult sexual and reproductive health and to reduce sexual health disparities by contributing to the scientific foundation for clinical practice and shaping healthcare policy. This summer, Lauren will be researching the influence of sex education policies on sexual and reproductive health outcomes in adolescent and young adult women.

Lisvel Matos
Lisvel Matos is a 2nd year PhD student at Duke University School of Nursing, and a current Margolis Scholar. At Duke, she wants to explore how systemic oppression, stress factors, and resilience factors impact HIV self-protective behaviors among Latinx same gender loving men. Long term, she wants to establish a program of research focused on reducing sexual and mental health disparities among Latinx populations and inform policy that will make the health system more accessible for Latinx populations. This summer, Lisvel will be researching how health equity research is framed so it can be impactful, and how research is translated to change policy.
Lizzy Simmons
Lizzy Simmons is a second year doctoral student in the Departments of Maternal and Child Health and Epidemiology at UNC Chapel Hill. At UNC, she works as a graduate research assistant where she examines factors that influence coverage of essential healthcare services and maternal and child health outcomes. Her research focuses on the influence of social factors on the childbirth process for American women. Her long term goal is to contribute to evidence-based policies that improve childbirth experiences and outcomes for women in the United States. This summer, Lizzy will be working to assess racial disparities in maternal health outcomes for women in North Carolina.

Madeline Fowler
Maddie Fowler is a graduating senior from Duke University. At Duke, she studies an individually-designed Program II major in Disability Studies and Ethical Mental Health Care. Maddie has done research on executive functioning at the Center for Autism and Brain Development, as well as multidisciplinary research about the impact of community ideology and practices centering people with disabilities. In the future, she hopes to advocate for disability justice within the medical field. Outside of her studies, Maddie loves hiking and playing the piccolo with the Duke University Marching Band during basketball games. This summer, Maddie will be working on projects spanning work on the NC Early Childhood Action Plan, and intellectual/developmental disability policy.

Megan Knauer
Megan Knauer, a returning Margolis Intern, is a rising senior at Duke majoring in Medical Utilitarianism. At Duke, she is a middle school mentor with The Girls Club, a volunteer at the Children’s Hospital with Arts for Life, and a student-athlete on the women’s rowing team. At the Margolis Center she works as a research assistant in the under Dr. Gillian Sanders Schmidler and a student researcher with the Bass Connections Global Burden of Hearing Loss team. Her long term goal is to attend medical school and work simultaneously as a practicing physician and a policy advisor, bridging the gap between policy and practice. This summer, Megan will be working on evaluating the effectiveness of food accessibility programs.
Mohini Johri

Mohini Johri is a rising junior at Duke University pursuing double major in Economics and Global Health and a minor in Chemistry on the pre-med track. At Duke, Mohini is a member of Business Oriented Women (BOW), a tutor with GANO at Duke for individuals who speak English as their second language, and is a writer for "The Coop," an online publication by women for women. At the Margolis Center, Mohini is a current Bass Connections student, working on the Lancet Commission Global Burden of Hearing Loss team. Eventually, she hopes to pursue health policy in medicine as a career path. This summer, Mohini will continue her work on the Global Burden of Hearing Loss project, using modeling and decision analysis.

Nadia Bey

Nadia Bey is a rising junior at Duke University studying biology, global health and bioinformatics. Her primary research interests include Medicaid, access to care, social determinants of health and pharmaceuticals. On campus, Nadia is part of the University Scholars Program and will join the Margolis Scholars Program in fall 2021. She is a reporter and editor for The Chronicle and will serve as managing editor in the 2021-2022 academic year. She also volunteers at Neal Middle School through Bull City Scholars and teaches the associated house course. After graduation, she hopes to pursue a graduate degree in public health. This summer, Nadia will be researching the reduction of health disparities in the shift to Medicaid managed care.

Natalie Wong

Natalie Wong is a rising junior at Duke University majoring in Public Policy, minoring in Economics, and pursuing the Innovation & Entrepreneurship Certificate. At Duke, she conducts research with a Bass Connections cohort to study how social media can connect vulnerable patient communities to healthcare solutions. In addition to her active involvement in the Student Collaborative on Health Policy, Natalie also playing guitar, figure skating, and solving crossword puzzles in her free time. This summer, Natalie will be researching regulatory oversight of oncology products.
Nikhil Chaudhry
Nikhil Chaudhry is a rising sophomore at Duke University majoring in Biology and Global Health. At Duke, he researches racial inequities and health disparities in the COVID-19 response through Bass Connections and volunteers in the Durham community. At the Margolis Center, Nikhil is working to identify equity gaps in the distribution of COVID-19 and explore potential policy solutions. His ultimate goal is to improve the many issues in our healthcare system that have been exacerbated by COVID-19 and advance the overall cause of health equity. This summer, Nikhil will be researching topics related to health equity.

Riya Mohan
Riya Mohan is a rising sophomore at Duke University planning to pursue a Program II degree in the intersection of public policy, computer science, and global health. She is currently working on multiple research projects, such as one regarding the reproductive capabilities of a fungal strain that causes complications in HIV-positive and immuno-compromised patients as well as an independent study into the ethical and regulatory issues of genetic engineering. Additionally, Riya enjoys working in a hands-on manner to create sustainable change, collaborating with her peers at the university, and innovating through a diverse array of interests/experiences. This summer, Riya will be working on two projects; researching Alzheimer's disease therapies and data visualization.

Rohan Gupta
Rohan Gupta is a rising sophomore at Duke University on the pre-med track and majoring in economics. He serves as a council member on Duke's Program In American Grand Strategy, working to increase foreign policy awareness in the Duke student body. With Margolis, Rohan is working with Lincoln Community Health Center to collate and expand research on hypertension solutions for Black men. His ultimate goal is to work in improving healthcare equity through community-based, non-traditional data collection. This summer, Rohan will be researching complex chronic illness through the Healthcare Transformation group.
Ronit Sethi
Ronit Sethi is a rising sophomore at Duke University majoring in Biology and Global Health. Fascinated by the intersection of patient care, policy, and social innovation in mental health, Ronit hopes to combine these disciplines in his future career to help reform local mental healthcare systems in vulnerable communities. Currently, at Duke, he studies mouse pathologies of spinocerebellar ataxia 7 in the ElMallah Lab, assesses the mental health outcomes of orphan children in Indian residential care homes through a DGHI SRT project, and volunteers for Camp Kesem. He also directs an organization called Diversity Discovered, which distributes books and lesson plans on cultural awareness and tolerance to a network of over 50 classrooms in the U.S. This summer, through the Huang Fellows Program, Ronit will be working on projects surrounding global health.

Shivam Patel
Shivam Patel is a rising senior at Duke University majoring in Public Policy and minoring in Chemistry. Shivam is a first generation American and first generation college student. He is a Rubenstein scholar and is a member in Duke's premier bhangra dance team Duke Dhamaka. His ultimate goal to to become a forward thinking physician who will make impacts on healthcare policy. This summer, Shivan will be working as a research assistant with Center for Child and Family Policy.

Sophie Hurewitz
Sophie Hurewitz is a rising senior at Duke University studying Neuroscience, Global Health, and Child Policy Research. At Duke, she is an Alice M. Baldwin Scholar, a Duke Department of Pediatrics Children's Health & Discovery Initiative Scholar, an advocate through the Duke Disability and Access Initiative, a researcher on the Path for Children's Complex Care Coalition of North Carolina (Path-4CNC), and a member of a Bass Connections team working to fulfill the goals of the North Carolina Early Childhood Action Plan (NC ECAP). She plans to become a developmental-behavioral pediatrician to combine her interests in clinical medicine, health policy, education policy, and child and adolescent development. This summer, Sophie will be continuing her work in support of the NC Early Childhood Action Plan.
Takhona Hlatshwako

Takhona Hlatshwako is an international student and Morehead-Cain scholar at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is pursuing a BSPH degree in health policy and management at the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health. She is interested in health policy, health equity, global health, and infectious diseases. Takhona has worked as a research assistant for the I-SHARE consortium, supporting teams at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Ghent University, and UNC Institute for Global Health and Infectious Diseases. The I-SHARE consortium is a global team investigating the impact of COVID-19 on sexual and reproductive health in 30+ countries. Upon graduation, Takhona hopes to pursue graduate studies in public health. Takhona has lived in four countries across three continents and hopes to add more to the list. This summer, Takhona will be researching low value care through different projects.
Mentors, thank you for taking the time this summer to support the 2021 Margolis Interns. With your support and mentorship, students will have the opportunity to gain foundational knowledge of the field of health policy, network with professionals and peers, gain hands-on research and presentation experience, and much more. Thank you for building positive relationships with our students, further strengthening the Margolis community.
Education Team

Gillian Sanders Schmidler, PhD
Deputy Director of Academics

Sarah Dunn Phillips, MA
Assistant Director for Education

Corinna Sorenson, PhD
Director of Graduate Initiatives

Janet Prvu Bettger, ScD, FAHA
Director of Undergraduate Initiatives

Julia Johnson
Program Coordinator

Richa Bhatt, MA
Program Coordinator

Andrea Thoumi, MPP, MSc
Health Equity Policy Fellow

Kamaria Kaalund
Health Equity Research Assistant