



Meet the 2020-2021 Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine Fellows

First years –
Class of 2023

Alexandra “Ale” McQuattie Hanrahan, MD

Undergrad & Medical School: *Universidad Central de Venezuela*
Residency: *McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University*

In Ale’s words:

1. One word that describes your co-fellows: *“One word is not enough! Fun, smart, hard-working, homies, friends! I can keep going!”*
2. Favorite thing to do on a day off in Chicago?: *“Walk around, people watching, picnic in the park!”*
3. Pizza – Deep Dish, or Thin Crust? *“Thin crust 100%”*
4. What are you looking forward to most in fellowship?:
“Learning from such an amazing team”
5. What is your favorite book, movie, musical, or TV Show?: *“This one is hard, too. Currently reading Hello Fears! I like all Harry Potter movies, and any action movies. I love Hamilton! And currently watching New Girl, and the last season of Lucifer!”*



Sydney Hyder, MD

Undergrad: *Haverford College*

Medical School: *Rutgers*

Residency: *Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania*

In Sydney's words:

1. One word that describes your co-fellows: *"down to earth (alright, it's three)"*
2. Favorite thing to do on a day off in Chicago?: *"Hopefully comedy when everything opens back up!!! For now, I like getting my steps in, so usually I'll be wandering a new neighborhood or walking along the Lakefront Trail"*
3. Pizza – Deep Dish, or Thin Crust? *"Thin Crust"*
4. What are you looking forward to most in fellowship?: *"Spending more time doing what I love! And all the procedures!"*
5. What is your favorite book, movie, musical, or TV Show?: *"Goodbye Columbus by Philip Roth (book); Saving Private Ryan (movie); Rent (musical); RuPaul's Drag Race (TV Show)"*



David Kidd, MD

Undergrad: *UCLA*

Medical School: *Johns Hopkins University*

Residency: *Johns Hopkins*

In David's words:

1. One word that describes your co-fellows: *"Fun"*
2. Favorite thing to do on a day off in Chicago?: *"Going for a jog or walk along the lake"*
3. Pizza – Deep Dish, or Thin Crust?: *"Deep dish, definitely"*
4. What are you looking forward to most in fellowship?: *"The opportunity to discover and explore clinical and research interests within PCCM"*
5. What is your favorite book, movie, musical, or TV Show?: *"Hamilton"*



Romy Lawrence, MD

Undergrad: *University of Cape Town*

Medical School: *University of the Witwatersrand Faculty of Health Sciences*

Residency: *Boston University*

In Romy's words:

1. One word that describes your co-fellows: *"The best! Really though, I've been blown away by how supportive and lovely everyone has been."*
2. Favorite thing to do on a day off in Chicago?: *"Bike ride/picnic/drinks along the lakefront. Basically anything on the lakefront."*
3. Pizza – Deep Dish, or Thin Crust?: *"Definitely thin. Although I must admit I haven't given deep dish a try."*
4. What are you looking forward to most in fellowship?: *"Making great friends and learning a ton of new skills."*
5. What is your favorite book, movie, musical, or TV Show?: *"Right now probably the TV Series 'Dark' (a German sci-fi thriller on Netflix)"*



Kaitlyn Vitale, MD

Undergrad: *University of Notre Dame*

Medical School: *Michigan State University College of Human Sciences*

Residency: *University of Michigan*

In Kaitlyn's words:

1. One word that describes your co-fellows: *"Crazy supportive. I know that's a two-word answer but we've honestly become so close so quickly and I know I can count on them for anything - from a coffee break to a discussion about patient care and everything in between."*
2. Favorite thing to do on a day off in Chicago?: *"Explore the city and the outdoor space with my fiancé and dog. The lakeshore is a personal favorite."*
3. Pizza – Deep Dish, or Thin Crust? *"Thin crust."*
4. What are you looking forward to most in fellowship?: *"Learning everything I can about PCCM, becoming a stronger clinician, improving my teaching skills, and developing lifelong mentors and friends with the incredible folks here."*
5. What is your favorite book, movie, musical, or TV Show?: *"The Great British Bake-Off"*



Second years –
Class of 2022

Joseph “Joe” Bailey, MD

Undergrad: *University of Chicago*

Medical School: *Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine*

Residency: *New York Presbyterian (Cornell)*

Long term outcomes of severe pneumonia

- Research Mentor: Dr. Richard Wunderink

In Joe’s words:

1. One word that describes your co-fellows: *“Helpful”*
2. Favorite thing to do on a day off in Chicago?: *“Go to the Botanical Gardens! They’re amazing!”*
3. Pizza – Deep Dish, or Thin Crust?: *“Thin crust, definitely. I eat at Piece Pizza roughly once a week.”*
4. What are you looking forward to most in fellowship?: *“Gaining independence in the ICU.”*
5. What is your favorite book, movie, musical, or TV Show?: *“Futurama (TV Show)”*



Catherine “Cathy” Gao-Howard, MD

Undergrad: *Northwestern University*

Medical School: *University of Michigan*

Residency: *Yale New Haven*

Leveraging big data to inform ICU outcomes research

- Research Mentor: Dr. Richard Wunderink

In Cathy's words:

1. One word that describes your co-fellows: *“awesome”*
2. Favorite thing to do on a day off in Chicago?: *“writing”*
3. Pizza – Deep Dish, or Thin Crust?: *“neither”*
4. What are you looking forward to most in fellowship?: *“winning the 'most bronchoscopies' contest”*
5. What is your favorite book, movie, musical, or TV Show?: *“authors I enjoy include Murakami, Ishiguro, Lahiri. I also love video games - Fortnite, Counterstrike, StarCraft; just beat The Last of Us II and working through Jedi: Fallen Order”*



Anthony “Tony” Joudi, MD

Undergrad: *University of California, Davis*

Medical School: *Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine*

Residency: *UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine*

Laboratory-based study of mechanisms underlying regulatory T-cell differentiation, epigenetics, and process of inflammation resolution.

- Research Mentor: Dr. Benjamin Singer

In Tony’s words:

1. One word that describes your co-fellows:
2. Favorite thing to do on a day off in Chicago?:
3. Pizza – Deep Dish, or Thin Crust?:
4. What are you looking forward to most in fellowship?:
5. What is your favorite book, movie, musical, or TV Show?:



Gabrielle “Gabby” Liu, MD

Undergrad: *University of California, Berkeley*

Medical School: *University of Chicago*

Residency: *University of California, San Francisco*

Identification of predictors of early interstitial lung disease using the CARDIA cohort

- Research Mentor: Dr. Ravi Kalhan

In Gabby's words:

1. One word that describes your co-fellows: *“Trustworthy”*
2. Favorite thing to do on a day off in Chicago?: *“Brunch on a patio followed by a swim in Lake Michigan”*
3. Pizza – Deep Dish, or Thin Crust?: *“Thin crust.”*
4. What are you looking forward to most in fellowship?: *“Being able to do happy hour with my co-fellows again!”*
5. What is your favorite book, movie, musical, or TV Show?:
*“*Current* TV obsession: Dark.”*



Daniel Meza, MD

Undergrad: *Valparaiso University*

Medical School: *University of Illinois at Chicago*

Residency: *University of Chicago*

Ethical dilemmas in the care of patients with COVID-19, variations in COPD epidemiology and care in Chicago neighborhoods.

- Research Mentor: Dr. Ravi Kalhan

In Daniel's words:

1. One word that describes your co-fellows: *"Real ones"*
2. Favorite thing to do on a day off in Chicago?: *"Patio eating/drinking (pre-covid); Neighborhood walks (covid)"*
3. Pizza – Deep Dish, or Thin Crust?: *"Chicago [tavern style](#)"*
4. What are you looking forward to most in fellowship?: *"Being able to learn from world renowned clinicians/researchers, while continuing to work on improving health disparities"*
5. What is your favorite book, movie, musical, or TV Show?: *"Have not read a book in over a year. The Oceans movies (8, 11, 12, 13); Book of Mormon (musical), The Office (TV Show) – key quote, 'sometimes I'll start a sentence and I don't even know where it's going. I just hope I find it along the way' – Michael Scott."*



Taylor Poor, MD

Undergrad: *Wabash College*

Medical School: *Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine*

Residency: *McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University*

Physician Scientist Training Program Fellow

Using murine models to study the role of immune cell mitochondria in both the acute inflammatory phase, and the subsequent tissue repair phase of influenza infection.

Conducting metabolic analyses of bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) fluid obtained from critically ill patients with COVID-19

- Research Mentor: Dr. Navdeep Chandel

See some of Taylor's work [here](#)

In Taylor's words:

1. What one word would you use to describe the program? *"Supportive"*
2. What is your favorite memory from fellowship? *"How the fellowship came together in the spring of 2020 in response to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. Not a fun time, but I think it brought out the best of us."*
3. What is the fellowship's biggest strength? *"The people who make up the division"*
4. Pizza: Deep dish or thin crust? *"Thin crust. Robert's pizza FTW!"*
5. Favorite thing to do on a day off in Chicago? *"Going rock climbing. Post-pandemic: running along the lakefront"*
6. One word that describes your co-fellows? *"Fun!"*



Third years –
Class of 2021

Joseph “Joe” Deters, MD

Undergrad: *University of Notre Dame*

Medical School: *University of Cincinnati College of Medicine*

Residency: *Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center*

Co-Chief Fellow

He has a strong interest in medical education and is currently completing the Medical Educator Clinical Scholars certificate program. During his second year in fellowship, he was selected as a trainee member of the Feinberg Academy of Medical Educators (FAME). He recently received an ACGME Back to Bedside Grant to implement a COVID-ICU survivors conference and is currently working with his research mentor to develop a formal point of care ultrasound curriculum for the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine Critical Care Medicine clerkship.

- Research Mentor: Dr. Khalilah Gates

See some of Joe’s work [here](#)

In Joe’s words:

1. What one word would you use to describe the program? *“Motivating”*
2. What is your favorite memory from fellowship? *“Winning the Mayo Bronchoscopy Course Bell as first years”*
3. What is the fellowship’s biggest strength? *“Devoted teaching faculty and the comradery and friendships among the fellows”*
4. Pizza: Deep dish or thin crust? *“Deep dish (Art of Pizza, Lakeview)”*
5. Favorite thing to do on a day off in Chicago? *“Hollywood beach in the summer, Shedd Aquarium/Art Institute in the winter”*
6. One word that describes your co-fellows? *“Impressive”*



Luisa Morales Nebreda, MD

Undergrad & Medical School: *Universidad Central de Venezuela*
Residency: *McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University*

Physician Scientist Training Program Fellow
F32 National Research Service Award

Investigating molecular mechanisms underpinning the age-related, regulatory T-cell-specific loss of pro-repair phenotype during recovery from viral pneumonia.

- Research Mentor: Dr. Benjamin Singer

See some of Luisa's work [here](#)

In Luisa's words:

1. What one word would you use to describe the program? *"Awesome"*
2. What is your favorite memory from fellowship? *"Bronchoscopy and ultrasound courses were great learning activities and provided valuable bonding time with co-fellows"*
3. What is the fellowship's biggest strength? *"Many resources and opportunities available within the Division and Department that help trainees navigate different career paths and ultimately tailor their clinical and research training to their goal"*
4. Pizza: Deep dish or thin crust? *"Thin crust"*
5. Favorite thing to do on a day off in Chicago? *"Bike ride on lake front path"*
6. One word that describes your co-fellows? *"Fun"*



Ruben Mylvaganam, MD

Undergrad: *Boston College*

Medical School: *New York University School of Medicine*

Residency: *Icahn School of Medicine at Mt Sinai*

T32 Lung Sciences Training Program

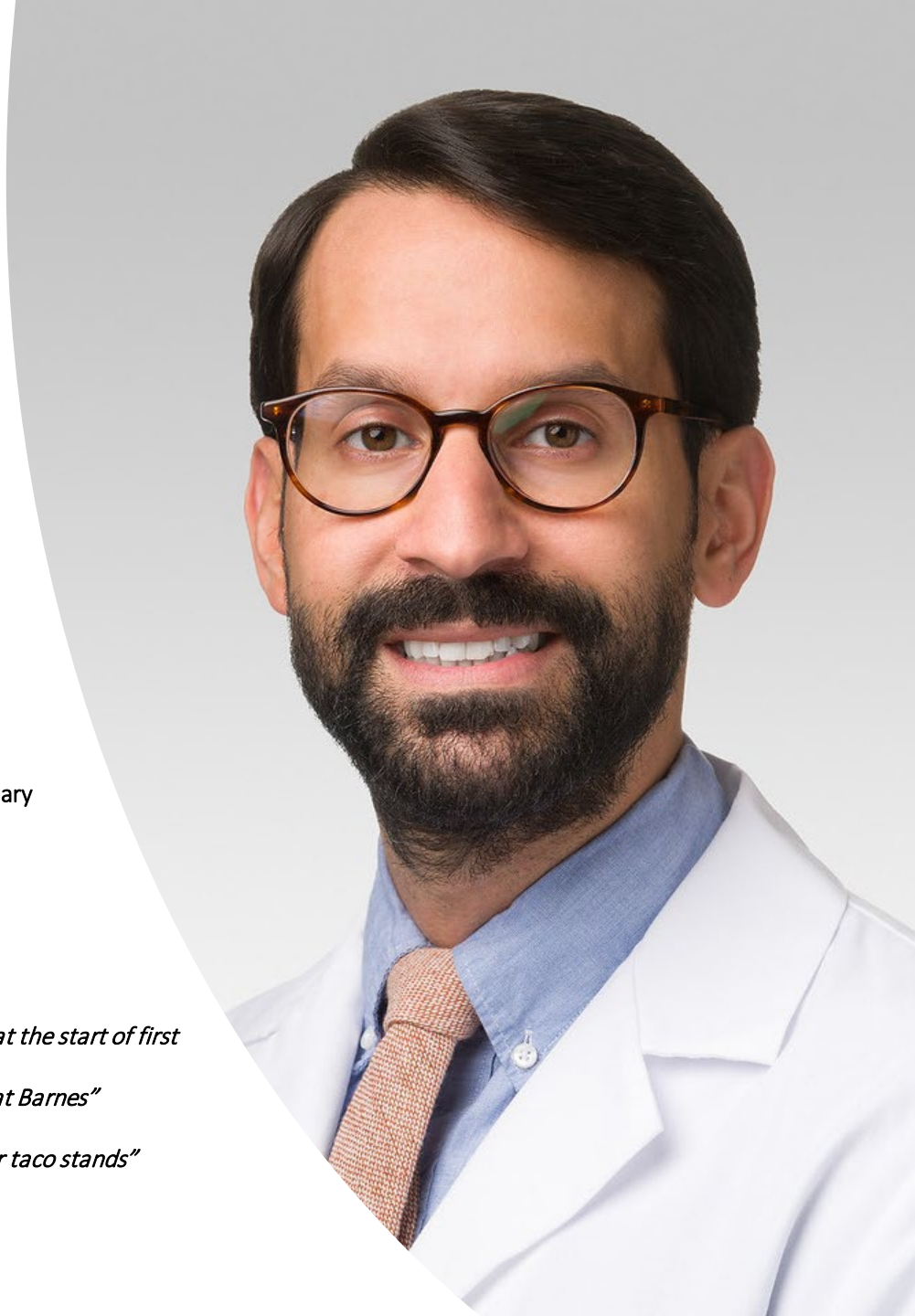
Dr. Mylvaganam has investigated surrogate echocardiographic markers of improvement after treatment for sub-massive pulmonary embolism, the implications of immunotherapy on right ventricular dysfunction, and is now studying predictors of response and outcomes for patients undergoing interventional or surgical management for chronic thromboembolic pulmonary hypertension.

- Research Mentor: Dr. Michael Cuttica

See some of Ruben's work [here](#)

In Ruben's words:

1. What one word would you use to describe the program? *"Engaging"*
2. What is your favorite memory from fellowship? *"Bronchoscopy course at the start of first year"*
3. What is the fellowship's biggest strength? *"Our program coordinator Kat Barnes"*
4. Pizza: Deep dish or thin crust? *"Thin"*
5. Favorite thing to do on a day off in Chicago? *"Explore microbreweries or taco stands"*
6. One word that describes your co-fellows? *"Down-to-Earth"*



Chiagozie “ChiChi” Pickens, MD

Undergrad: *The Ohio State University*

Medical School: *Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine*

Residency: *McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University*

Co-Chief Fellow

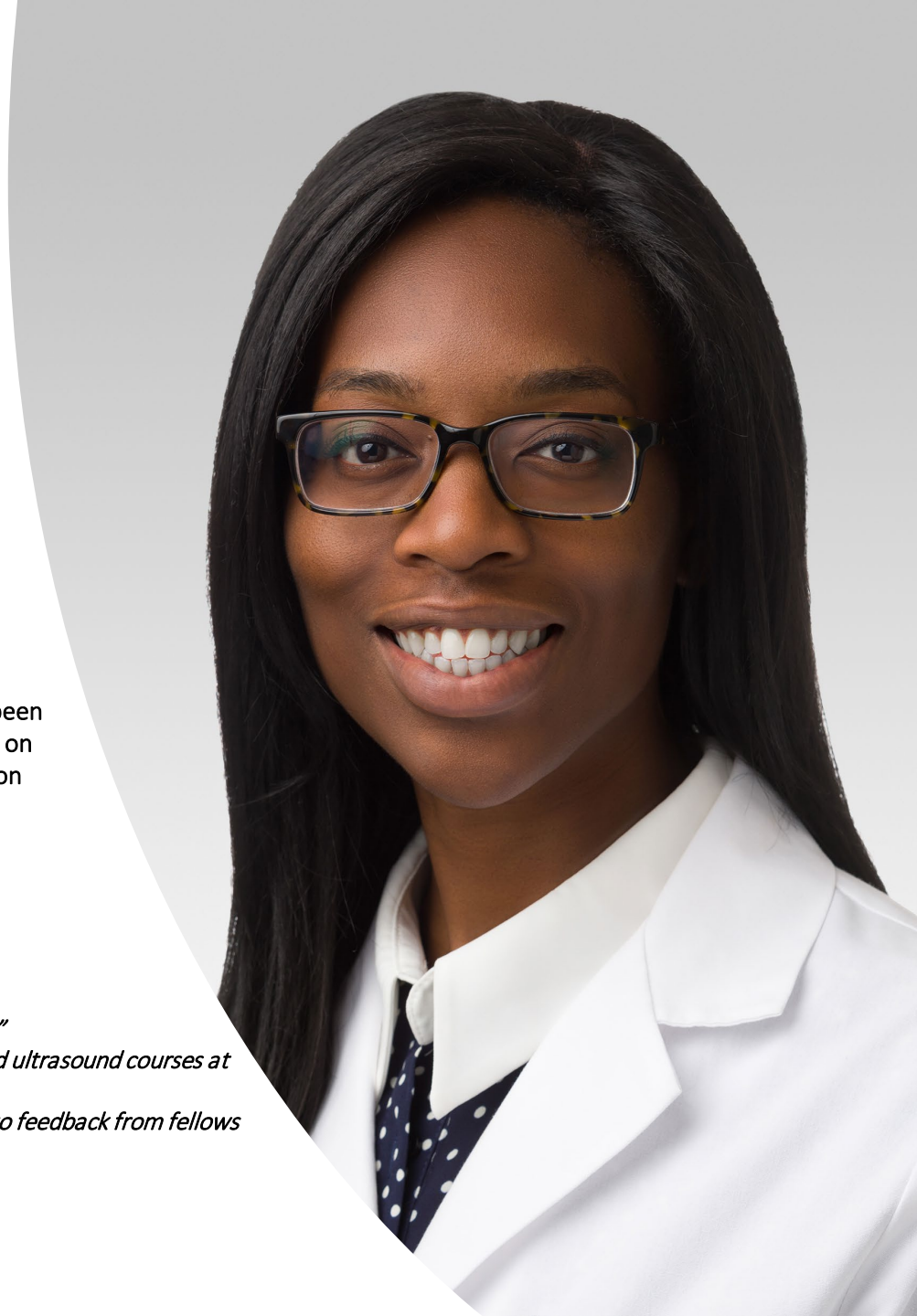
Member of the Successful Clinical Response in Pneumonia Treatment (SCRIPT) research group led by Dr. Richard Wunderink. Dr. Pickens has been instrumental in the design and implementation of a clinical trial focused on the impact of a multiplex nucleic acid amplification diagnostic platform on antimicrobial stewardship in patients with severe community-acquired pneumonia.

- Research Mentor: Dr. Richard Wunderink

See some of Chiagozie's work [here](#)

In ChiChi's words:

1. What one word would you use to describe the program? *“Educational”*
2. What is your favorite memory from fellowship? *“The bronchoscopy and ultrasound courses at the start 1st year”*
3. What is the fellowship's biggest strength? *“The fellowship is receptive to feedback from fellows and makes changes to ensure we feel supported.”*
4. Pizza: Deep dish or thin crust? *“Deep dish”*
5. Favorite thing to do on a day off in Chicago? *“Go to a park”*
6. One word that describes your co-fellows? *“Collaborative”*



Alexis “Ali” Wolfe, MD

Undergrad: *Duke University*

Medical School: *Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine*

Residency: *The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center*

Dr. Wolfe completed residency training in both Emergency Medicine and Internal Medicine. Her scholarly work during fellowship has focused on quality improvement in the MICU. She recently completed a study of peripheral nerve injuries following the use of prone positioning for COVID-19-associated ARDS and is currently working with an interprofessional team to implement strategies to further improve the safety of our proning protocol.

- Research Mentor: Dr. Susan Russell

See some of Alexis’ work [here](#)

In Ali’s words:

1. What one word would you use to describe the program? *“Flexible”*
2. What is your favorite memory from fellowship? *“Going to the Mayo bronchoscopy course and the Iowa Ultrasound course at the beginning of fellowship and getting to spend time with my new co-fellows in a relaxed environment.”*
3. What is the fellowship’s biggest strength? *“Being able to support fellows with a wide variety of interests, from basic science research to quality improvement initiatives to medical education projects.”*
4. Pizza: Deep dish or thin crust?: *“Thin crust (don’t tell my native Chicagoan husband)”*
5. Favorite thing to do on a day off in Chicago? *“Going to Lincoln Park with my kids. We love running around the park, going to the zoo, and walking across the bridge to play at the beachfront (and it’s all free!).”*
6. One word that describes your co-fellows? *“Selfless”*

