

# MedStAR Program Summer Training Evaluation Report

Project Year 3 (2022 – 2023)



***University of Washington  
Medical Student Addiction Research  
Training Program***

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*The purpose of this report is to provide the MedStAR Program’s decision makers and other stakeholders necessary information to make improvements to the delivery of the program for the upcoming year. Recommendations made in this report are only ideas which are open for discussion and consideration.*

*The reported information was collected via an internally developed final evaluation survey delivered using UW-ITHS’s REDCap servers. This report also provides information collected via the MedStAR 2023 Application on the incoming 2023 MedStAR Student cohort and other students who applied in the fall of 2022. Cumulative demographic and frequency tables along with feedback summary notes can be found in the appendix*

*This report was drafted by Program Coordinator and Program Data Analyst. Photos are courtesy of University of Washington’s Photography collection.*

# 2022 MedStAR Cohort

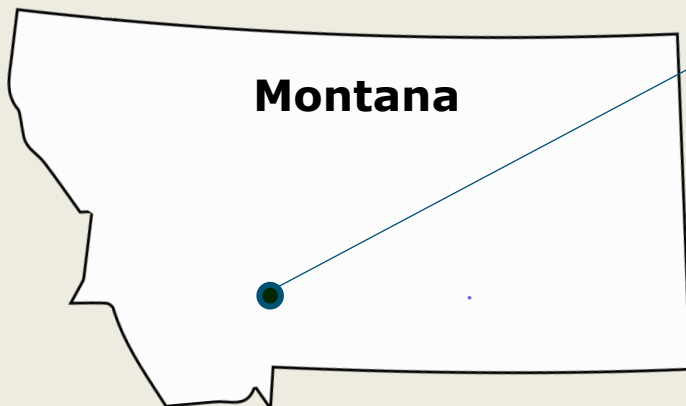
The following figures highlight the 2022 MedStAR students' UWSOM WWAMI Foundation Sites, project topics and mentors.

All UWSOM Foundation Sites except Idaho and Wyoming were represented.



## **Ariana Gross (Alaska)**

Variations in pre-exposure prophylaxis outcomes among gender and sexually diverse United States Veterans who use drugs  
Research Mentors: Dr. Emily Williams  
Clinical Mentor: Dr. Amy Kennedy



## **Darcie Caldwell (Montana)**

How does the treatment (e.g., number of visits, services provided) received by patients living in counties with and without a clinician with a DEA waiver to prescribe buprenorphine differ?" Commercial Data  
Research Mentor: Dr. Laura-Mae Baldwin  
Clinical Mentor: Dr Sara Jackson

# 2022 MedStAR Cohort, cont.

## **Sophie Morse (Spokane, WA)**

Naloxone Distribution, Program Evaluation of the UW Medicine's Emergency Department response to Washington State Bill 5195

Research Mentor: Dr. Lauren Whiteside  
Clinical Mentor: Dr. Sarah Leyde

## **Brian Lusby (Seattle, WA)**

Barriers and facilitators to engagement in peer-delivered substance use treatment – a cross-cultural examination

Research Mentor: Dr. Helen Jack  
Clinical Mentor: Dr. James Darnton

## **Mylinh (Linh) Le (Seattle, WA)**

Attitudes toward naloxone uptake for opioid overdose prevention in a national sample of substance-using people at high risk for HIV

Research Mentor: Dr. Joanne Stekler  
Clinical Mentor: Dr. Jared Klein

## **Ché Ross (Seattle, WA)**

Prescribed Opioids and Neurocognitive Status Among American Indian Elders: Data From The Strong Heart Study

Research Mentor: Dr. Judith Tsui  
Clinical Mentor: Dr. Jared Klein

## **Megan Yerton (Seattle, WA)**

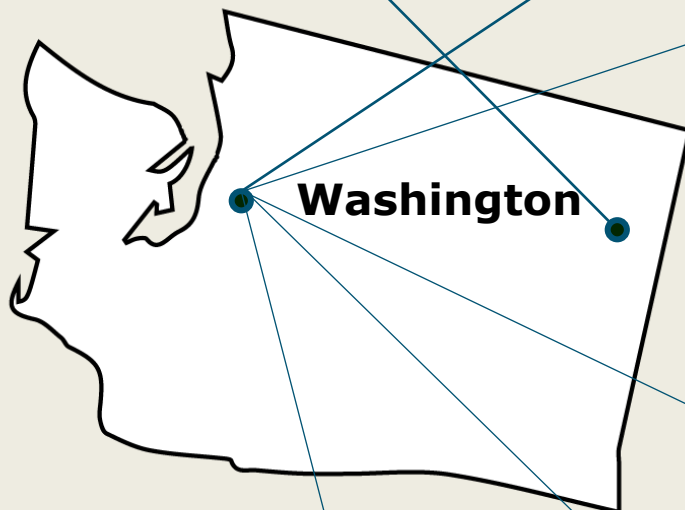
Characterizing medications, mental health diagnoses, and behavioral health services in primary care patients with methamphetamine use disorder.

Research Mentor: Dr. Kevin Hallgren  
Clinical Mentor: Dr. Matt Iles-Shih

## **Daniel Tolstrup (Seattle, WA)**

Behavioral and biological correlates of harmful and hazardous alcohol use in female sex workers in Mombasa, Kenya

Research Mentor: Dr. Susan Graham  
Clinical Mentor: Dr. Jocelyn James



# 2022 Student Demographics and Diversity

2022 Cohort	
<b>Sex</b>	
Female	5/8 (63%)
Male	3/8 (38%)
<b>Race</b>	
Asian/Asian American	1/8 (13%)
Black/African American	0/8 (0%)
Native American/Alaskan Native	1/8 (13%)
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0/8 (0%)
White/Caucasian	6/8 (75%)
Multi-Racial	0/8 (0%)
<b>Hispanic Ethnicity</b>	1/8 (13%)
<b>Disadvantage Backgrounds</b>	
Two or more options selected	2/8 (25%)
Parent/legal guardian with no 4-year degree	1/8 (13%)
Received/qualified for Federal Pell Grants	2/8 (25%)
Received support from SSNP WIC as child or parent	2/8 (25%)
Grew up in Rural Area	2/8 (25%)
Experienced Homelessness (past or currently)	0/8 (0%)



# MedStAR Summer Training Block

*MedStAR Program Aim 1 - "Train 6 - 8 medical students during 9 - week summer block"*

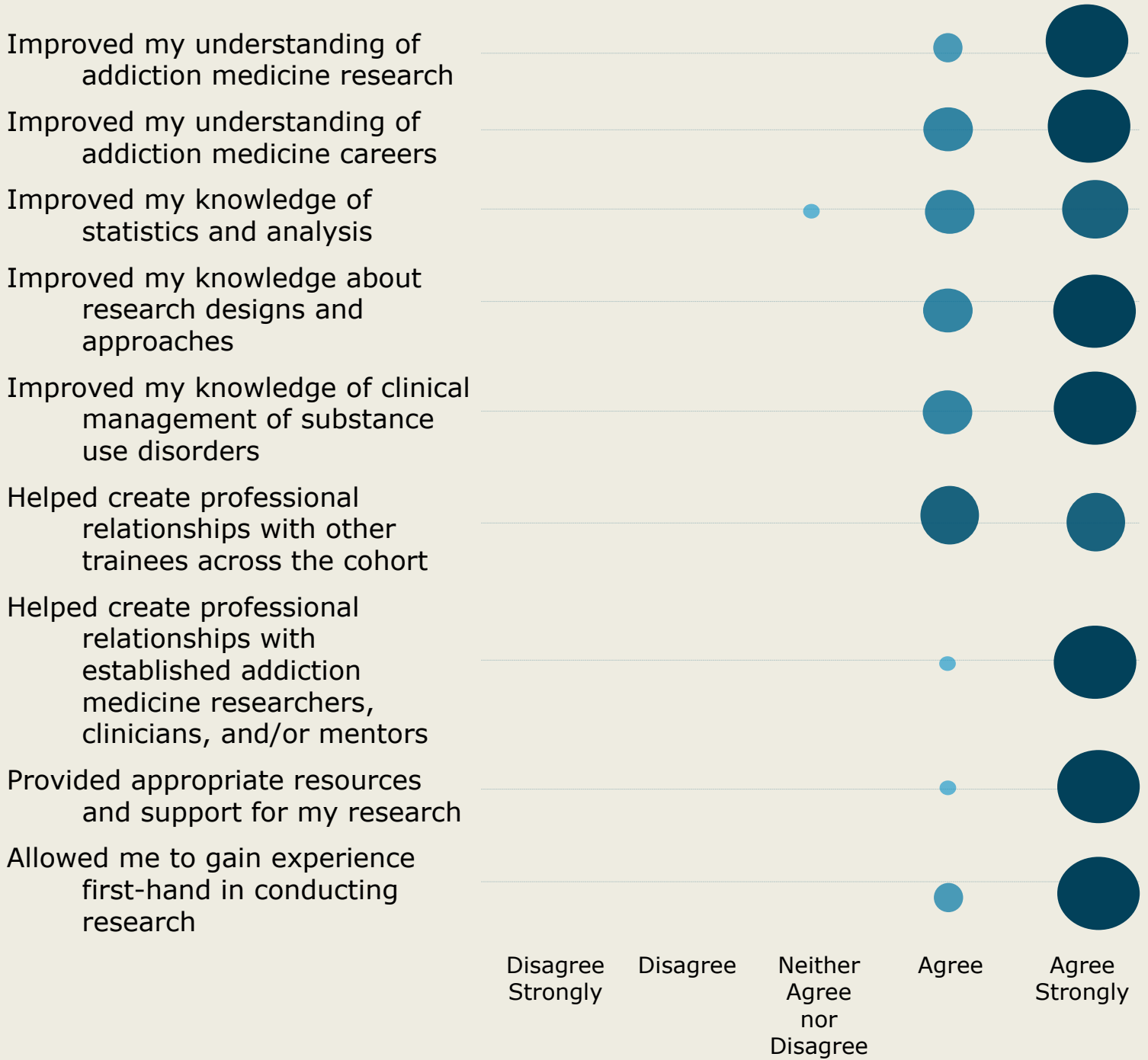
The 2022 was predominately an in-person experience, the program was successfully implemented for students to attend virtually as needed.

The figure on the following page showcases students' thoughts and opinions regarding the 9-week summer training block. Student feedback was generally very positive.

"The resources provided were extremely helpful and I felt very supported."

*Student Quote*

# The MedStAR Summer Block...





# Summer Online Trainings

*MedStAR Program Aim 1 Objective 2 – "To offer access to resources that enable medical students to acquire a knowledge of basic research methodology and to understand challenges and methods that are unique to SUD related research."*

Trainings	Description	Stated Goal	2022 Outcome
SARET	5 Web-based modular trainings regarding core concepts of clinical research that address a variety of addiction related topics.	> 100% Completion (8/8)	100% Goal Achieved (exceeded by +20%)
BRI	Training/lectures to help scientists acquire skills, knowledge and value for ethical conduct of research attendance at 3 lectures	100% (8/8)	100% Goal Achieved
CITI	IRB requirement for students conducting human subjects research	100% (8/8)	100% Goal Achieved



Although some students needed extra time - **all students were able to complete all required online trainings within the 9 weeks.**

**86%**

of 2022 MedStAR Cohort reported that the SARET, BRI, and AOD trainings increased their knowledge.

### *Student Quotes*

"I really loved all the connections and the supports! "

When asked if they would recommend MedStAR "Yes absolutely! It was an amazing experience to be supported in getting more research skills, meeting mentors, and developing more skills and knowledge for clinical treatments of substance use disorders."

### **Key Takeaways & Recommendations**

- Encourage better journal club attendance—one student said "I think they were really helpful but attendance was typically poor which felt disrespectful to the clinicians donating their time and slowed down the conversations a bit."
- Creating more in person opportunities/work parties.
- Modify the lectures to make them more advanced.
- Do SARET during the zoom lecture lunch hour. It is also not a user-friendly website. I only really liked/learned from the authorship lecture in the BRI lectures.



# Summer Afternoon Academic Half Days

*MedStAR Program Aim 1 Objective 2 – "To offer access to resources that enable medical students to acquire a knowledge of basic research methodology and to understand challenges and methods that are unique to SUD related research."*

As part of the resources offered, the program provided 9 weekly academic half day lectures over a total of 27 hours to students. **This past summer – the program exceeded our targeted > 80% student academic half day lecture attendance goal.**

Students enjoyed lectures with patient case discussions and peer recovery coaches'

Students shared that more guidance and involvement on Statistical aspects and learning the ins and outs of statistical modeling would be helpful. One student said they would have liked the lectures to be more advanced.

Students expressed a desire to have someplace to meet in person to help focus and build comradery.



# Program Mentorship

*MedStAR Aim 2 Objective 2 – Establish longitudinal mentoring relationships and build networks of Addiction Medicine oriented peers and mentors, both locally and nationally*

Throughout the 9-weeks, students met with their research mentors once either monthly or quarterly, and one student reported meeting with their research mentor more than once per month.

Students met with their clinical mentors at least every other week, except 1 student reported meeting with their clinical mentor less than quarterly during the summer.

Mentors received high regard and praise for their helpfulness throughout the summer. Students shared that mentors clearly cared about the education students received and had a balanced approach to learning vs. efficiency in reaching the research goals. See next page for final evaluation ratings of MedStAR mentor.

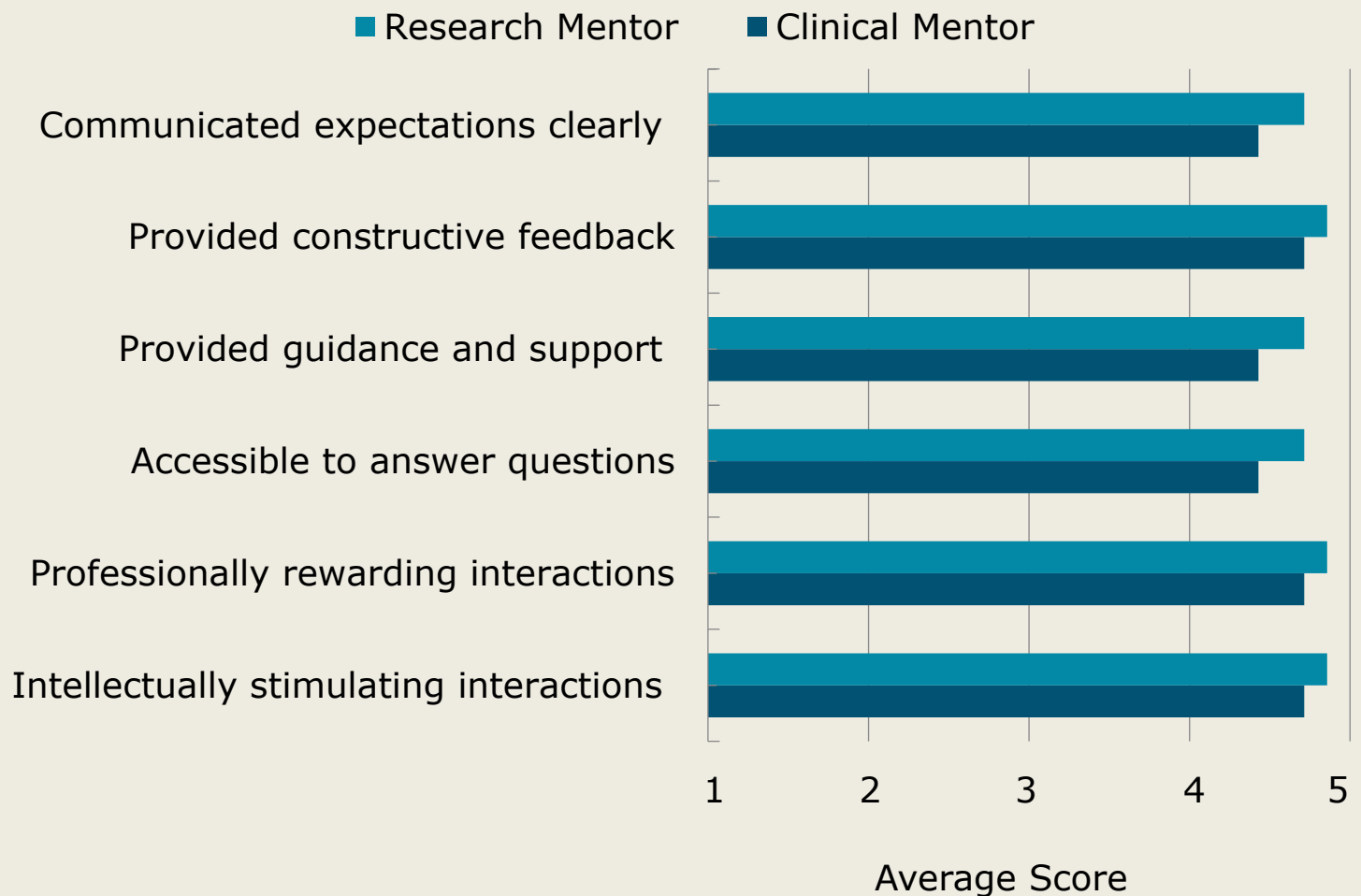
"My favorite part was clinical shadowing as it allowed me to better understand addiction."

*Student  
Quote*

"Shadowing clinicians who work with pts who have SUD. Having WIP feedback from peers. The continuous aspect of the program. Shout out to research and clinical mentors who are paired up PERFECTLY!!! Linda Robbins and Dr. Tsui are amazing at making this program a reality."

*Student Quote*

# MedStAR 2022 Student Ratings of Mentors



## Key Takeaways & Recommendations

- Propose students create Individual Student Development Plans related to student's professional goals used as a guide when working with mentors; and
- Provide clinical mentors talking points related to online trainings and lectures to assist in conversation starters.



# Student Cohort Projects

*MedSTAR Aim 1 Objective 1 – To create opportunities for mentored research projects so that medical students may obtain firsthand experience in clinical research related to substance use and SUDs*

8 students felt quite a bit to extremely confident in seeing their project to completion, and 8 reported being quite a bit satisfied with state of their project by the end of the 9-week summer block.

**In the final evaluation 7/8 (88%) reported that the program was about the amount of work they expected.**

5 students reported that the amount of training offered on general principles of statistical analysis was *'just right'*, while 3 said *'somewhat too little'*.

8/8 (100%) reported that the amount of training offered on scholarly writing and academic publication was *'just right'*.

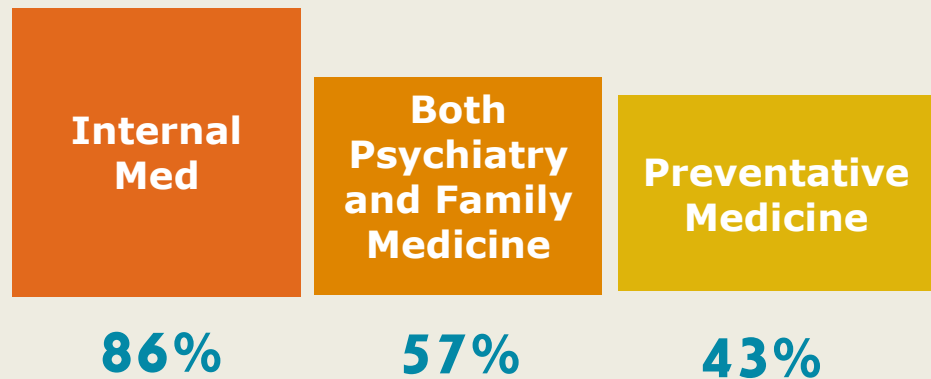


# 2022 MedStAR Summer Block Report Conclusion

There was a range of interest in pursuing fellowships. 2 students reported being *'extremely interested'*, while 4 reported being *'very interested'*, 1 *'moderately interested'* and 1 *'slightly interested'* in pursuing future Addiction Medicine fellowships.

**75% of the students were *'extremely interested'*, *'very interested'* in pursuing research as part of their future careers after completion of the 9-weeks.**

## Top Residencies of Interest



Overall, students seemed to enjoy the 9-weeks, the mentorship they received and the education that was provided. The program received many gracious compliments and kudos for the coordination and implementation of the quintessential 9-week training block.

"1000%! Wonderful way to learn about both addiction medicine and research, and to interact with other students and professionals in the field"

*Student Quote*



# 2023 MedStAR Student Cohort

The following information has been provided regarding the 2023 MedStAR student cohort:

- Student Name and WWAMI Site Location
- Matched Research Mentor
- Applicant and Selected Cohort Demographics

This information should be considered for clinical mentor matching, future efforts related to increasing diversity among student applicant pools, and the creation of 2023 9-week summer block curriculum and lecture topics.

# MedStAR 2023

## Student Cohorts and Research Mentors

Clinical Mentor matches will occur in Spring of 2023

### Wyoming

Jenni Ebersberger – Dr. Sara Glick

### Montana

Karissa Tu – Dr. Sebastian Tong

### Spokane

Nathaniel Lohman – Dr. Susan Graham

Taylor Buck – Dr. Julie Dombrowski

### Seattle

Abigail Melton – Dr. Emily Williams

Amelia Mohabir – Dr. Judith Tsui

Skye Holm – Dr. Mary Hatch

Elizabeth (Winter) Forsyth – Dr. Helen Jack



