

SALUTATIONS

NEWSLETTER OF DREXEL UNIVERSITY, ELKINS PARK CAMPUS

September 2025

Full Circle Journey: PCO Alum, Dr. Ibrionke, Steps Into Dean's Role

When Josephine Ibrionke, OD '03, Resident '04, MPH, FAAO, was a student at the Pennsylvania College of Optometry (PCO), she worked for the note-taking service (NTS) on campus. She would take notes in class, edit them, and then copy and distribute them to students' mailboxes.



As the new dean of her alma mater, she's now come full circle, rising from the copy room to the C-suite. PCO, she said, is where futures are made.

"I am honored to return as dean because of the impact PCO has had on my life. I want our students to be able to see that," said Dr. Ibrionke, who officially started her duties as dean Sept.15, 2025. [Read more.](#)



[Guatemala Service Trip Transforms Physician Assistant Students](#)

Marisa Hellmuth '26PA believes that while medical knowledge can be taught in a classroom, true medical care is discovered and developed through hands-on patient experiences.

And boy, did Hellmuth get a real-time example of that coming true. She recently gained firsthand

experience in patient care during a service trip to Guatemala with fellow students from the Salus at Drexel University [Physician Assistant \(PA\) Studies Program](#) in the College of Medicine Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies.

From August 16-23, the Drexel group traveled to Zacapa, Guatemala, for a service trip sponsored by the humanitarian organization Hearts in Motion, bringing together 16 students from the Class of 2026 and three faculty members. In addition, the contingent included several other health care professionals and some non-medical volunteers. Over the course of the week, the team provided care to 387 patients across five different communities. [Read more.](#)

LOOK FOR THE RETURN OF PCO WORLD IN THE COMING MONTHS

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[Where Are They Now: Sophie Wollman, \(SLP\), MS '23](#)



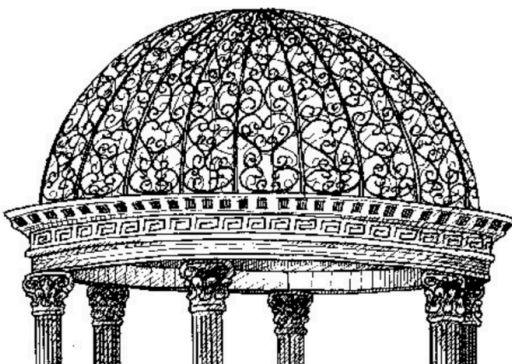
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