

COURSE DIRECTOR/FACULTY TEACHING BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Follow this format for all faculty course directors (For courses directed by program leadership use the Program Directors/Co-Directors or other Program Leadership form).

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NAME: Karigynn Chaimson MS, MGC, CGC

INSTITUTION POSITION TITLE: Pediatric Genetic Counselor/Assistant in Pediatric Genetics

GRADUATE PROGRAM POSITION TITLE: Course Director

EDUCATION/TRAINING: (Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable.)

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
University of Wisconsin-Madison	Bachelor Science	05/2018	Biology and Spanish with a certificate in Global Health
University of Wisconsin-Madison	Master of Science	05/2020	Bacteriology
Vanderbilt University	Master of Genetic Counseling	05/2022	Genetic Counseling

A. Course Title(s)

- GC6515- Medical Genetics 2
- GC7500- Topics
- Integrated Case, part of Genetic Counseling Pre-Practicum (GC7510)

B. Please provide a brief statement of expertise and/or skill set that you offer for students taking the course(s) you are responsible for teaching (Standard A2.5.2).

Prior to beginning my current role as a course director for the Vanderbilt genetic counseling program, I have had five years of experience teaching undergraduate and graduate students science topics and how to effectively communicate scientific ideas and concepts. I spent two years as a graduate teaching assistant for an undergraduate honors biology program in which I helped students practice their scientific communication skills in multiple forms including posters, presentations, and papers. I had such success with these courses that I was nominated and selected to be a Comm-B teaching fellow. As a teaching fellow, I led sessions to teach other graduate teaching assistants how to teach scientific concepts and communication most effectively. Additionally, I pursued a STEM teaching certificate, which I completed with honors. I have created and led a 3-week mini-course on practical genetics for students in our NP program here at Vanderbilt. These experiences have helped prepare me to be an effective and successful instructor/course director for our genetic counseling students,

particularly when it comes to helping them learn genetics concepts and how to communicate these concepts to patients and other providers.

I came into my course director role with the Vanderbilt MGC program having recently completed the program as a student. Having been trained here, I have a unique perspective when it comes to successful ways to learn the course material, as well as ways in which our current curriculum could adapt and evolve to best meet our students' needs. I was also a graduate teaching assistant for one of the courses that I will now co-direct, Medical Genetics 2, which has given me insight into the curriculum and teaching strategies for this course.

As a pediatric genetic counselor, I have experience with a wide variety of genetic conditions and have had lots of experience with variant interpretation, working within a multidisciplinary team and on a specialty team (Differences in Sex Development) and providing inpatient genetic counseling services. This wide array of experience I gain through my GC role equips me to educate students on a wide variety of conditions/topics.

Finally, having now completed my first year as a course director, I intend to continue obtaining training to support the development of my teaching skills. I will be participating in the "Becoming a Better Educator Series" through Vanderbilt University Medical Center, as well as program/course-specific training with the MGC program. I strive to continue to improve the classes I direct and my skills as an educator.

C. Positions, certification, and honors (*include dates*):

I. Positions and employment:

- Assistant in Pediatric Genetics, Department of Pediatric Vanderbilt University Medical Center, September 2022-Present
- Genetic Counselor/Assistant in Pediatric Genetics, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, September 2022-Present
- Program Support for Master of Genetic Counseling Program, Vanderbilt University, Summer 2022

II. Certification (please include specific field)

- American Board of Genetic Counseling, Inc., Board Certified Genetic Counselor, August 2022, expires August 2027
- Licensed Genetic Counselor in Tennessee as of August 2023

D. Please list your Teaching/Mentorship/Clinical Supervision/Leadership Activities. (*within the last 5 years*):

- **Course Director** for Master of Genetic Counseling Program Courses:
 - GC7500: Topics in Clinical Genetics, August 2023-Present
 - GC6515: Medical Genetics 2, August 2023-Present
 - Lead facilitator for Integrated Case, part of Pre-Practicum
- **Guest Lecturer**, Foundations of Genetics and Genomics (GC6500), Master of Genetic Counseling Program, October 2023
- **Clinical supervisor** for genetic counseling students during their pediatric/general genetics rotations, January 2023- present
- **Genetics Unit Instructor**, N6602 Developmental/Neonatal Physiology, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, August/September 2022
- **Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Medical Genetics 2, Master of Genetic Counseling Program, Spring 2022
- **Comm-B Teaching Assistant Fellow**, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Winter 2019- 2020
- An Introduction to Evidence-Based Undergraduate STEM **Teaching Certificate**, with distinction, Summer 2019
- **Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Biology Core Curriculum (Biocore-Honors Biology), University of Wisconsin-Madison
 - Biocore 382: Ecology, Evolution, and Genetics Lab, Fall 2019

- Biocore 384: Cellular Biology Lab, Spring 2019, Spring 2020

E. Professional Activities (*Within the last 5 years*):

- Vanderbilt MGCP Admissions Committee Member, August 2022-Present
- Tennessee Genetic Counselor Association (TNGCA) Outreach Committee Member, Jan 2023-present
- National Society of Genetic Counselors, August 2021-present

F. Research, funded grants and/or scholastic endeavors including accepted abstracts and other publications: (*Please only include accomplishments from the last 5 years*):

- **Article in Referred Journal:** Ellis-Connell AL, Balgeman AJ, Kannal NM, **Hansen Chaimson K**, Batchenkova A, Safrit JT, O'Connor SL. IL-15 Superagonist N-803 Enhances IFN- γ Production of MAIT Cells in SIV+ Macaques. *Infect Immun.* 2022 Oct 20;90(10):e0025922. doi: 10.1128/iai.00259-22. Epub 2022 Oct 3. PMID: 36190256; PMCID: PMC9584292.
 - **Abstract: Hansen Chaimson, K.,** Mann, C., Slamon, J., Guillard, A., Patel, S., Hooker, G., Zhao, Zhiguo., Identification of soft marker(s) following pregnant individuals' decision to decline prenatal aneuploidy screening: influences on patient decision-making. Presented at NSGC. November 2022.