

## MPH Alumni Take Leadership Roles in ECU Graduate Programs

The Department of Public Health strives to train our students to be leaders in their chosen endeavors. We are proud to have two of our recent MPH alumni currently serving in leadership capacities within their respective academic programs!



Kari Beasley graduated from the MPH program in Spring 2017 with a concentration in Epidemiology. During her time in our program, she worked as a graduate assistant with Dr. Suzanne Lea and did her internship with Dr. Shakira Henderson in the Vidant Center for Research and Grants. Her work in that office led to a full-time job, which she held until 2019.

Kari decided to continue in her formal education and was accepted into the Class of 2023 for the Brody School of Medicine. Kari was selected as President for her class by her classmates. In this role, Kari serves as the spokesperson for her class, representing the students on the Brody Student Council and to the Associate Dean for Student Affairs, Dr. Susan Schmidt. In this role, Kari has been instrumental in leading efforts to develop programs to support students through the challenges of medical school, including creating peer support groups and establishing positive student environment initiatives.



Taras Grinchak graduated from the MPH program in Spring 2018 with a concentration in Epidemiology. During his time in the program, Taras also worked in the Vidant Center for Research and Grants as well as the Durham VA. Taras served as the President of PHO during his second year in the program, and, after graduation, continued his education in the College of Nursing at ECU, where he will graduate in May. Taras currently serves as the Senior Class President. In this role, he represents his class on the Student Leadership Council and to the Director of Community Programs and Practice, Dr. Alta Andrews. He and the Executive Committee are responsible for fundraising, increasing student engagement and creating an environment of student cohesiveness. Taras also represents the College of Nursing on the

ECU Health Sciences Leadership Council.

Congratulations to Kari and Taras! We look forward to seeing what the future holds for both of you.