University of Washington School of Medicine



Targeted Rural / Underserved Track (TRUST) Program Seattle 1 Year Campus

Introducing E 2012 TRUST Scholar: Louis Paolella

Hello! My name is Louis Paolella and I am a first-year medical student at the University of Washington. I grew up in Yakima, Washington and attended Middlebury College, a small school in Vermont, studying Molecular Biology and Biochemistry. I also completed an Italian minor, and I am passionate about the food and language. I spent a semester abroad studying at the University of Florence and enjoyed connecting with relatives in rural, southern Italy.

Since graduation, I have been working with an obstetrician-gynecologist investigating maternal infection during pregnancy and the role inflammation plays in mediating premature labor. I realized how early events during pregnancy contribute to a baby's health and the importance of obstetric and pediatric care. I am interested in practicing obstetrics in rural areas in Washington. By promoting community health education and





providing access to early obstetric and pediatric medicine, I hope to prevent disease and improve community health.

In my free time, I enjoy Mediterranean cooking and baking. On a rainy day, one can often find me making artisan breads and pastries at home. My brother and I constructed a wood-fired oven in which we can make authentic Neapolitan pizza. I also love backpacking and mountain climbing in the Pacific Northwest with friends and family. While in college, I spent a summer working as a volunteer interpretive ranger at the Olympic National Park Hoh Visitor Center and enjoyed teaching others about the temperate rainforest ecosystem. I am an avid road cyclist and compete in races with a Seattle-area racing team.

I am excited about the opportunity to study rural medicine and I look forward to meeting the Port Angeles community!

The goal of Washington TRUST is to allow for a focused medical school experience in underserved care, with the eventual goal of returning physicians to practice in the underserved areas of Washington. Washington TRUST scholars will have multiple opportunities to experience first hand the joys and satisfaction of practicing medicine in an underserved community.

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