

# JESSA DECKWA

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## EDUCATION

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**Grand Canyon University** | Phoenix, AZ *April 2018*

Bachelor's Degree, Biology with an Emphasis in Pre-Medicine with a Minor in Psychology

- 3.54 GPA
- University Deans List all 8 semesters and Graduated cum laude

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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Cheerleading Athletic Scholarship *August 2014*

Cheerleading Athletic Scholarship *August 2015*

Student Leader Scholarship *August 2016*

Cheerleading Athletic Scholarship *August 2017*

Robert Wood Johnson Research Fellow *June 2020*

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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**Research Analyst** *2021- Present*

Nihon Kohden, Tucson, AZ

- Wrote Western Institutional Review Board and Protocols for Machine Learning for retrospective and prospective studies.
- Mentoring and Training Intern and Undergraduates while serving as a Manager of an Artificial Intelligence Lab.
- Infuse Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning principles into the medical field by designing study surveys and implementing correlation analysis during COVID-19.
- Present weekly lab meetings to clinicians, the AI Ecosystem, and Case Reports at medical conferences (PERT).
- Compiled data and performed statistical analysis on varying medical conditions.
- Achieved authorship in 7 abstracts submitted to the AHA, STS and JCTVS journals.

**Research Specialist** *2020-2021*

Northwest Medical Center, Tucson, AZ

- Obtain consent from patients to enroll in various research projects.
- Curated databases, extracted information and calculated results for COVID-19, cardiothoracic surgery outcomes and augmented intelligence projects.
- Wrote Grant applications and was awarded funding twice for research through industry and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

**Scribe Ambassador, Scribe America**, Tucson, AZ *2018-2020*

Northwest Medical Center, Tucson, AZ | HonorHealth Phoenix, AZ | St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center, Phoenix, AZ

- Medical documentation in the emergency room as well as the cardiothoracic surgery specialties. Compiled documents for clinic and surgical consults in both the clinic and hospital setting.
- Wrote multiple western institutional review board consent and protocol documents.
- Developed and taught training material for future scribes in cardiothoracic surgery.
- Trained new hires on advanced chart reading and interpretation skills.

- Implemented a scribe rounding program in which scribes would learn to round in the CVICU and Telemetry units as well as present patients in the clinic to enhance clinical skills. This program was adopted by the cardiology team and is still being practiced at Northwest Medical Center.

### **Hearing Screen Technician**

*2016-2019*

Sheridan, Banner Thunderbird, Glendale, AZ

- Trained to evaluate ABAER activity on infants to two years of age.
- Obtain consent from parents for screen and results form to send to Pediatrician.
- Provide written documentation and explain to parents the results and possible next steps if their child did not pass.
- Keep a record of all babies tested and their results.
- Adhere to OSHA and HIPPA guidelines, NCHAM Certification

### **Dance Instructor**

*2016-2019*

Diamond Dance Works, Phoenix, AZ

- Acrobatics instructor, Tap instructor and Lyrical instructor.
- Teach curriculum for multiple levels and multiple styles of dance.
- Choreograph routines for all classes that will be performed at a recital at the end of the year.

### **Student Worker**

*May 2016- August 2016*

Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, AZ

- Event planning for Welcome Week, Family Weekend and Welcome Weekend.
- Creating route maps and student leadership material for the upcoming semester.
- Organizing documents for marketing, volunteer sign-ups, questions, sign in and out
- Planned and organized community and clubs fair including a concert for Lecrae.

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

### **Student Researcher, POAF AI Lab**

*2019-Present*

Northwest Medical Center, Tucson, AZ | HonorHealth Scottsdale, AZ

- Project: Using AI to determine the cause of Postoperative Atrial Fibrillation
  - Performed a Retrospective study to determine the cause of Postoperative Atrial Fibrillation.
  - Performed quantitative study on the common diagnosis prior to onset of Atrial Fibrillation with the hope of developing studies on a patient's status post 90 days from surgery to determine days they were most likely to go into AF and if they had any episodes after discharge.
  - Advisor: Zain Khalpey, MD, PhD, FETCSP – Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Director of AI Research Northwest Medical Center

### **Student Researcher, Northwest Medical Center**

*2019-2021*

- Project: Impella Weaning Protocol
  - Assessment of current data regarding the weaning protocol of the Impella LD Device.
  - Currently collecting and determining the effect Echocardiogram with Strain to evaluate benefits of Impella at each Purge flow setting with the hope of increased knowledge in the outcome of these patients for future design of clinical trials that can potentially introduce a new standard of treatment for improved prognosis

- Personally constructed and submitted the IRB for approval
- Currently writing a case report for submission in the *Journal of Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery*
- Advisor: Zain Khalpey, MD, PhD, FETCSP – Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Director of AI Research Northwest Medical Center

## **VOLUNTEER/LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE**

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### **WORKshop Volunteer, Tucson, AZ** 2020-Present

- The program provides meals and medical care to the homeless community in the downtown Tucson area.
- I volunteered in the medical tent at this site and learned to take vitals, apply bandages, and take medical history. This was under the supervision of a Medical Professional and was done with the permission of the person receiving care.
- Prepared meals, organized clothing donations, and assisted in the health and wellness clinic with clerical duties.

### **Kitchen Volunteer, Phoenix Rescue Mission** 2016-2018

- Phoenix Rescue mission is a leading provider of life transforming solutions to persons facing hunger, homelessness, addiction, and trauma.
- Volunteered in the kitchen with residents to learn the needs of the community
- Prepared meals, organized clothing donations, and assisted in the health and wellness clinic with clerical duties.

### **Grand Canyon University Cheerleaders Athletic Liaison** 2017-2018

- Responsibilities of the Athletic Liaison include: working with athletic training staff and fitness staff to schedule and build workouts.
- Set up all workout equipment and help lead students through workouts.
- Communicated with other Athletic Liaisons for support at different sporting events throughout campus including other club sports.

### **Grand Canyon University Director of Welcome Programs** 2016-2017

- Responsibilities of the Director of Student Programs include leading a team of 5 members while organizing Student Move events centered around the first week of school
- Worked to build a community for transfer students, first generation, out-of-state and multicultural students, and plan all events occurring over Family weekend.

### **Grand Canyon University Cheerleaders Fundraising Committee Head** 2015-2016

- Responsibilities included meeting with coaching staff and the Director of Spirit Programs to ensure all events, apparel, and competitions were fully funded. Organized multiple fundraisers for financial support of the program.

## **PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES AND MEMBERSHIPS**

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New Student and Welcome Programs Director	2016-2017
Grand Canyon University Cheerleading	2014-2016 and 2017-2018
AHA Member	2020-Present

## **PRESENTATIONS**

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PERT Consortium Abstract and Case Report Presentations

*October 2021*

- Case Study Presentation: Cardiopulmonary Bypass Technique to Support Percutaneous Treatment Acute Pulmonary Embolism. Authors: Jessa L. Deckwa, Julissa Fierro, Phat L. Le Tran PhD , David L. Moore b , Zain I. Khalpey , Sulaiman A. Rathore, Dexter G. Deleon MD

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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1. Hitscherich PG, Chnari E, **Deckwa J**, Long M, Khalpey Z. Human Placental Allograft Membranes: Promising Role in Cardiac Surgery and Repair. *Front Cardiovasc Med.* 2022 Feb 17;9:809960. doi: 10.3389/fcvm.2022.809960. PMID: 35252389; PMCID: PMC8891556.