

**Get to Know NYCPM Faculty:
Elizabeth Bonarigo, DPM ('16)**
Instructor, Department of Medical Sciences



One of our newest faculty members, Dr. Elizabeth Bonarigo, obtained her B.S. in Biology from Syracuse University in 2012. She graduated cum laude from NYCPM in 2016 and went on to complete her residency at Mount Sinai Beth Israel under the directorship of David Gitlin, DPM ('02). Dr. Bonarigo says she is grateful for all that she has learned from her attendings and colleagues over the last four years. The most important takeaway: to practice with civility, respect, kindness and patience. She is still close with many of the colleagues that she met at NYCPM and Mount Sinai Beth Israel.

Following her residency graduation, she began work at NYCPM on July 1st. At NYCPM, Dr. Bonarigo is a lecturer under the Medicine Department. She also has clinical roles teaching the Radiology clerkship in FCNY, and is working as an attending at Lincoln Hospital, where she remembers working as a student. Now an attending there, she has more responsibility than to her patients alone – her job is to teach residents and students to use a clinic like Lincoln's to their advantage. "There are so many pathologies there; although it's a busy clinic, there are many opportunities to learn."

Of course COVID-19 has affected what she does. "It's definitely a challenge for all of the faculty, staff and especially the students in their 3rd and 4th years at NYCPM. So far, we are all adapting to the new normal the best we can, balancing learning with safety," she says. Her lectures are virtual, but for clinical skills, her department has implemented new technology, scheduling and standards to comply with social distancing. While she believes that face-to-face and hands-on are the best methods to practice clinical skills, she acknowledges that the current changes prioritize the safety of students, patients, faculty and staff.

"It is great to be back," Dr. Bonarigo says. It's fun to be "on the other side," she says of her relationship with other faculty, but she still looks up to them. "I'm so vividly reminded of what it feels like to be a student, not knowing anything. Now it's a privilege to teach and share what I've learned with the next generation of podiatrists."