

In August of 2019, New York midwives Karen Jefferson, Betsy Arnold-Leahy, and Susanrachel Condon graduated from the Doctorate in Midwifery program at the Midwifery Institute of Jefferson University in Philadelphia. They were 3 of 8 in the inaugural cohort of midwives earning this new degree. The cohort consisted of 2 CMs, 2 CPMs, and 4 CNMs from around the country. Karen's doctoral research was centered around examining the advocacy capacity of ACNM affiliates working toward legislation to license CMs in their states. Betsy's project examined midwives' abdominal palpation skills in assessing for occiput posterior positioning. Susanrachel's research was on the impact of obstetric violence, and midwives' contribution to respectful maternity care through consent processes and collaborative, clinical decision making.