

# Undergraduate Medical Education Office **NEWSLETTER**



Improve the health of the communities we serve through education, biomedical research and health care

### Letter from the UME Office

The UME Office is responsible for managing, coordinating and evaluating the medical School curriculum. In addition, we provide support to the students, faculty, and administration.



Dear Students & Faculty:

Greetings from the UME Office!

It's the beginning of the year on the civil calendar but halfway through our academic calendar. So Happy New Year and Happy New Semester! The past year was full of pandemic-

related challenges. Many people hoped those challenges would end as the calendar flipped. Unfortunately, they did not, but kudos to all of you – students, faculty and staff – for hanging in there, adapting to new methods of learning and communicating, and following guidelines to reduce virus transmission!

We've been handed a few lemons, but are turning some of them into lemonade. For example, we will keep some remote meetings, as it has been easier for busy faculty and students to attend virtually. We also have seen that many remote lectures and activities worked quite well, and we are building some completely remote days into next year's calendar (for example, before Thanksgiving for MS1s and MS2s and during part of Transition to Residency for MS4s).

We are continuing our curriculum renewal efforts, working toward a three-year option for some students, as well as research or scholarly opportunities for four-year students – some of which are emerging from our new themed Learning Communities (LCs)! We are debuting two-week Career

Exploration electives for MS3s this year – more info will be available in mid-February. We also hope to pilot some longitudinal clinical experiences for incoming MS1 students this fall.

The LCs have sponsored some excellent programs, which the virtual format has enabled me to attend. Recently, I was inspired hearing John Tumino from In My Father's Kitchen speak about his work assisting chronically homeless people by direct street outreach. I also heard about the great work of Loguen-Fraser LC lead Dr. David Lehman, who provides medical care for these individuals, along with student volunteers.

I am humbled daily by the talent and generosity of our faculty, students, and staff and I could not be prouder of the contributions made by so many of our Upstate colleagues who are battling this pandemic. Take a minute to thank someone today for what they are doing to help: giving vaccines, wearing their mask, staffing the hotline, caring for patients, working from home, serving a meal, cleaning a room. Together, we remain Upstate strong!

Sincerely, Leann Lesperance, MD PhD FAAP Associate Dean for Undergraduate Medical Education





www.upstate.edu/ume

For questions regarding this publication, please contact: Susan (Anderssu@upstate.edu)

## Phase 1

It is great to have everyone back from Winter Break! MS1's are working through Unit 5 'Cardiovascular, Respiratory I' and MS2's are taking a deeper dive into the nervous system with Unit 5 'Nervous System II'.

MS2 students, we know the Step 1 exam is weighing on many of your minds. We have been working with the Academic Success office to help you through this process and working to establish even better predictors to help students through this process earlier. Know that Course Directors and faculty are here to help you in any way possible to ensure your success. Please take advantage of the individual Step 1 advising appointments with faculty and staff that are available. These can be found in a Sign-Up Genius sent out by Mary Ann Grandinetta.

MS1 students, we hope that your first year has been successful and enjoyable. You should be considering the various options you have for the summer; clinical shadowing, research, or spending time at home, we encourage you to seek out these opportunities. As we close on the year, make sure you are planning ahead for assignments in your longitudinal courses and units. Spring can be a busy time of year.

We continue to find opportunities for more clinical relevance in Phase 1, as it is one of our most important goals. We recognize that clinical experience has been impacted by the pandemic with limits on in-patient encounters. We continue to hope that there will be more opportunities in the coming academic year.

### **Updates/Reminders**

- Reach out to University support for study or wellness concerns we have many resources.
- o Course Annual Reviews continue on a rolling basis. Phase 1 Meetings hold annual reviews of your courses throughout the year. Peer Reviewers and Class Officers are able to provide additional feedback to each unit.
- o The Undergraduate Medical Education Office (formerly 'Curriculum Office') is located in SET 4508.
- Ocontinue attending course introductions so you don't miss something. Directors and Thread Leaders use this time to illustrate the expectations of each unit which are not all alike. At the very least, be sure to check out the 'Course Introduction' ppt uploaded to the 'Course Overview' section of each Blackboard site.

## Phase 2

Dear students, faculty, and staff,

Congratulations to our fourth-year students for navigating residency interview season amid a global pandemic and interviews over Zoom. We wish you all a successful match day. Most of our fourth-year students are still actively participating in clinical electives over the next month, and we are happy to have you around taking care of patients and getting your skills brushed up before residency in just a few months! All of our fourth-year students will complete the Transition to Residency course (formerly called March into Residency) in March. Most of our students will be completing the course in a hybrid structure of remote learning activities and small-group in-person sessions in the Upstate Simulation Center. We are planning for an all-remote option for students who need it, completing additional remote learning activities in place of the in-person ones.

In clerkships, our third-year students returned to clinical rotations on January 19. We are happy that the COVID numbers have seen a bit of a decline over the past week or two, but students and the learning environment continue to face challenges caused by COVID such as less plentiful patient care interaction opportunities, more difficulty finding work and study space, and a more rapid clerkship pace (this year the in-person time on clerkships is 20% shorter than usual). We remain very proud of our student and our educators. I remain inspired by both groups, as even in these tough times they all continue to want to teach and learn.

We know this is a challenging time, and we thank you all for your continued flexibility, adaptation, and motivation! We continue to be proud of the entire Upstate team since the COVID pandemic was declared, including all faculty, staff, and students.

Matt Mason, MD Assistant Dean for Clinical Sciences

### Tech Corner

### **Testing**

Welcome to the Spring Semester 2021! Happy New Year everyone! Let's see what this semester has in store for us.

MS4's: Congratulations on your accomplishments and I look forward to hearing from you in the future. You have been a wonderful class to work with.

MS3's: Only a few more clerkship subject exams to complete and you will be planning your AI's and interview trail. Best of luck to you all. See you for your last few exams.

MS2's: Only 1 more course left, 2 comprehensive exams in Path and Micro/Immuno and then off for Step Prep. You are 50% there. Keep up the great work!!

MS1's: You all are amazing. You have taken on Medical School in a time of COVID when nothing is certain and the world needs you most. You are now on the downhill stretch of your 1st year. I am so glad that you are here with us and hope to get to know you in person soon. Keep up the great work!

### **Student Access**

Please remember that all student access requests must be approved by the UME office. You can learn out how to gain access to Epic, PACS/Synapse, Remote Access, Haiku, Canto and much more. Please note that access will only be granted to those that have a valid request.

https://www.upstate.edu/ume/com\_students.php

Please also see the newly updated Research Portal for logging your research projects, awards and publications. <a href="https://www.upstate.edu/comorms/intra/index.php">https://www.upstate.edu/comorms/intra/index.php</a>

### Compliance

Please make sure that you are up-to-date on all of your compliance items for Upstate and any of our affiliated hospitals (VA, Crouse). This includes but is not limited to: Annual Health Assessments, Annual Flu Vaccines, RTK and SAW trainings, etc. If you have any questions regarding whether you are required to be compliant in an item, please contact Colleen Denniston in the UME office at 315-464-5190 or at dennistc@upstate.edu.

### Osmosis Items - Weekly deadline

Please remember that the Osmosis items are due on Sundays at 12 noon due to the server processing issues. We encourage you to have them completed earlier in the week if possible. Additionally, use the rest of Sunday as a re-charge and start back with questions on Monday. If you have questions on whether your items were counted, contact Colleen Denniston in the UME office.

### Tech Corner

### **Teams**

Microsoft Teams is now available for student use. Teams provides real-time chat, voice and video calling for two or more people, as well as screen sharing capabilities. It is integrated with the Upstate campus systems to assist in finding and connecting with others.

We use this in our offices more often than webex and zoom as it is an easy way to chat and then go to either a voice call or video chat with the press of a button. You can share notes, create meetings, share items and save them in OneDrive. You can create notebooks and so much more. There are so many apps that link into Teams as well. I hope you come to love it as much as I have.

It can be accessed at <a href="https://teams.upstate.edu">https://teams.upstate.edu</a>, through the Office Portal (<a href="https://portal.office.com">https://portal.office.com</a>), or via smartphone apps for Android (Links Below). The desktop application is not currently supported on personally-owned computers.

Microsoft provides some short training videos that may answer some basic questions (https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/microsoft-teams-video-training-4f108e54-240b-4351-8084-b1089f0d21d7?wt.mc\_id=otc\_home).

If you have other questions you can contact the IMT Helpdesk (<u>mailto:helpdesk@upstate.edu</u> or call 315-464-4115) or Educational Communications (315-464-4860) for help.



## **Evaluation, Assessment and Research Winter 2021**

### "LET US LOVE WINTER FOR IT IS THE SPRING OF GENIUS" - Pietro Aretino

- It's been a busy season in our office and we are grateful to have been invited to
  participate in strategic planning processes related to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
  as well as Research. We are ready to help with implementation and measurement as
  the plans roll out.
- The Alumni survey was just sent to the members of the class of 2020. We're hoping to have a report for review in March.
- The LCME check-in survey is coming. As part of our ongoing processes of accreditation, all students will receive a survey on 2/1. The surveys will be used for reporting and planning.
- We're looking forward to virtually 'stopping in' to Transition into Residency to collect feedback on away rotations and match processes. We'll also be hosting 2 virtual focus groups. The feedback on away rotations from previous years is available on the bottom right of the Specialty Information part of the My Career webpage.
- Just prior to the start of 2021, we worked with clerkship teams to examine clerkship grading. Specifically, we looked for scoring differences between the sites and years.
   The reports have been shared with Phase 2 and we will continue this work on an ongoing basis.
- We've continued working with the curriculum office team to review student performance metrics and identity factors correlated with future outcomes.
- In 2019, we read the article below and were inspired to start confronting the
  problems identified by Rojek and colleagues. There's now a url the top of the MS3
  student assessment form that brings faculty to a module created by Dr. Amy Caruso
  Brown and our colleagues from Northwestern. The training is CME bearing and if
  you're interested here's the url: https://forms.gle/AECH3jFirjECNnCv7
  - Rojek, A.E., Khanna, R., Yim, J.W.L. et al. Differences in Narrative Language in Evaluations of Medical Students by Gender and Under-represented Minority Status. J GEN INTERN MED 34, 684–691 (2019). <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s11606-019-04889-9">https://doi.org/10.1007/s11606-019-04889-9</a>
- On the innovation front, we are grateful to be working on lots of exciting projects with many different faculty this winter. As always, feel free to contact us if there's anything we can do to support your work in evaluation, assessment and/or educational innovation!



### From the Office of Accreditation & Compliance

### **LCME Update**

In October 2020, we received notification that **the LCME found Upstate in compliance with all 12 standards!** However, they found 2 elements in need of monitoring: 1) career advising and 2) financial aid and debt management counseling. On April 1, Dean Chin must respond to the LCME with a Status Report which includes data from an inclusive from both campuses.

### **LCME Status Report Survey**

On February 1, all students will receive a short survey with questions needed to respond to the LCME Status Report as well as questions that will help Student Affairs better serve your needs. In addition, Dean Chin added a survey question in order to get your input on your ideas to improve the medical school. The survey will run from February 1–15, 2021.

All students who completes the survey will be entered into a raffle!

2 students will win an iPad!

### **AAMC 2021 Graduation Questionnaire (GQ)**

On **February 14**, all MS4 students will be sent a link to the AAMC GQ survey. This survey is a national questionnaire administered annually to all graduating medical students. This provides students the opportunity to give their feedback on all four years of the curriculum and their overall experience at Upstate. We value your feedback and use the results to inform decision-making in the College of Medicine!

Dean Chin has authorized \$1,000 to be deposited into the Class of 2021 account if at least 75% of the MS4 class completes the GQ by March 6. When 90% have completed the survey by Match Day (March 19), an additional \$500 will be deposited into their account. This can be used to fund graduation related activities. We hope you will take the time to complete the GQ!

### **AAMC 2020 Matriculating Student Questionnaire (MSQ)**

Great news - **91.4% of the 1st year students completed the MSQ student survey!** As promised, Dean Chin will deposit \$500 into your class funds for reaching the 90% goal!



### **American Academy of Medical Colleges (AAMC)**

Wonder what happens to all the data from the numerous surveys the AAMC sends out? The AAMC regularly releases current, authenticated data on the most important topics in academic medicine. https://www.aamc.org/data-reports



## **Elective Opportunities**

The College of Medicine offers more than 200 electives: everything from classes taken on campus, to several weeks abroad working in a clinic. Students may take electives throughout the four years of medical school. Electives can be found in the Course Selection Book or you can create your own elective through the Unique Elective process. For more information, check out the <a href="website">website</a>.



Your Financial Aid Team encourages all students in the College of Medicine to visit the new Financial Wellness section of Blackboard to explore the many resources available to help you manage your student loan debt and understand your finances. You will also find information on our workshops and specific timelines for the Class of 2021 and the Class of 2022 that are designed to help you navigate your finances in the MS4 year. Please reach out to us at <a href="mailto:finaid@upstate.edu">finaid@upstate.edu</a> if you have any questions or concerns about your finances – we are here to help!

# Upstate Institutional Compliance Anonymous Hotline

315 464-6444

The Office of Institutional Compliance & Ethics has a <a href="https://www.upstate.edu/compliance/hotline.php">http://www.upstate.edu/compliance/hotline.php</a>

#### **IMPORTANT POLICIES FOR YOUR REVIEW**

- Equal Opportunity, Non-Discrimination, Sexual Harassment and Title IX Policy <u>Link</u>
- Non-Discrimination and Equal Opportunity Policy <u>Link</u>
- Harassment Prevention Policy Link

**Note**: If the MCN Policy system requests a username and password, it is the same as your Novell account.

# The COM Educational and Career Success Office is pleased to announce some new resources to help you on your path from medical school student to resident (and beyond). In additional to the new Learning Community structure, we hope these will help you to make good connections, develop good strategies and find answers to you most pressing career related questions.

- We have recently revamped our COM Career <u>Webpage</u>. It now not only includes information and resources for career planning, it also folds in academic support so that you can work on being competitive for your future chosen specialty.
- There are new Blackboard sites for the classes of 2022, 2023 and 2024. These individual Organizations (Career Planning and Exploration) will "grow with you" and be personalized to meet your cohort "where you are."



Please reach out to Mary Ann Grandinetta GrandinM@upstate.edu if you have questions!



### **Gold Star and Commendation Form**



**Commendation Forms** are accessible in MedHub for faculty interested in acknowledging students that go above and beyond the call of duty! A **"Gold Star" report can be filled out by students, faculty, or staff** to nominate those who demonstrate exemplary professional behaviors or contribute to a positive learning environment. Nominations can be made here:

https://www.upstate.edu/currentstudents/support/rights/goldstar.php

### Assistant Professor, Dr. Nathaniel Meuser-Herr, in the Department of Pediatrics:

Dr. Herr is the embodiment of what medical students hope for their supervising attendings to be. He is not only very clearly dedicated to teaching, but is extremely warm and friendly to all students who cross his path. Furthermore, his demeanor with patients and colleagues is an excellent example of what students should be striving for as they continue on in their careers.

### Laboratory Technician, Les Malcott, in the Anatomy Laboratory:

Les is always willing to go out of his way to help students and the Anatomy Team. After spending countless hours meticulously planning and arranging a new set up for Neuroanatomy Lab in the 7th floor labs - in a way that was socially distant, while easy to follow and largely self-directed - it was decided to move Neuroanatomy Lab into the basement Anatomy Lab as an additional Covid precaution. Without a moment's hesitation or complaint, Les spent hours, again, packing everything up and then meticulously setting it up again in the Anatomy Lab. This is just the most recent example of Les' willingness to go above and beyond, but he exhibits this behavior on a regular basis. He is also one of, if not, the most organized and thoughtful people I know.

#### Assistant Professor, Dr. Carrie Roseamelia, in the Department of Family Medicine:

Carrie goes above and beyond to make sure her students are doing well not only academically but personally as well. When the pandemic started, she called to make sure I was okay and if there was anything I needed. She is also very supportive academically and helps us pursue different academic opportunities by connecting us with physicians within our specialty interests.

### The Anatomy Lab Team: Drs. Jennette Ball, Dan Jager, Marius Ifrim, Sherrie Hall

Overall this year, the whole Anatomy team has stepped up for students; doing 2x-4x the number sessions while adapting to changing circumstances time and time again. The plan for CVRI was to have lab remotely for the first two sessions, then get back into the lab for the last four. When the decision was made to remain remote for the entire unit, Jean Ball pitched the idea of streaming live dissection demos with Q & A for each lab topic to try to parallel the in-person lab experience. Dan Jaeger, Marius Ifrim and Sherrie Hale jumped on board immediately. Together, they worked to get the equipment and technology ready, then met in lab to test everything out, discussing how to best carry out the sessions logistically, technologically, and content-wise. Through this and more, they have demonstrated what it means to be an educator; willing to try new things and dedicated to finding ways to help students be successful.



STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

# UPSTATE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

December 2020

# EXCEPTIONAL MOMENTS IN TEACHING



The College of Medicine recognizes exceptional teachers with the monthly "Exceptional Moments in Teaching" program. Honorees are selected via student assessments from courses and clerkships.

Recognized teachers—including medical faculty, residents, nurses and other educators—are those who challenge students and provide an exceptional learning experience.

Jennifer Moffat, PhD, is an associate professor of Microbiology and Immunology at SUNY Upstate Medical University. She is the December 2020 Recipient of the Exceptional Moments in Teaching Recognition.

#### **COMMENTS FROM DR. MOFFAT'S STUDENTS:**

"Dr. Moffat is an absolutely wonderful lecturer — she is kind and engaging and puts fascinating stories in her lectures that help me to remember the content. I'm grateful that I got to have her as a professor."

"Dr. Moffat did an outstanding job teaching us this unit. She explains things very clearly and enthusiastically. It is clear she cares deeply about her students and is passionate about the subject. We love the personal stories about her daughters!"

"Dr. Moffat is incredibly responsive and willing to provide various explanations when asked. She did an exceptional job at making the material feel relevant to me and her funny stories made it impossible for me to forget certain details of certain viruses."

"Dr. Moffat seems genuinely excited to teach us and always goes out of her way to make sure that we understand the information. She gives clinical vignettes throughout her lectures that are interesting and relevant. She is always open to answer our questions and the way she presents her lectures makes it is easy to understand what she wants us to know. An all-around fantastic person."

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**Steven Pflanz, MD,** is an assistant clinical professor of Psychiatry at SUNY Upstate Medical University. He is the **January 2021** Recipient of the **Exceptional Moments in Teaching Recognition.** 

#### **COMMENTS FROM DR. PFLANZ'S STUDENTS:**

"Dr. Pflanz was an exceptional teacher who took every opportunity to help the medical students grow into soon-to-be physicians. He led patient care treatment teams by example with professionalism and compassion. He challenged us to explore the patients' minds and learn from each individual case on why and how they need psychiatric help. It was a privilege working with Dr. Pflanz and helping the military veterans at the Veteran Affairs."

"Dr. Pflanz took plenty of time out of his day to teach the medical students in the context of the patient meeting. He was a calming figure and was very well spoken, fostering a very good learning environment. He made me look at psychiatry in a different light, which will be vital in caring for my patients in the future, regardless of my specialty."

"Dr. Pflanz was a terrific preceptor for the VA psychiatry clerkship. He would discuss patients' unique pathology at length, and I learned a lot about the field just from talking with him. He was very supportive of the students and always made sure we ate lunch and left on time at the end of the day. I couldn't have asked for a better, more instructive experience!"

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Anuradha Duleep, MD, is associate professor of Neurology, medical director of the Neurology Clinic and division chief of Neurology at SUNY Upstate Medical University. She is the February 2021 Recipient of the Exceptional Moments in Teaching Recognition.

### **COMMENTS FROM DR. DULEEP'S STUDENTS:**

"Dr. Duleep cares deeply for the safety of patients, residents and students. With the daily changes in what students can do in times of COVID, Dr. Duleep did an exceptional job during rounds to make sure students were able to see patients in a way that was safe for everyone. She would individually take students and did an amazing job communicating with students so that we knew what the plan was each morning."

"Dr. Duleep taught me about how to give not-so-pleasant news to a patient in a very tactful way. I feel like this type of learning could not have been done through watching videos, reading, or hearing about it. I had to witness this in order to learn. And I witnessed Dr. Duleep masterfully deliver bad news to a patient and also make sure that the patient's child was not affected negatively by the bad news"

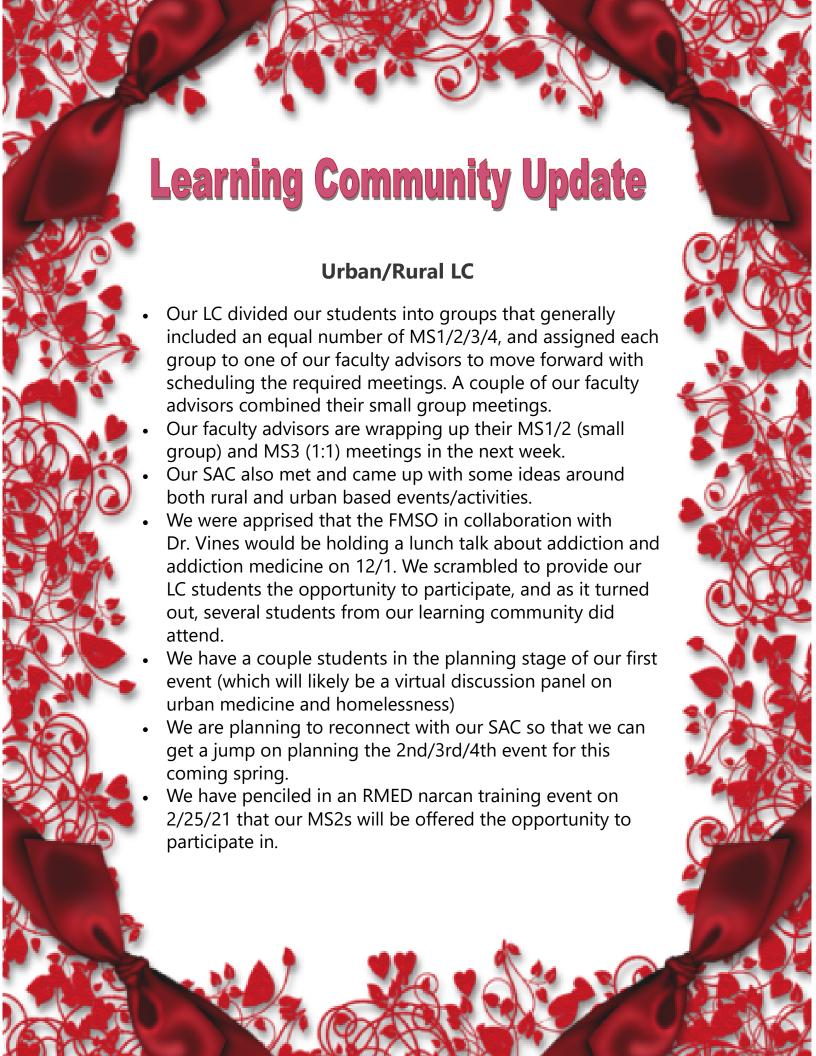
"Dr. Duleep was extremely kind, understanding and respectful. She always stopped to explain everything. She prompted us with thought-provoking questions that were always reasonable for the level of our knowledge/education. She is a role model in that she spends time with her patients, she comforts them and she never leaves without having answered all of their questions."

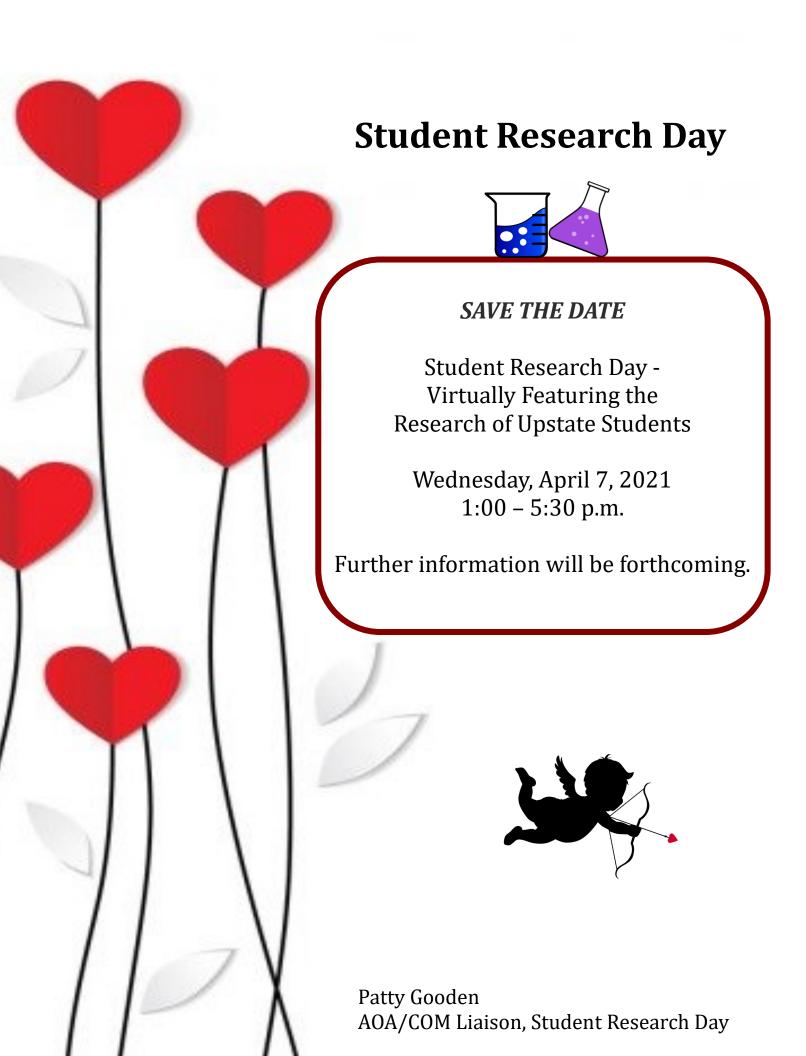


# UPSTATE ACCELERATED SCHOLARS SUMMER TEACHING ASSISTANT POSITIONS AVAILABLE!

- 1. Practice MCAT Prep/Debrief
- Be part of the UAS Innovation Team to deliver AAMC competency-centered programming.
  - 3. Arrange panels with other current students/residents.
- 4. Develop and administer knowledgebuilding and team-building exercises with UAS students.

From ~ May/June-Late July
Build your CV & residency application!
Application due in March
Contact smithkry@upstate.edu





## Games you can play on Zoom

Find games you can play while on Zoom or another video conf app

HMGPVHO В Е S В ENGERHUN PAVD

BINGO
BOGGLE
CHARADES
CHECKERS
CHESS
CLUE
CODENAMES
CRAZY EIGHTS
DOMINOES
ESCAPE ROOM
FIVE THINGS

GO FISH

**GUESS WHO** 

APPLES TO APPLES

HEADS UP
HEARTS
KARAOKE
MONOPOLY
MURDER MYSTERY
MYSTERY SINGER
OUTBURST
OVERCOOKED
PICTIONARY
PITCH
POKER
PSYCH
PUZZLES

READ MY LIPS
SCATTEGORIES
SCAVENGER HUNT
SCRABBLE
SPOT THE DIFFERENCE
STORY RACES
TABOO
TONK
TRIVIA
TWENTY QUESTIONS
UNO
YAHTZEE

QUIZUP