Class of 2010 - Summer of 2007

SUNY Upstate Medical University

January, 2008

Research - SUNY Upstate

Vinisha Singhi
singhiv@upstate.edu
Pediatric Research on HIV PEP and Child Abuse. Dr. Ann Botash and Dr. Alicia Pekorsky, Department of Pediatrics. Recommend. Interesting research, nice people.

Vivek Batra
batrav@upstate.edu
Research at SUNY Upstate Pharmacology Department. Definitely a useful experience. Also traveled to Michigan, Delaware and Ontario visiting family and friends. Definitely worth it.

Meryl Kahan
kahanm@upstate.edu
I did a summer research fellowship through the College of Medicine, in the department of psychiatry with Dr. Paula Trief. My study was on the relationship between working memory and diabetics with poor vs. good glycemic control. This was my first exposure to clinical research, and I enjoyed it. The fellowship was 8 weeks, so I had free time to travel. Also, the schedule was very flexible, and I got paid as well as received credit. Highly recommend.

Douglas Hildrew
hildrew@upstate.edu
Otolaryngology Research, Dr. Hsu, SUNY Upstate. I would recommend knowing the challenges of starting up your own research project before committing. It was a very valuable experience but with a lot of institutional roadblocks.

Vivek Batra
batrav@upstate.edu
Research at SUNY Upstate Pharmacology Department. Definitely a useful experience. Also traveled to Michigan, Delaware and Ontario visiting family and friends. Definitely worth it.

Noah Cohen
cohenn@upstate.edu
Pediatric Research in HIV PEP and Child Abuse, Dr. Ann Botash, Dr. Alicia Pekarsky, Department of Pediatrics. Recommend. Interesting research, nice people.

Research continued Page 2

I would recommend research at Upstate if you would like to stay in Syracuse during the summer. You can also get credit for the research.

Anonymous

International Experiences

Robert Antoniou
antonior@upstate.edu
Traveled to Cyprus with family and friends. IFMSA exchange student for four elective credits in Iraklion in Crete, Greece, Cardiology Dept. at University Hospital in Iraklion Crete. Recommend. Great balance of hospital time and fun time and you meet some amazing people. Also traveled to Greece & Turkey with family and friends.

Lauren Knecht
(805-234-2540)
knecht@upstate.edu
One month medical Spanish program in Guatemala.

Three weeks of Spanish instruction and one week of work with natives giving physical exams. Great experience to learn socially, culturally and medically from a fun group of people. Highly recommend.

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Funding available for:
- Research at Upstate
- Dept. of Medicine Research Fellowships
- Psychiatry Fellowship
- College Work Study Research or Work Projects at Upstate

See Contacts Page 4

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International continued:

Christopher Pray prayc@upstate.edu
I spent this past summer in El Salvador in Central America. There, I took a course in Medical Spanish and also developed a mini-health clinic in a rural village without any access to healthcare. The Spanish class was organized through a terrific organization http://spanishmd.homestead.com called SalvavSpan. I stayed with the owner of the organization’s family in Santa Ana for a few weeks before moving on to a very remote village called La Isla. There, I used supplies donated from the Lourdes Diabetes Center, among others, in Binghamton, to implement a small diabetes and hypertension screening clinic. In addition, I also treated first-aid problems, including the common injury: machete wounds in young children who work in the fields. It was an incredibly meaningful summer and I highly recommend work like this to any first year student during their summer. Contact me for more information.

Stephanie Coleman colegmans@upstate.edu
Prague Selective, Martin Stransky, M.D., St. George’s University. Recommend – you get to see and do a lot in the hospitals and the doctors are very willing to teach students.

Research continued:

Marie Reilly reillym@upstate.edu
I participated in the Community-Oriented Primary Care (COPC) Summer Assistantship program which is sponsored by the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) and National Health Service Corps SEARCH Program. The objective of the assistantship was to complete a community-based project aimed at addressing the health needs of an underserved population. My project was based in a free clinic in Plainfield, New Jersey where I assessed the effectiveness of the Edinburgh Postpartum Depression Scale in an underserved patient population. The program also organized lectures about community health and field trips to the New Jersey State House, a botanica and bodega, and a residence for people with HIV/AIDS. I had a great experience and earned six credits! The program website is: http://www.njpea.org/programs/nhse.aspx.

Jackie Goldberg jbgoldberg@gmail.com
Psychiatry Neuroimaging Research
Martha Shenton, Ph.D., Harvard Univ./Brigham & Women’s Hospital
Recommend. I learned an immense amount about different types of neuroimaging (MRI, DTI, etc.) and how it can relate to the pathophysiology of schizophrenia and other psychiatric diseases. Dr. Shenton also provided me with an opportunity to shadow neurosurgeons doing surgeries and psychiatrists. Travel to Peru – Hike Inca trail/backpack. Contact: Andean Trail (fantastic company for the hike). Recommend.

John Cullen cullennj@upstate.edu
Research Assistant in the emergency room at Women and Children’s Hospital in Buffalo. Contact: Dr. Kathleen Lilly. Recommend. I worked there before starting medical school so it was easy for me to jump right back into it. Also definitely recommend traveling.

Danielle Gluck gluckd@upstate.edu
Research assistant, Hospital for Special Surgery  www.hss.edu
Recommend – great hospital!

“Peru is an extremely beautiful country with a very unique culture. And it’s nice to be outside for a few weeks.”

Jackie Goldberg
Clinical Experiences

Akwasi A. Boateng
boatenga@upstate.edu
Worked with radiation oncologists, Drs. Sueng Hahn and Anna Shapiro in investigating the side effects of patients with trigeminal neuralgia, treated with Gamma Knife. I held telephone interviews with patients to collect data. When restless from sitting, I was taken along with residents and learned many techniques doctors use to treat cancers and other abnormal growths. Flexible work time; it was a memorable experience.

Jessica Shanahan
shanhaj@upstate.edu
Over the summer, I worked as a TA for the Summer MFM program. Another TA or myself would spend two hours with a few students every morning working with the material by outlining the lectures or working through practice questions. I found out about this position from one of the MFM course directors. It's a great way to review biochemistry, get to know some students, try your hand at teaching, and still have some time at the end of the day.

Amanda Brender
brendera@upstate.edu
I worked as a coordinator for the Migrant clinic. Here is my synopsis: Migrant Health Clinic, an extension of the SC HOPE clinic in cooperation with the Onondaga Health Department. A team of medical students, residents, attending physicians and translators travel to various farms in the county once a week, set up a clinic and treat migrant farm workers. A good chance to practice your medical skills and Spanish. It also provides perspective on how to run a clinic. Flexible schedule, lots of fun and pay. Contact: Dr. Peter Cronkright.

Josephine Dunn Junius
dunnjunj@upstate.edu
Research intern, Onondaga Co. Health Dept. – Migrant Health Program, Syracuse NY. Dr. Cynthia Morrow, Commissioner of Health. Recommend to anyone interested in public health medicine in the public level serving the underserved communities and broad experience in the health department; environment, disease control, jail health, etc. I also attended the Family Medicine National Conference. Recommend to anyone interested in family medicine. Great exposure and networking.

Michael Sorrentino
sorrentm@upstate.edu
Research with clinical epilepsy medication. This summer activity exposed me to many drugs that I wouldn't have otherwise been exposed to. It was also helpful to review the skills I learned in POM, such as the basic interview, and the neurology exam. Dr. Robert Beach, Neurology at SUNY Upstate. Recommend. Also shadowed Dr. Robert Beach, Recommend – good to brush up on clinical skills and neurology exam.

Jim Loomis
loomisj@upstate.edu
Family Medicine Elective, Dr. Beatty, Family Medicine Office
I feel this was an excellent experience. I had an opportunity to interview and examine a large number of patients, write SOAP notes and even do some suturing.

Elizabeth Riccardi
riccarde@upstate.edu
Summer preceptorship in rheumatology. Hom Neupane, Department of Medicine at SUNY Upstate. Recommend - an opportunity to gain clinical experience in a specialty of internal medicine in many ways (hospital rounding, VA & UHCC outpatient clinic, pediatrics clinic at University Hospital).

Michael Hurban
hurbanm@upstate.edu
Pathology Externship
Oneida Healthcare Center, Oneida, NY
Amy Ross, Laboratory Manager
Receptive staff and widespread departmental exposure. Recommend.
**Upstate Contacts:**

- **Research**
- **Clinical Experience**
- **Summer Employment**
- **International Travel**

**Financial Aid Office**
Nancy Teodecki  
464-4329

**Office of Research and Development**
Barbara Humphrey  
464-4322

**International Student Advisor**
Jennifer Abbott  
Assistant Registrar  
464-4604

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**Websites**

SUNY Upstate Student Affairs  
http://www.upstate.edu/currentstudents/career

SUNY Upstate Research & Development  
http://www.upstate.edu/research/fund.shtml

American Medical Student Association  
http://www.amsa.org

International Federation of Medical Students’ Association  
http://www.ifmsa-usa.org

Global Health Education Consortium  
http://www.globalhealth-ec.org

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**Work & Leisure**

**Thomas Man**  
mant@upstate.edu

Stayed at home, followed hobbies that I couldn’t pursue during the year. Spent my first month with my girlfriend. Recommend if you have many hobbies that you are unable to do during the year.

**Anonymous**  

Part-time work at Six Flags. Small trips to see old friends.

**Richard Shin**  
shirr@upstate.edu

Consultant for neuromarketing firm based in Los Angeles affiliated with UCLA. Applied for an IND with the FDA and dealt with modeling a Phase I drug study and IRB approval. Recommend if anyone would like to enter any sort of business endeavor after medical school.

**Beverly Shaefer**  
schaefeb@upstate.edu

Worked as an office/nursing assistant at Amherst pediatrics (I worked there for five years.)

Great experience learning about the “business” side of medicine and reading up on unusual conditions. Lots of patient/parent information, day-to-day private practice experience.

Also traveled to California for ten days – take a trip, relax and treat yourself.