



SUNY UPSTATE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY
CLASS OF 2008
SUMMER EXPERIENCES 2005

Survey responses to the following questions:

What did you do this summer?

How successful was the experience?



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RESEARCH

Kate Robinson

Wrote a clinical research paper in Endocrinology for the Diabetes Telemedicine Project. Huge success... learned how to produce a publishable manuscript.
Contact:

<http://www.ideatel.org>

Not really an opportunity open for anyone, but please post to let students know that writing a manuscript is an option for summer work and credit (I got paid and received credit).

Anne Villari

Clinical Research Fellowship at Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, NY. I worked in the Dept. of Dermatology on Photodynamic Therapy Research. The overall fellowship program for medical students is great. Everyone in the program (20 students) worked in different departments doing different things, so their experiences differed. I enjoyed the overall program.
Contact: Arthur Michalek, 716-845-2339
www.roswellpark.org
>Education > Summer Programs > Medical Student Program

Vikram Garg

Worked in Radiology research with a College of

Medicine Summer Research Fellowship. I learned a lot and had a great time. Research administration office ([Barbara Humphrey](#)) or Dr. Huda, Dept of Radiology, 464-7035

Shannon Maher

I worked for Dr. Middleton on a lab project involving a gene implicated in schizophrenia. Extremely successful for me. I am really excited about how much I learned, both about neurological disorders and actual lab procedures. And Dr. Middleton was just fantastic to work for/with.

Contact: Dr. Middleton, Neurology and Physiology Department at Upstate (464-7721)

David Shi

Clinical research with a cardiovascular surgeon at University Hospital

Extremely successful. In addition to the research, I shadowed the surgeon in the OR and gained a tremendous amount of knowledge and respect for the field.

The surgeon's name is Dr. Gregory Fink (464-6255). I received the funding through SUNY Upstate's Medical School Fellowship.

Shirley Obioha & Tina Nguyen

This summer I worked as a

research assistant for Dr. Sandra Lane (PhD) who works for the Ob/Gyn department at Crouse. Her research nurses were Ann Marie Seller and India Borasky. The research was more on public health in terms of prenatal care and birth outcomes and if it is affected by father of the baby involvement and spirituality. It was a wonderful experience. We were able to get to our goal of recruiting at least 100 participants before the end of August. We were all very happy about that. Dr. Sandra Lane (315) 445 2830.

Alexa Siddon

Summer Research Fellowship at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD.

It was a great experience. I would recommend it to anyone who really likes research and would like to try it at a different institution (because Syracuse research seems great too, according to all those who stayed here this summer). The mentors take time to teach the summer students and made us all feel very welcome. The NIH is particularly appealing because people come from all over the world with rare diseases, mostly to try experimental protocols because no other treatment has worked for them.

www.training.nih.gov

INTERNATIONAL



Benjamin Han

I worked at the Mae Tao Clinic in Mae Sot, Thailand which is a clinic set up by Dr. Cynthia Maung to treat Burmese refugees, migrant workers, and patients from Burma. I taught English and Anatomy to the nursing students, shadowed staff physicians and medics, and conducted chart reviews examining malaria in pregnant women. The experience was truly wonderful. Essentially I got a crash course in tropical medicine and was able to practice my clinical skills. Teaching was a lot of fun and learning about the situation in Burma first hand was important to me.

The clinic usually only accepts 4th year medical students:

http://www.planetcare.org/Donate_Time.htm

But I went through an organization called Burma Volunteer Project: <http://www.geocities.com/maesotbvp/> which placed me at the clinic.

Jacqueline R. Busingye

This summer I went to Uganda and worked at a medical school/teaching hospital. I did clinical rounds on their wards and also traveled to a few rural hospitals.

It was life changing. By far, one of the greatest experiences of my life. I went through [Doctors for Global Health](#) but they don't usually send medical students. I can't guarantee that they will take other medical students.

Sherin Varghese

I went to East Africa to participate in the Uganda Village Project. I was able to gain clinical experience working in health clinics as well as teaching and educating people about HIV/AIDS. Uganda Village Project is a student led organization that was created in an effort to improve the living conditions of the people of a small district in Uganda.

The experience was quite successful in enabling me to feel comfortable doing the history taking. Not only that, I learned a lot about acute patient care, taking vitals, prescribing medications and differential diagnosis of common diseases in Africa.

The website address is <http://www.ifmsa-usa.org/UVP/project.htm>, or

Contact ugandaproject@yahoo.com mailing address: Uganda Village Project c/o Kirk Scirto 99 Montrose Ave. Buffalo, NY 14215

Tamatha Sussman

I participated in a plastic surgery elective in Rio de Janeiro at Clinica Ivo Pitanguy and the downtown hospital.

Email contact: pitan-guy@visualnet.com.br

The address and telephone numbers are: Ivo Pitanguy Clinic, Rua Dona

Mariana 65, Botafogo, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Tel 25375812 and 22669500.

Wonderful exposure to a huge array of plastic surgeries. A chance to learn about a foreign medical system,

and meet doctors and residents from all over the world. Patient contact is limited, due to international laws.

Nobuyuki-Hai Tran

Clark Tower, Rm. 522A I was over in Viet Nam for a month and spent the rest of my summer working at IHP.

I had a wonderful time teaching and worked as a social worker helping the local with their farming. It was a good time for getting away from the academic life as well as living and exploring a different culture. Overall, I would say it was a splendid experience.

I obtained the teaching position through my cousin who is living in Vietnam. Beside email, I have no other way of getting in touch with the orphanage. The orphanage I worked for over the summer has no English speaking personnel.

Ben Raille

raileb@upstate.edu

Prague Selective (Upstate Program)

Excellent! A must! Do it!

<http://sgusom.hyperlink.cz/>

Tyler Call

Prague Selective and travel. Very successful!

Megan Sick

Officer indoctrination school for US Navy. Health Professions Scholarship Program.

"It was life changing. By far, one of the greatest experiences of my life."

Jacqueline R. Busingye

CLINICAL EXPERIENCES

Melissa Urckfitz

I worked with Dr. LynnBeth Satterly. I was able to spend three days a week in her office in Cicero, seeing patients with her, her husband, and their staff. On the other two days, I worked on evidence-based patient education pamphlets on topics of my choice (Aspirin Therapy, HRT) which I compiled for her office.

Very successful! I learned a lot and had an enjoyable time. Contact: Dr. Satterly 464-6947

Kimberly Blasius & Daisy Fischer

Kim: I went to rural Maine and worked at Fish River Rural Health. The town was Eagle Lake, 3 hours north of Bangor. I worked with a family physician, perinatal educators, home health agencies, surgeons, and radiologists. My project was to organize a community health fair. I lived on a lake with a host family and traveled all over Maine and I went to Quebec City. More than one student can go to some of the sites. They have the search program. You can go all over the state

of Maine. It was amazing!

James R. Dowling, MS (Jim)
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SC HOPE

David Nicolai

SCHOPE Migrant Farm
Workers Clinic and 3 week
trip traveling across Spain
and Portugal.

Learned a lot about running a clinic, enjoyed talking with migrant farmers about life experiences, improved my Spanish, feel that model of mobile clinic that reaches out to communities in need is more effective than one that requires patient to seek out clinic.

Sarah Stein

steins@upstate.edu

Student Coordinator for Migrant Farm Clinic & Student Research Fellowship.

Great. Learned how a clinic is run and worked with the public health department.

Learned about migrant farmers, their experiences and their approach to healthcare. Through the research fellowship we addressed the issue of diabetes in shelter populations of Syracuse and have set up an outreach education program for the fall.

SC HOPE
Dr. Peter Cronkright

CronkriP@upstate.edu

James Calloway-

Rounded for two weeks on the heart failure management floor of Strong Health in Rochester, New York. Extremely successful experience whereby I gained an extensive knowledge of heart failure etiology, clinical assessment, the "paradigm" of heart failure treatment and the variables that exist, and I was able to witness interventional techniques i.e. angioplasty and stent placement. I was also assigned patients to follow the progress of and report on. As a first clinical rounding experience after completing MSI it was a very intense but extremely rewarding opportunity.

Dr. John Bisognano, U of Rochester (Strong Health),
Cardiology Unit, 585-273-3760

Jason Swaby

Geriatric Summer Scholars Program at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Participated in bench research and gained clinical experience. Clinical research is also an option. Contact: Crystal Simpson, M.D. <http://www.afar.org/medstu.html>

... it was a very intense, but extremely rewarding opportunity.

James Calloway

NON-CLINICAL

Ryan Lawless

Prosecution at Upstate Medical University. The experience was quite successful. It helped me to review a great deal of anatomy and also go more in-depth with some of the dissections, since during anatomy we had a limited amount of time to complete a dissection. I was also able to sit in on a few "session" with group such as the orthopedic sur-

gery residents and also the anesthesiology residents when they came in to the lab. [Dr. N. Barry Berg](#) is the coordinator of the program.

Esther Livingstone

I worked in the Upstate Curriculum Office. It was exactly what I was looking for this summer. College work study position.

[Dr. Cleary](#) is the contact person.



Kimberly Blasius & Daisy Fischer, Community Health Fair, Eagle Lake, Maine

Jonathan Teublteubl@upstate.edu

845 594 3472

I worked (for a second summer) in medical information technology consulting. The work entailed designing and implemented an EMR (electronic medical record system; this one happened to be an obstetrics specialty emr), training physicians to use computers, and troubleshooting workflow issues. I also continued on a project from last summer where a multi-physician FP/ped/IM practice uses wirelessly networked laptops to document patient encounters. The work on SOAPware (a generalist EMR), involved training several other physicians, adding point of care functionality (web access to labs, and preparing for electronic prescription), and doing data mining to conduct basic research on endemic HTN. It was fantastic. The work covered everything from basic network encryption and security design to HR-style management - figuring out

who would work best in what job at what time. Very broad range of work, and quite fulfilling.

Contact: fpinstitute.org; we don't have any page dedicated to the project, but the site has a stuff about the institute.

My boss (CIO) would be very happy to have summer interns on board. I would also be happy to talk to anyone who is interested in medical information technology implementation - great break from studying!

Jonathan Oheb

New England Institute of Jewish Studies
Jewish Medical Ethics & Israel Experience Program

Very Enlightening

[WWW.NEIJ.S.Org](http://www.NEIJ.S.Org)
(<http://www.NEIJ.S.Org>)



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WE'RE ON THE WEB

[WWW.UPSTATE.EDU/
CURRENTSTUDENTS/CAREER](http://WWW.UPSTATE.EDU/CURRENTSTUDENTS/CAREER)

WORKING WITH CHILDREN**Daniella Akibo-Betts**

I worked for a company called the National Youth Leadership Forum (NYLF). I was a faculty advisor for kids interested in becoming doctors. My experience was extremely successful. The pay was incredible, I got to spend the summer in Los Angeles with all expenses paid (Room, board, food at UCLA), and I had a great time working with teenagers who aspire to become physicians. www.nylf.org then follow the links for the "Med" portion of the program.

Lola Balogun

I coached a cheerleading squad with children from ages 7-13. I taught the girls the basics of

cheerleading as well as some advanced techniques. They learned how to stunt and perform cheerleading pyramids. I also taught a health class, in which I taught the kids things like blood pressure, personal hygiene, and drug prevention. It was a great experience. At the end of the summer the girls performed in a talent show in Central Park in which about 2000 people were in attendance. The health class was also a success and they plan on expanding it next year. The organization was the Police Athletic League located in New York City. If anyone is interested, I will give them the phone number of the director since I only have her cell phone number.

balogunl@upstate.edu

Research and Clinical Experiences

are offered at Upstate through the

Financial Aid Office

College Work Study Program

464-4329

and the

Office of Research and Development

464-4322