



<http://www.upstate.edu/gch/academics/newsletter.php>

Special Superhero Edition

As we go to print, most of the country, and much of the world is in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic. As editor, I could not be prouder, working for the brave superheroes (doctors, nurses, support staff) who are working on the front lines in battling the virus. Thank you, each of you, for all you do.



Advocacy Day

Ace Reporter Karahalios

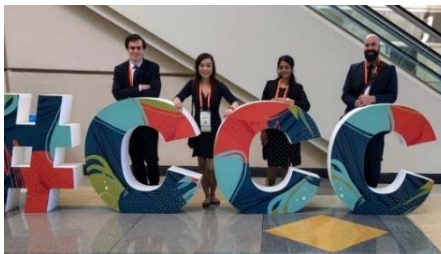
Drs. Winter Berry, along with residents Anam Farooqui, Carlee Lenehan, Dean Karahalios, Max Burchman, and Nara Cho attended the New York AAP's Advocacy Day in Albany on Tuesday, March 3rd.



Although an anti-vaxxer group got word of the event and tried to thwart their efforts (and put up a good fight), they were no match for the over 100 passionate New York pediatricians in attendance. They attended a rally to ban vaping and had a personal appointment with Senator Rachel May's staff to discuss important issues affecting us right here in Syracuse. Key talking points in their discussion included our Early Intervention crisis, vaping, and opposing the proposed Medicaid budget cuts. They hope that next year, even more residents and faculty can join them in their cause.



#CCC



Last month we briefly mentioned that four of our residents (including former resident Jake Anderson) were able to attend the 2020 Society of Critical Care Medicine's annual congress in Orlando, FL. Here is the rest of the story as shared by Dean:

"Aarani, Dean, and Sarah Au were so happy to present abstracts at the Society of Critical Care Medicine's Critical Care Congress in February. They met and learned a lot from critical care experts around the world--including our very own Dr. Fernandez and former resident Jake Anderson--and got to hear firsthand about the latest rendition of pediatric sepsis guidelines. Other highlights included lectures on physical and developmental outcomes in ECMO patients, early mobility in the ICU, gun safety, and disaster preparedness.

When not at the conference, they also got to enjoy Disney World and Universal Studios! They are all so thankful for the opportunity to represent Upstate at an amazing conference!



A Match Made in Heaven

As most of you know by now, we had a great match on 3/20. Our 15 new interns are as follows:

Shehzad Ahmed - Ame Univ of Antigua
Hayat Al Tabosh - Amer Unive of Beirut

Andrew Brooks - Philadelphia Coll of Osteo

Laaibah Ejaz - Aga Khan Medical College

Ahmed Eltayeb - University of Khartoum

Colleen Feeney - SUNY Upstate

Simi George - NUI Galway

William (Billy) Hall - Ross University

Saber Jan - Taibah University

Lucia Janovicova - Masaryk University

Asmita Sharma - Chitwan Medical College

Rida Sherwani - Dow Medical College

Elizabeth Simmerman - New York Med Coll

Andrew Smith - Lincoln Mem. Univ Osteo

Dayna Ukwuoma - Amer Univ of Antigua

We will have a "meet-the-the-intern" lunch on June 26th where Dr. Nelsen will fill in all the missing details about our newbies!

In the News: "Life-Changing"

Our very own Dr. Christopher Fortner was featured in an UpstateOnline article highlighting the success of a new medication for CF.

<http://upstateonline.info/static/March12-March192020/blog/story-1/index.html>

Rohan and FIS

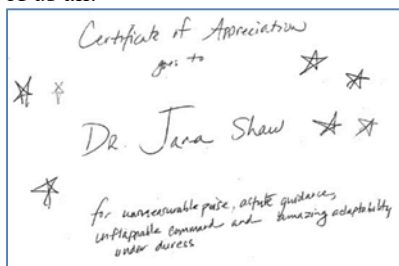
Our very own Rohan Akhouri was nominated by Dr. Connors and was selected to participate in the 2020 Frontiers in Science (FIS) Symposium which is part of the Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs (AMSPDC) annual meeting in Long Beach, CA from 2/27 – 3/1/20. AMSPDC was begun informally by Charles Janeway in 1960 at an APS-SPR meeting. The group was officially incorporated in 1967 with its purpose being to foster education and research in the field of child health and human development. The membership of AMSPDC consists of the chair or acting chair or academic administrative head of the department of pediatrics of each accredited medical school in the United States and Canada.

We asked Rohan to be sure to get a picture of himself and Dr. Connors that captures the essence of the event for us. This wasn't quite what we had in mind.



Covid Queen

Pretty much everyone knows that our Peds ID faculty member, Dr. Jana Shaw, has become the designated COVID-19 authority in our department and beyond. And she is doing an outstanding job keeping us all updated and informed. Dr. Shaw has an anonymous fan who left a very official looking certificate of appreciation under her door. The certificate communicates the sentiments of us all.



You can also read one of Dr. Shaw's recent interviews with CNY Central: <https://cnycentral.com/news/local/the-dos-and-donts-to-social-distancing-how-close-is-too-close>

History Contest

Retired Student Photographer Bill Hannan submitted the following picture to the Crier. Dr. Hannan tells the Crier that it was taken circa 1980 for the Medical School Yearbook.



These are all pediatricians who worked in our department at the time. One could genuinely call this a Pediatric All-Star Cast! There will be a prize for whoever can guess the most names correctly. Contest is only open to those who started here in 1990 or later. It is a great way to remember some of the outstanding pediatricians who have worked in our department over the years. Answers will be revealed next month.

Full Accreditation

Congratulations to the Peds Residency Program which was informed last week that they were given full accreditation with no citations from the ACGME! Peds ID received a similar notification!

Radiothon

Thanks to all of the members of the department who volunteered at the 2020 Radiothon in February! Thanks to each of you, you helped raise over \$250,000 for the kids of CNY!



Just Married

Congratulations to our lovely chief resident, Sarah Ellis, who got married on 3/8/20 at Sandals in Jamaica. Sarah shared a few of the details with the Crier: "We got married on Sunday, March 8th in Ocho Rios, Jamaica. The ceremony was in an over-the-water chapel and officiated by one of the local parish priests. We had 35 guests there with us. The weather was very windy and there was some rain as well, so the reception was moved from an outdoor location to one of the resorts ballrooms. Despite the weather

"raining on our parade," it was still the most magical day. We danced our first dance to the song "Perfect Symphony" by Ed Sheeran and Andrea Bocelli. If you have heard that song, here's the youtube link so you can listen/watch the video because it is BEAUTIFUL. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eiDiKwbGf1Y> Our cake was chocolate brownie cake with strawberry daiquiri filling. We enjoyed a plated dinner followed by A LOT of dancing! Sara Batool was my Maid of Honor and Anuja was one of my bridesmaids."



Where are they Now? Helena Gutierrez

We were excited to hear from former resident Helena Gutierrez (Class of 2016) who shared the following: "It has been a very long while! I hope you are doing well. I am currently at Children's Hospital Los Angeles doing a one year advanced fellowship in pediatric liver transplant and I recently signed to work with University of Alabama at Birmingham as the associate director for liver transplant. I also have a 13-month old beautiful little daughter - Victoria Jones Gutierrez (sending you a picture from her 1st birthday party). This is basically what has happened to me in the past almost 4 years since graduation!"





Taste of Good Things to Come

Last we knew, the construction for the new resident work space in the Children's Hospital (GCH Room 11405) had been put on hold due to the pandemic. So, we were pleasantly surprised to get a picture from one of the mask-covered residents hard at work at one of the computers that had mysteriously been set up in there. We later learned that the adult hospitalists were temporarily given access and computers to use so they would have some social distancing as they worked with COVID19 patients. But for a few of our residents, it was literally a breath of fresh air and gave them a small taste of what having their own work space will be like, hopefully in the near future.



The March Caption Contest



We had several great responses to last month's caption contest. And since they were all good, I asked a panel of independent judges to pick the winner. First, here are our three honorable mentions!

“When you ask where the bathroom is...” – Dr. Asalim Thabet:

“Simon...the stoned-looking reindeer poster thingy on the glass...says "Dab!!" – Dr. Joe Nimeh

“In preparation for a possible Coronavirus pandemic, three residents and a reindeer practice proper coughing technique” – Dr. Travis Hobart:

And the winner is:

“Prevent Spread of Coronavirus. Please sneeze into your elbow” – Dr. Ann Botash

Congratulations, Ann! Come pick up a prize from the Crier!

Neelam's Baby Boy!

Congratulations to former resident, Neelam Pandi on the birth of baby boy Enzo Arjun Spielberg on 2/12 at 6 lbs, 12 oz. Neelam also found out that she matched in NICU at SUNY Downstate. Mom, Enzo, and fellowship plans are doing great!



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4/2 Jina Patel

4/11 Aarani Kandeepan, JP Ervoes

4/14 Joshua Kanji

4/20 Mide Ajagbe