



Continued Accreditation

Dr. Ajagbe and the GME office all received notification on 6/13/24 that the new status of the Pediatric Residency Program is New Status: Continued Accreditation
Effective Date: 06/12/2024

Graduation and Resident Appreciation

The Annual graduation and resident appreciation event was once again held at the Downtown Marriott on Tuesday, June 11th in the beautiful Finger Lakes Ballroom.



We honored 15 PL3 graduates, 2 chiefs, 1 PHM fellow, and also had awards for several others.



Award winners included:

Rookie of the Year – Dr. Stephanie Tom

Global Health Award– Dr. Avnee Nulkar

Awards Selected by Residents:

- Faculty – Dr. Matt Egan
- Nursing - Margaret McPeak
- Special Appreciation – Peds Pharm (represented by Jeni Burgess and Megan Anderson)

Teaching Awards:

- Ahmed Souid (PGY1),
- Lauren Waichenberg (PGY2)
- Akilah Evans (PGY3)

Golden Syringe Award – Dr. Sarah Hendrix

In Case You Missed It...

We are excited to be able to share the link to this year's graduation livestream in case you missed it, as provided by Visual Technologies.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Aqs-JCfsOjnBFViHoapr35qD7IHJHjMS/view?usp=sharing>

SUNY Distinguished Faculty



A very big congratulations to our very own Dr. Roberto Izquierdo who was one of only three Upstate faculty members appointed to the rank of Distinguished Faculty by

the SUNY Board of Trustees. The Distinguished Faculty rank is the highest faculty rank in the state university system. You can read more about this very prestigious honor and Dr. Izquierdo's very impressive bio at:

<https://www.upstate.edu/news/articles/2024/2024-06-12-sunyd.php>

There were a number of responses from fellow faculty. Dr. Wali's was worth sharing: "Dr. Izquierdo is a role model for clinical care, mentorship, leadership, and being a wonderful person. Well deserved!"

The Interns are Here!

The last week of June was intern orientation for the Pediatric Class of 2027. The new interns had a very full week of meetings, courses, and of course some time for fun and getting to know each other before their PL1 year begins on July 1st.



The week would not have been complete without the traditional Scavenger Hunt with team leaders Tara Dowd, Anna Hrbac, Chetana Pasam, and Stephanie Tom. After a wild ride throughout the city and countryside, the teams arrived at Jamesville Beach where

each of them stood before the very strict Judge Lauren Thomas. Judge Thomas carefully went over the results of each team's efforts, and awarded the 2024 Intern Scavenger Hunt victory to Team Anna, which included Anna, Vidhi, Pritha, and Leen (pictured below in their victory pose)



All of the teams, along with residents and faculty advisors, then enjoyed BBQ at the beach for the annual meet-the-new-intern picnic.

Picnic at Dr. Wasik's

On 6/6, Dr. Wasik invited the residents and their families to her home for an end-of-year get-together. Everyone had a lovely time.



Exceptional Moments

Five of our residents were recipients of letters from the College of Medicine, sharing some of the lovely comments that were made about them by students over the past year. Congratulations and thank you to Ali Ba Sahel, Ghina Fakhri, Maxence Gillies, Clara El Nakib, and Akilah Evans, and thank you all for your teaching efforts that were so appreciated.

The President's Award

Congratulations to Dina Mawson who is this year's recipient of the President's Award for Non-Clinical Leader of the Year. Her team nominated her for her exceptional service to Pediatrics. The criteria for Leader of the Year are an outstanding supervisor, manager, foreman, or director who has demonstrated exemplary day-to-day problem solving and leadership skills and who encourages team building, collegiality, and productivity. The person should also show values-related behavior including the ability to undertake a task or challenge that has never been done before, demonstrate critical thinking in analyzing situations and recommend solutions, create new and innovative methods and procedures, foster cooperation, and collaboration and communication, among others. Dina embodies all of these characteristics and more. She received her award on June 26, 2024.



Superhero of the month!

The Pediatric Shared Governance nominated our very own Lexi Sirota, a recent graduate of our Pediatric Residency program and new PEM Fellow as the July Superhero of the Month for Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital. We are so proud of Lexi for this honor! Congratulations, Lexi!



Chiefs – 2024 and 2025

For one of the first times in recent program history, we have identified the chief residents for the current year (Drs. Siddiqui, Sloan, and Thomas), and also for the following year. The Chief Resident Selection Committee was formed after the Program Directors received

numerous requests for 2025-2026. All of the applications that were received were strong and impressive, but in the end, the committee made their selection, and we are pleased to announce that Drs. Maxence Gilles and Lauren Waichenberg will be our two chief residents starting in July 2025.

Congratulations to all five of this year's and next year's chiefs, and to the program for having such excellent leadership to look forward to.

Then and Now and A UPAC Smile

Dr. Blatt shared the following story: Nine years ago UPAC had photographers come to clinic to take pictures of staff and patients together. By chance, I was asked to take a picture with twin 6 year old boys. I never saw them before or after that day, but photography did take a great picture of the three of us. Along with other pictures of UPAC staff and patients, that picture was hung on a wall next to room 14. A few years later, a friend was flying out of Hancock Airport and texted me a picture of that picture which was part of two Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital displays in the terminals. Since then, I've received about 50 texts from friends and family including a selfie with that picture. That's how I received the picture with Drs. Berry and Nelsen. I was in the airport in March and the TSA agent said, "You look familiar. Are you a movie star?" When I pointed to my picture, he said, "Oh yeah, the pediatrician." I always wondered what happened to those boys.

The other day, Sarah Hendrix told me she was seeing twin 15 year old boys. They wanted to know if the "curly haired, old doctor who was in charge still worked here." They were the boys in the picture. I was so excited to see them. They allowed me to use their names, Awil and Ali. Not only did we take a picture of the three of us, but we also took a picture of UPAC staff who have previously taken a selfie of the picture along with their mother. That picture turned the three of us into "airport celebrities." Seeing them 9 years later was just one more reason why working at UPAC always brings me a smile.



The UPAC Buzz

Don't miss the Spring 2024 edition of the UPAC Buzz

<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/JTuwXg7xgHHoF5IS?ref=email>

Running for the Mission

The Syracuse Rescue Mission is having their annual Ride and Run for the Rescue on July 20th at Long Branch Park. As you probably remember, their new Youth Shelter is now open and the Mondores are hitting the road to do the 5K for the Mission.

<https://give.rescuemissionalliance.org/BoB Patty>

We would love your support or, even better, come join the fun. You can walk, run, or bike, as an individual or group.

<https://give.rescuemissionalliance.org/event/ride-and-run-for-the-rescue-2024/e550136>

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 7/1 Bhavyaa Patel
- 7/2 Colleen Feeny
- 7/3 Anjali Sura, Mohammed Doklajiah
- 7/6 Robin Jodoin
- 7/9 David Cea-Flores
- 7/10 Shannen Eichler
- 7/14 Karen Teelin
- 7/16 Danielle Daniels
- 7/20 Jana Shaw, Greg Conners
- 7/23 Travis Hobart, Chris Kuehnle
- 7/29 Yasmika Razakumar
- 7/31 Lauren Waichenberg

