

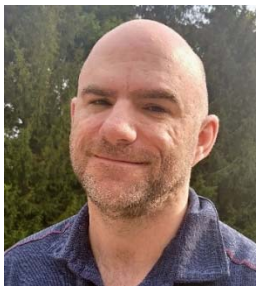


New Faculty: The GCSN Welcomes Dr. Diane Montgomery

We are pleased to welcome our newest provider in the Golisano Center for Special Needs. Dr. Montgomery is delighted to be joining the Upstate Golisano Center for Special Needs as a faculty member. Most recently, she was a pediatrician at the Margaret L. Williams Developmental Evaluation Center through NYS OPWDD here in Syracuse and a member of a NYS Human Rights Committee. Dr. Montgomery is from our area, graduated from Jamesville-DeWitt High School, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry and completed her pediatric residency training at the University of Rochester Children's Hospital at Strong. In the community, she previously was a member of the branch board of managers of the East Area Family YMCA and was a governing board member of the St. Joseph's College of Nursing. She is looking forward to continuing to provide care and advocate for children with special needs and their families.

Our New Gaming and Technology Staff

We are excited to introduce the newest member of the Child Life Team. Brad Taylor is our new Gaming and Technology person and, in fact, the first one ever at Upstate. We welcome Brad who introduces himself to us below:



“Hi! My name is Brad Taylor and I’m the new Gaming & Technology Specialist here at Upstate Golisano Children’s Hospital. I’m a Syracuse area native and a lifelong fan of video games and board games. To me, gaming has been a useful resource to help develop a variety of unique skills and experiences, such as strategic thinking, puzzle solving, socialization, and storytelling, which can allow players to express themselves in unique ways. As a Gaming and Technology Specialist, I provide appropriate gaming and technology experiences at the bedside based on assessment in collaboration with the Child Life Specialist team. I keep informed and up-

to-date on the latest technology that could be utilized for stress and pain management, alternative focus, socialization and education with relation to patient care. I also maintain the physical & digital upkeep of all gaming & technology assets in the Child Life Program. Future plans include the utilization of Virtual Reality, 3D Printing, and hosting special gaming related events.”

Resident Appreciation, Feb 16-17

February 16th was Hospital-wide Resident Appreciation Day. Pediatrics celebrated on Thursday, February 17th with the residents’ first in-person conferences in several months. They were treated with gift cards and socks from the GME office, and GrubHub cards and lunch from the program. In addition, several members of the Pediatric Faculty took the time to submit some lovely “props” they wrote about the residents. Dr. Nelsen emailed the props to all of the residents and a few samples were hung all around the resident work room. It’s been quite the year but we are hoping that at least for the day, they got a small taste of just how much they are appreciated for all of their hard work throughout their residency.

Virtual Last Look!

On February 17th, about 35 applicants and 10 residents got together virtually for one last social hour before our match lists are due. Thank you again to all of the residents who participated and especially for Clara El Nakib who did her breakout room magic for us even while being on Gold Team. If the match goes as great as we anticipate, we owe it to all of the residents who invested so much in the interview dinners and social events.

Next Stop, Match Day – March 18th

Residents and faculty can expect a list of the new Pediatric Class of 2025 a little after Noon on Friday, March 18th.

In the News:

Dr. Jana Shaw was on Bridge Street last month encouraging vaccinations: <https://www.localsyr.com/bridge-street/kids-and-the-covid-19-vaccine-one-local-pediatric-expert-weighs-in/>

Do probiotics benefit growth in children?

UpstateOnline featured a study on probiotics involving Dr. Aamer Imdad and researchers from Upstate and several other institutions. You can find the answer to the question here: <https://www.upstate.edu/news/articles/2022/2022-02-03-probio.php>

Beyond the Doctorate, March 2nd

Again this year, several of our Peds residents submitted posters or platforms that were accepted for this year’s GME Beyond the Doctorate which will take place on Wednesday, March 2nd from 1:00 to 5:00 PM.

The presentations are from 1:00 to 3:00 PM and our very own Simi George will be presenting her team’s QI project. The keynote speaker is from 3:00 - 4:00 PM and will be given by Ramiro L. Gutiérrez, MD, MPH, FACP, FIDSA, Deputy Chief, Infectious Disease Associates, at Upstate. The Virtual Poster Session will be from 4:00-5:30 PM with Zoom Breakout Rooms. See attached poster for more details. The link will be available on the morning of March 2nd at: https://www.upstate.edu/postdoc/postdoc_life/beyond-doctorate-research-day/event-details.php

The Virtual Beyond the Doctorate Research Day website located on the College of Graduate Studies website will provide you with details for the event including:

- Zoom link for the oral presentations and poster session
- PDF Program Abstracts (available the morning of March 2nd)

The poster session will begin at 4:00PM immediately after the keynote address. Each poster presenter will be assigned a breakout room labeled by their poster number and first and last name. Poster presenters will share their screen and present their PDF poster. You will have the ability to select and enter breakout rooms as you please.

“Dr. Jaclyn Sisskind: The Readiatrician”

Our very own Dr. Jaclyn Sisskind was featured on “A Novel Mind” website in a delightful article you don’t want to miss: <https://www.anovelmind.com/post/dr-jaclyn-sisskind-the-readiatrician>



Bringing Home the Gold, Eh?

Last month we reported that Holly Stacey’s sister would be competing in the Olympics as a member of the Canadian women’s hockey team. In case you missed it, they won, and each player, including Laura Stacey, came home with her own gold medal.



Books for the GCH

A special thank you to Sike Ajagbe (yes, she is the daughter of Dr. Mide Ajagbe) for having organized an amazingly successful book drive for the GCH. Sike is student council VP for the freshman class, Class of 2025 at the Westhill High School. She and the other freshmen officers organized the book drive and these industrious 9th graders collected new and gently used books from January 18th to February 4th exclusively for the UGCH children. They dropped off their huge collection at the Children’s Hospital in February. Thank you again Sike and Co.!



Where are they now?

The Crier received the following from former resident Michael Eckrich (2007): “Just wanted to share our great news with you and the Crier. We were recently blessed with the arrival of Emilia Elizabeth Eckrich. Born at 38 weeks, 8 pounds, six oz, and 22 inches long! Samuel (6 YO) is a great big brother.” Michael noted that Sarah (mom) is also doing well and he is happy they are all healthy. In his spare time, Michael is the Medical Director of Pediatric Transplant and Cellular Therapies at Levine Children’s Hospital in Charlotte, NC. Congratulations, Michael!



AFMR Scholar Award

We are so proud to announce that our very own Laaibah Ejaz was notified that she was the recipient of the AFMR Scholar Award for the poster she submitted. This is a huge honor and we are proud of Laaibah. She tells the Crier, “I really owe this success to Dr. Rush who I saw the patient with and who helped me perfect my case report.”

It should be noted that we actually had two residents get their posters accepted for the Joint ESPR/AFMR 1st Annual Eastern Medical Research Conference, on March 10-12, 2022. Congratulations to Simi George, and Laaibah Ejaz who will each be participating in the conference this month.

Published M&M

Dr. Schafer notified the Crier that one of our former residents, Dr. Julia Curria (2020), co-authored an article with Dr. Amy Brown about her M&M ethics discussion entitled, “‘Prix Fixe’ or ‘À La Carte’? Pediatric Decision Making When the Goals of Care Lie in the Zone of Parental Discretion.” Dr. Schafer noted, “Wanted to make sure you saw, I was excited.” We are, too! Congratulations, Amy and Julia!

OttoThon Thanks – The Movie

The organizers of OttoThon put together a video to thank all of the health care professionals at the GCH for all you do throughout the year. Considering all of the funds they have raised for us over the years (over \$900,000) we should also be thanking them. But in case you missed it, the short movie clip is attached. This year’s 12-hour OttoThon fundraising event is scheduled for March 26th. See more at <https://ottothon.com/> You can also make a donation there!

Best Wishes Sherri

After working in our department for almost 27 years, our beloved office manager and administrator, Sherri Clarry will be retiring as of Friday, March 4th. Almost every one of us can think of something we could thank Sherri for doing for us over the years. We hope you have a lovely and well-deserved retirement! You will be missed.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 3/6 Melanie Comito
- 3/9 - Tobey Kresel
- 3/16 Jennifer Zuccaro
- 3/25 Lexi Sirota, Ann Botash
- 3/27 Reena Ray Garg
- 3/29 Sarah Sloan
- 3/31 Lizzy Simmerman