



Coming this month – Interview Season

Interview season starts in less than two weeks! As we go to print, we have over 100 applicants scheduled for interviews so far. But like pretty much everything else happening this year, interview season is going to look a little different. We will be starting interviews on November 13th and will run for most Fridays through January 22nd. However, you will not see any well dressed medical students walking through the hallways or having interview lunches in the conference rooms. The interviews will be 100% virtual but will include a virtual dinner with the applicants the night before (we are guessing it will look somewhat similar to this):



Interview days will kick off with a Chair and program director virtual welcome and then the 20 applicants will be able to join faculty interviews in their private breakout rooms for their interviews. We anticipate interviewing our usual number of approximately 150 students for the March Match Day.

Residents, it is not too late to sign up for some of the virtual dinners on Thursday nights. We are all set for hosts (thank you!), so all the rest of you would need to do is grab your food and join the fun. And for those who are wondering, yes, the department is going to help feed our starving resident participants (which is the least we can do for them since we couldn't do any of this without them).

Nutrition Conference

On October 15th Dr. Aamer Imdad and his GI team presented a special in-person Nutrition Conference to the residents. Meeting in a jumbo room in the NAB where they could maintain social distance,

about 30 residents got to participate in this hands on 2.5-hour conference. Following the conference an appropriately nutritious lunch was provided by Peds GI.

Dr. Imdad gave the Crier a brief report: "The GI division arranged a nutrition conference for pediatric residents on October 15. We covered the basics of pediatric nutrition starting with approach to feeding a child, nutritional examination, calorie assessment, breast-feeding, formula feeding and complementary feeding. We also had two great presentations from our NPs Sarah Fisher and Kristen Razawich who taught the residents about central lines and feeding tubes. For the last hour of the conference, they demonstrated the equipment to residents in an interactive, in person session. We hope that this will set the stage for residents to feel comfortable approaching a child who might need enteral or parenteral nutrition and beyond. We thank the pediatric chief residents who helped us arrange the conference."



Your Cause Gardening Day

On October 17th about 15 Team Upstate people showed up at the Homeless and Runaway Youth Shelter for a morning of fall gardening. Expertly led by our very own Lisa Blystone, the team spent the morning pulling a year's worth of weeds, digging, raking, and planting spring flowers and bulbs. Team Upstate has decided to keep the Rescue Mission's new homeless youth shelter as our Your Cause Charity for another year especially since the official opening of the shelter has been delayed due to the pandemic. So stay tuned for more opportunities to help volunteer for this wonderful new project in our neighborhood. Peds was again well represented with Lisa Blystone, Dr. Karen Teelin (and her daughter Nora), and Patty

Mondore all rolling up their sleeves to help out.



In the News:

Special Leadership for Special Needs

Upstate Foundation announced the new leadership committee to help raise an additional \$3 million for the Golisano Center for Special Needs. The campaign co-chairs include our very own Drs. Connors, Roane, Dosa, and L. Pellegrino. They will be joined by four "high-profile community members, including Syracuse University basketball coach Jim Boeheim and his wife, Juli, NewsChannel 9 anchor Christie Casciano, and NHL star and Baldwinsville native Alex Tuch. With a current wait list for new patients of anywhere from six months to two years, this campaign will help our GCH special needs team better care for the kids in our community who need these services. For more information:

<https://www.upstate.edu/news/articles/20/2020-10-01-specialneeds.php>

PFAC Needs You!

Jenny Dickinson

Upstate Golisano's Patient & Family Advisory Council (PFAC) spent much of last month introducing themselves and the important work they do here as volunteers helping provide family-centered care. The advisory council started with 6 members in 2017 and has doubled in size in the past 3 years. In order to meet the number of requests coming from staff for family input we are looking to grow our PFAC even further. And in order to do that we need you! Family advisors are nominated by UGCH staff. If you know of a caregiver you think would enjoy sharing their

perspective and experiences in a team environment, promoting safety and enhancing quality, please contact Jenny Dickinson by phone 315-464-9330 or email at dickinsj@upstate.edu to submit your nomination. You can learn more about our PFAC by visiting: <https://www.upstate.edu/gch/about/fac.php>

Symphoria Spotlight

Our very own Dr. Joe Nimeh was recently featured on the "Symphoria Community Spotlight" which is sponsored by Symphoria. Dr. Nimeh tells the Crier, "I've been working on various community outreach projects for several years, many having to do with urban farming, access to healthy food in the inner city, etc. As a result, I got to know Chris Abbott, the director of youth programming for the City of Syracuse Parks and Recreation Department. He and I collaborated and started a family "walk and talk" program two years ago where we (parks and rec people, myself and at least 1 peds resident each week, fitness instructors, etc) met with community members (anyone who wants to) at the Onondaga Creek Walk where we walked, talked about health/wellness related topics, visited our partners at the Brady Farm (a gorgeous 5.8 acre farm on the south side of the city), and promoted healthy eating and exercise. The program was only loosely funded by some kind donations from the DOH prior to this year, but resources were limited.

This year, I applied for and received a \$10,000 CATCH grant from the American Academy of Pediatrics to fund this program which allows us to offer more incentives, advertise, pay for vouchers for free produce from the farm for participants, etc. This year the program is virtual due to Covid. So now we meet VIRTUALLY once weekly on Zoom and have an exercise component, health talk by one of our fabulous residents, and have dedicated time to conduct an ongoing community needs assessment with direct input from the community members.

Exercise, education, and advocacy all rolled into 1 hour each week!! Cool :)

Some friends of mine at Symphoria (the Syracuse symphony group) heard about this and offered to interview me as part of their "Community Spotlight" series. I was happy to say yes, and the link goes to that interview. The program will run through

at least the end of October every Tuesday night at 5:30. To participate, people go to the parks and rec website (<https://syracuse.recdesk.com>), register there, and then register for our specific program. They will then receive emails with links to the meetings and information about incentives. We are ALWAYS looking for more community members who want to participate and benefit from our program...so feel free to spread the word!!" You can hear the full interview at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bJPmldzd1nM&list=PLpQ-81qbBxpFq37U4MT0JSqW-zIEDBxcN&index=15>

#EDUCATION CORNER

Dr. Jennifer Nead

COVID-19: Here is a reminder about which patients Pediatrics clerkship students can see during the COVID-19 pandemic! Clerkship students are NOT allowed to take care of suspected, presumed, or confirmed COVID-19 patients; they are NOT allowed to perform/observe COVID swabs. This means they are NOT ALLOWED to see symptomatic patients and/or high risk patients (travel, COVID-19 exposure, living in a high risk setting - group home, residential facility, homeless shelter, etc) who need a COVID-19 test OR have a pending COVID-19 test.

•If a COVID-19 test comes back negative, then students are allowed to see these patients (e.g. infant with bronchiolitis who tested negative for COVID-19 and positive for rhinovirus).

On inpatient, pediatric clerkship students ARE ALLOWED to see asymptomatic, low risk patients who are being screened for COVID-19 as long as they are wearing proper PPE and this hospital policy algorithm is followed:

<https://upstate-ellucid-com.libproxy2.upstate.edu/documents/view/10859/active/>

•Since ALL pediatric patients admitted to Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital are either tested or screened for COVID-19 (click on above policy link), students are allowed to see asymptomatic, low risk patients who are only being "screened" and not "tested." If a student does not feel comfortable seeing these patients, then the student will let their resident/attending know and student preference will be respected.

Feedback: Please ensure that clerkship students receive feedback. Remember to give feedback in a quiet and protected space. Align verbal and written feedback. Feedback

should be honest but remember to be mindful in your wording – be supportive and list specific examples to support what students are doing well and areas that need improvement. Students also appreciate "action plans" – how exactly can they improve? Check out the attached helpful tip sheet from the College of Medicine!

Folks can access the tutorial at the top of the clerkship student's clinical performance evaluations (MedHub) or by clicking this link: http://idd.northwestern.edu/elm/addressing_bias/story.html

The November Caption Contest

The Crier is always receptive to any interesting photos sent in from members of our department. Some we would have to classify as more interesting than others. Some, such as this one submitted by a few of the residents...well...they just need a good caption.



Lina gave a little back story for the photo telling the Crier, "I wanted to share this picture with you to show you how great the interns look in their new hairdos. The wonderful 12E3 nurses invited us to their party in the break room which had great company, yummy treats, and most importantly, these amazing wigs! We're all considering permanently changing our hair colors now, so don't be surprised if we look a little different next week..."

Please submit your caption to the Crier before the end of the month for an opportunity to win some leftover Halloween candy.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

11/1 Irene Cherrick
11/7 Valerie Ho, Billy Hall
11/8 Joe D., Manika S.
11/9 Max Burchman
11/10 Lucia Janovicova
11/21 Vaishali Adlakha
11/23 Kaitlyn McGregor
11/26 Elizabeth Paulsen



Providing Feedback

Suggestions from the College of Medicine

Recommendations for faculty and resident preceptors

1. **Prepare** the learner for feedback
 - a. Consider setting times for feedback in advance
 - b. Tell them what you will observe and give feedback about
2. When giving feedback, use the word “feedback, e.g.: ***"I am now going to give you feedback."***
3. Feedback is more effective when **timely**, i.e. as soon as possible after an event
4. Ask the learner to self-reflect. e.g. ***"How do you think things went?"***
5. Give **specific examples** of behaviors:
 - a. What went well
 - b. What needs improvement
6. Give **specific recommendations** for improvement
7. Help the learner develop an **action plan**
8. **Ask** for questions

Additional resources

Please feel free to contact:

- Office of Undergraduate Medical Education
- Academy of Upstate Educators