

FACULTY EXCEPTIONAL MOMENTS IN TEACHING



Mina Michael, MD, an assistant professor of Neurology at the Norton College of Medicine at Upstate Medical University, is the **September 2024** recipient of the **Exceptional Moments in Teaching** recognition.

COMMENTS FROM DR. MICHAEL'S STUDENTS:

“Dr. Michael was incredible in med student education. He allowed us to see our patients, ask him any questions we had, and then discuss the case with him and go over plan and management of the patient. His interactions with the medical students made us feel like we were residents. Dr. Michael asked me to go on a deep dive through a patient’s history to try to uncover what could be exacerbating their current symptoms. We spent time together talking about which parts of the history were relevant to the case, and the manner in which they were relevant. This fostered a great learning environment.”

“I felt like I improved every day with more effective feedback as I started to implement it more and more. I was more confident by the end to give a presentation knowing exactly what Dr. Michael was looking for. There was no guesswork in the process. Whenever I asked a question, no matter how small, he would provide answers that were thorough and educational. Even if small curiosities not related to the case came up, he would be as interested and make sure we knew the answer to the extent we wanted. He encouraged and pushed us to make our interpretations, which was an important skill rather than relying on the charts. He taught me that getting my history is just as important as any exam. He made me feel comfortable enough to ask any question no matter what it was.”

The Norton College of Medicine recognizes exceptional teachers with the monthly “Exceptional Moments in Teaching” program. Honorees are selected via student assessments from courses and clerkships. Recognized teachers—including medical faculty, residents, nurses and other educators—are those who challenge students and provide an exceptional learning experience.