

RESIDENT EXCEPTIONAL MOMENTS IN TEACHING



Gary Mana, MD, a PGY-5 resident in the Department of Surgery at Upstate Medical University, is the **March 2024** recipient of the **Resident Exceptional Moments in Teaching recognition**.

COMMENTS FROM DR. MANA'S STUDENTS:

Gary was a phenomenal mentor and role model. He challenged me in the operating room to improve upon my surgical skills. He took the time to sit down and hold a mini-suture clinic when we had a few hours of free time. On rounds, he would take time to talk about the management of different patients who we were seeing and often asked me to come up with plans for our patients, thus expanding my clinical knowledge. He was respectful to patients, other staff members, faculty and students alike. He created a safe, comfortable learning environment for everyone on the team. Treats students with respect. Despite being out of medical school for several years now, he still remembers and understands the perspective of being a student and what would be beneficial for us. He creates a great environment both in and out of the OR. Has a lot of knowledge. Great teacher.

Gary was such a great role model and teacher to me during my transplant surgery clerkship! I looked forward every day to my transplant clerkship because Gary's demeanor, humor, and overall good spirits made the clerkship fun for me. I'm also so grateful to Gary for taking the time to include me in different learning activities from rounds to in the OR. He took the time to get to know me and made me feel like my presence wasn't an inconvenience. He also answered any questions I had in a clear and relatable way. I could tell he remembered being in my shoes as a third-year medical student, and I appreciated all the academic and life advice he gave me. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors!

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.