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COVID-19 at Upstate College of Medicine: Moving to a New Normal









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ON THE COVER:

Photo of Weiskotten Hall by Upstate Photography. Illustration by Colleen Kiefer Medical Alumni Foundation

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE



Dear Fellow Alumni and Friends,

t is an honor and privilege to be serving as your Medical Alumni Foundation board president. It has been an interesting and somewhat surreal first six months, to say the least. Throughout the highs and lows we are all experiencing, the one thing that I have been most impressed with is the loyal support the medical students, College of Medicine, and our Foundation have received from our alumni and friends. I would like to thank you for you continued commitment.

For the past few weeks, I've felt perplexed when I consider how our reality has changed so dramatically and quickly. The Upstate College of Medicine

Class of 2020 recently experienced a virtual Match Day. Our medical students were all notified of their match by email at the same time and for the second consecutive year we had a 100-percent match! Congratulations to College of Medicine Dean Larry Chin, MD, and his staff for ensuring the success of our students. Similarly, on May 1, we will be having a virtual Commencement. The administration is working very hard to make this event as meaningful and special as possible, which the Class of 2020 deserves.

The current COVID-19 crisis has been challenging our world in so many ways. Many of you reading this are most likely directly involved in this historic health care crisis. Some of you are on the front lines, whether in the hospital or within your own practices. I am sure some of you have even come out of retirement to assist. What has been obvious to me is the public appreciation of the tireless and indispensable efforts of all health care workers throughout the world. I greatly appreciate all your efforts in your communities on behalf of your patients and families.

As efforts to develop useful and available testing methodologies, acute treatment modalities, and preventative measures become available, I am confident that we will resume our normal realities again, perhaps with greater care for and appreciation of our friends and families. Your continued support for the Medical Alumni Foundation's mission of helping our medical students become world-class physicians obviously is one that is indispensable now and in the future to come.

Sincerely, Robert A. Dracker, MD '82 COURTYARD



Sriram S. Narsipur, MD

Sriram S. Narsipur, MD, Named Chair of the Department of Medicine

Sriram S. Narsipur, MD, has been appointed chair of the Department of Medicine, effective February 14. Dr. Narsipur had served as interim chair of Medicine since 2016.

"I am pleased and honored to have Dr. Narsipur lead the Department of Medicine," said College of Medicine Dean Lawrence Chin, MD, of the appointment. "The department has benefited greatly from his interim service and we look forward to his continued leadership as chair."

In his role as interim chair, Narsipur led the recruitment, retention, and development of approximately 160 full time and 500 voluntary faculty. He has been the public face of the Department of Medicine, including outreach and relationships with community health care providers and facilities as well as ensuring a strong integration with Upstate University Hospital and College of Medicine goals and initiatives.

As chair of the Department of Medicine, Narsipur oversees the largest clinical, research, and education department at Upstate. The 12 divisions that comprise medicine have made advances that help with both common and rare conditions, as well as reach underserved communities across 17 counties in Central New York. The divisions are: general internal medicine; cardiology; dermatology; endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism; gastroenterology; hematology/ oncology; hospitalist medicine; infectious disease; nephrology; clinical pharmacology; pulmonary/critical care; and rheumatology.

In addition to his post as chair of medicine, Narsipur also serves as a professor of medicine, pediatrics and surgery, chief of the Nephrology Division, and medical director and CEO of the University Dialysis Center.

Narsipur earned his medical degree from the University of Michigan Medical School. He did his graduate medical education at Baystate Medical Center. Tufts School of Medicine, where he served as chief resident in pediatrics. He completed a fellowship in nephrology/ hypertension at the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine. He is a fellow of the American College of Physicians and the American Society of Nephrology and a member of the Royal College of Physicians.

Narsipur's key area of research is cardiovascular disease in patients with chronic kidney disease and end stage renal failure.



Shawky Badawy, MD, Honored for Global Contribution

SHAWKY BADAWY, MD, professor and former chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, was honored by the Egyptian Fertility and Sterility Society for his "global vast contribution in the field of infertility and your support of the society." Badawy was recognized at the society's Silver Jubilee in November at the Annual International Conference of the Egyptian Fertility and Sterility Society. Badawy has been a member of the Upstate faculty since 1973.



Upstate University Hospital CEO Robert Corona, DO, MBA, second from left, recognizes staff at the Clark Burn Center, which was recently named a verified burn center by the American Burn Association.

Clinical Trial Studies Nicotine Patch and Memory

RESEARCHERS AT THE SUNY Upstate Medical University Center of Excellence for Alzheimer's Disease are testing whether nicotine in patch form is effective in improving memory and functioning in adults diagnosed with mild cognitive impairment (MCI). In an earlier study, adults with MCI who were prescribed the nicotine patch for six months, had improved attention and memory, and there were no serious side effects or signs of nicotine withdrawal. These results were encouraging and justify this larger study, the Memory Improvement Through Nicotine Dosing (MIND) study, funded by the National Institute on Aging.

This study seeks to determine if nicotine can improve attention and memory over a sustained period of time in older adults with MCI. MIND is seeking healthy, non-smoking adults, age 55+ who have noticed changes in their memory or whose family members have noticed changes. Those who meet the study qualifications will be placed on either daily nicotine or placebo patches.

"The MIND study offers hope for people with MCI and could provide valuable information for researchers with regards to early memory loss that is associated with normal aging and early Alzheimer's disease," says Sharon Brangman, MD '81, principal investigator for the study at Upstate.

Although not everyone with MCI will progress to Alzheimer's disease, recent evidence indicates that those with MCI are at greater risk for developing AD. Currently, there is no FDA-approved



Sharon Brangman, MD '81 (left), heads a new clinical trial at Upstate studying the effects of nicotine in patch form on adults with mild cognitive impairment.

treatment to alleviate MCI symptoms or to prevent progression to Alzheimer's. However, since nicotine stimulates an area in the brain known to be important for thinking and memory, scientists believe it can be an effective treatment for adults with MCI.

"I am convinced that we will find a way to help improve early memory loss and make a real difference in people's lives. In this study, we have an inexpensive, widely available potential treatment," says Brangman.

Clark Burn Center Earns Verified Burn Center Designation

pstate University Hospital's Clark Burn Center, which cares for adult and pediatric patients across 41 counties, was recently named a verified burn center by the American Burn Association (ABA).

Becoming a verified burn center involves a rigorous application and a site visit to ensure patients are being treated with the highest quality care.

"Burn Center verification provides a true mark of distinction for a burn center and is an indicator to government, thirdparty payers, patients and their families, and accreditation organizations that the center provides high quality patient care to burn patients from time of injury through rehabilitation," according to the ABA.

Upstate's Clark Burn Center has existed since the 1960s and serves thousands of patients per year through the emergency department, a six-bed intensive care inpatient unit and an outpatient clinic. Last year, the ED treated 382 patients for burns, the inpatient unit treated more than 200 people and the clinic received about 1,400 referrals.

The Clark Burn Center had to make very few changes in order to obtain verification, said Medical Director Jessica Summers, MD. She and Program Manager Tamara Roberts, RN, MSN, said Upstate's burn care has long been of the highest quality, especially since the center serves such a vast region from northern Pennsylvania to Southern Canada and Vermont.

Upstate Research Leads to Epigenetic Test for Autism

uadrant Biosciences Inc., a developer of novel diagnostic solutions, announced the release of Clarifi ASD[™], the first-ever epigenetic test for autism spectrum disorder (ASD). The test is designed to aid the diagnosis of autism in children 18 months through six years of age. Quadrant Biosciences is a StartUpNY

company headquartered at the Central New York Biotech Accelerator at Upstate Medical University.

Quadrant Biosciences collaborated with researchers from Upstate Medical University and Penn State College of Medicine to create this groundbreaking biological test that is based on regulatory RNAs and microbes in the saliva.

Approximately one in 59 American children are currently diagnosed with ASD, a 10-fold increase in prevalence over the

past 40 years. Unfortunately, this high rate of autism in the U.S., when combined with a relatively small number of specialists trained to make the diagnosis, has resulted in long waiting times for families to receive an autism evaluation. Consequently, while diagnosis is possible in children as young as 18 months, the average age of ASD diagnosis in the United States today exceeds four years of age. Early diagnosis is important because intensive behavioral therapy has been shown to improve the symptoms of autism, and children benefit more from such intervention the earlier it is started.

"With this groundbreaking technology, health care providers can make earlier diagnoses, provide more targeted referrals, and facilitate access to services at younger ages," says Quadrant Founder and CEO Richard Uhlig.

Upstate's Frank Middleton, PhD, co-lead investigator on the research behind the technology, agrees. "Salivary poly-omic RNA measurements represents a novel, noninvasive approach that can accurately identify children with ASD. This technology could greatly improve the specificity of referrals for ASD evaluation or provide objective support for ASD diagnoses. It is also worth noting that the test we developed includes measures of small RNAs which may have originated in the brain and been transported to the mouth along nerve tracts, as well as measures of microorganisms that directly influence gut-brain interactions—a topic of considerable interest to autism researchers."



Frank Middleton, PhD



Upstate's Sarah Loguen Fraser, MD, Featured in Smithsonian American Women

ONE OF UPSTATE MEDICAL

University's most famous graduates—Sarah Loguen Fraser, MD, class of 1876-has found her place in the history books, alongside aviator Amelia Earhart, Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and entertainment mogul Oprah Winfrey. The recently published book, Smithsonian American Women: Remarkable Objects and Stories of Strength, Ingenuity, and Vision from the National Collection (Smithsonian Books, 2019), explores the history of women in America over five sections, and is illustrated with 300 objects

Loguen Fraser was born, raised, and educated in Syracuse. She was one of the nation's first African-American women physicians and the first woman doctor in the Dominican Republic. Her photograph and story appear in the section of the book entitled, "The Road to Reform: 1865-1920." Loguen Fraser's piece is entitled, "Merging modern medicine

and West African traditions." The article reads: "Curators at the National Museum of

at the National Museum of African American History and Culture purchased this tintype in 2014 because it provided rare visual evidence of a nineteenth-century black woman as a medical professional. Additional research uncovered possible identification: Sarah Loguen Fraser, an African-American female doctorone of only about 115 in the nation in the 1890s. Loguen Fraser educated black midwives to integrate modern medical knowledge into their traditional routines."

This newly discovered image of Loguen Fraser, identified with the assistance of staff at Upstate Medical University, is exceptional, the book notes, because "photographs of professional black women, like this tintype from the 1890s, were rare."

The 248-page coffee-table book was written by 100 scholars and includes items from 16 Smithsonian museums, libraries, archives and research centers.

COURTYARD



Upstate University Hospital Opens Inpatient Adolescent Psychiatric Unit

IN JANUARY, UPSTATE UNIVER-SITY HOSPITAL opened its first inpatient unit dedicated to adolescents requiring acute psychiatric care. The eight-bed unit, staffed with child and adolescent psychiatrists, nurses, and mental health therapists, focuses on the treatment of children 12 to 17 years of age.

"The unit is a small step in addressing a critical need here in Central New York for mental health services for our youth," says Upstate Interim President Mantosh Dewan, MD. "Our commitment to this pressing need does not end with this unit's opening. Upstate will continue to be part of the community discussion moving this important issue forward with great urgency."

The Adolescent Psychiatry Inpatient Unit, designed for acute admission and stabilization, will use Dialectal Behavioral Therapy (DBT) as the key component of treatment. "DBT can treat patients with suicidal and self-destructive behaviors, aggression and psychiatric disorders such as depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder," says Wanda Fremont, MD '83, professor of psychiatry and vice chair of child psychiatry at Upstate Medical University.

Twenty percent of children in the United States suffer from mental health problems and the suicide rate among people ages 10 to 24 increased by 56 percent between 2006 and 2017, according to Fremont. "Suicide is now the second leading cause of adolescent death. Research shows that DBT helps patients cope with distressing emotions leading to changes in unhealthy behaviors, lower rates of readmission and reduced suicide attempts," she says.

While there is evidence that the burden of mental illness in youth has significantly increased over the past decade, 70 percent of counties in the U.S. do not have a child psychiatrist. "Poor access to child and adolescent psychiatrists has long been a concern raised by pediatricians, families, and other key stakeholders," says Christopher Lucas, MD, MPH, vice chair of Hospital Psychiatry Services and medical director of the Adult Psychiatric Clinic at Upstate University Hospital. "Only about 20 percent of children with mental, emotional, or behavioral disorders receive care from a specialized mental health care provider, let alone by a child and adolescent psychiatrist."

An increase in the number of inpatient adolescent psychiatric beds in Central New York was one of 17 recommendations included in the Final Report of the Youth Mental Health Task Force, created in April 2015, by U.S. Rep. John Katko and New York Assemblyman William Magnarelli.

Upstate Celebrates Black History Month

aryll C. Dykes, MD/PhD '95, JD, was the keynote speaker at Upstate Medical University's Black History Month celebration on February 5. Dr. Dykes spoke on health disparities and quoted Dr. Martin Luther King's statement, "Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health is the most shocking and inhumane."

Dr. Dykes is an internationally recognized expert in pediatric and adult spine surgery and Assistant Professor of Orthopedic Surgery at Upstate Medical University. He was valedictorian of his graduating class at William Mitchell College of Law and earned his medical and doctoral degrees from Upstate Medical University. Dykes is a former majority health policy advisor with the U.S. Congress and U.S. Food and Drug Administration.



Daryll Dykes, MD/PhD '95 (holding plaque) pictured with, from left: Mantosh Dewan, MD, interim president of Upstate Medical University; Nakeia Chambers, director of Multicultural Affairs and Student Inclusion; Dykes' mother; and Malika Carter, PhD, interim chief diversity officer, Upstate Medical University.

COURTYARD

Match Day Held Virtually Due to COVID-19



atch Day 2020 was unlike any before. Instead of gathering together to open envelopes revealing where they had matched for residency, Upstate College of Medicine students respected social distance and clicked an email at precisely noon.

The change was necessitated by the arrival of COVID-19 in Central New York. "We're sorry we aren't able to celebrate you in the grand style you deserve," said Julie White, PhD, dean of Student Affairs, in a streamed presentation before the email notifications were sent. Match results for the Class of 2020 reflect Upstate's emphasis to train doctors as primary care givers in New York State. A few statistics:

- **78** medical students (52 percent of the class) will enter the primary care specialties, including family medicine, psychiatry, internal medicine, pediatrics, and obstetrics and gynecology.
- **84** medical students (56 percent of the class) will remain in New York State.
- **36** medical students will remain in Syracuse: 25 for full residency and six for preliminary year at Upstate University Hospital; and two for full residency and three for preliminary year at St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center.
- **Six** medical students matched in the military, three of whom deferred to the civilian match.

The class match rate was 100 percent.

"We simply could not be more proud," White said. Upstate University Hospital also filled its own residency positions. According to Upstate's Graduate Medical Education office, Upstate filled all of its 170 resident positions with 31 of those spots filled by students from SUNY Upstate.

College of Medicine to Hold Virtual Commencement

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DUE TO COVID-19, Upstate Medical University will hold a virtual Commencement Ceremony on Friday, May 1, beginning at 10 a.m.

Commencement was originally planned for Sunday, May 3, at the SRC Arena on the campus of Onondaga Community College. Interim President Mantosh Dewan, MD, says the change in Commencement format was necessary to comply with social distancing protocols and ensure the safety of all.

"We certainly understand the disappointment you may feel that we cannot gather in person, as a community, to celebrate this important milestone in your life. We are disappointed too. But the current unprecedented situation we find ourselves in, requires us to take all appropriate steps to ensure you, your families and friends, our faculty, staff and alumni and our community remain safe," he wrote in a letter to students.

> "Do not let the current events cast a shadow on your accomplishments. You have achieved great things. We are proud of you and all that you will do to serve our communities in the years to come."

Despite the change in plans, Dewan said Student Affairs staff

and faculty will work to create a joyful Commencement celebration infused with Upstate's spirit and creativity, "even while we care for each other with strict physical distancing."

Michael DePasquale, president of the Class of 2020, and Julie White, dean of Students, at Upstate's virtual Match Day

Patricia J. Numann, MD '65, Receives American College of Surgeons Lifetime Achievement Award

PATRICIA J. NUMANN, MD '65, past president of the American College of Surgeons (ACS) and SUNY Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus, has been awarded an ACS Lifetime Achievement award.

The award was presented during the College's 2019 Clinical Congress in October 2019, one of the largest international meetings of surgeons in the world.

Dr. Numann is only the fourth surgeon to be accorded this distinction. Previous recipients are C. Rollins Hanlon, MD, past executive director of the ACS; George F. Sheldon, MD, ACS past president; and Thomas R. Russell, MD, past executive director of the ACS.

Numann has ardently devoted her entire professional life to Upstate. After earning her medical degree in 1965, she completed a combined internship in medicine and surgery (1965-1966), and then trained as a general surgery resident (1966–1970). After residency, Numann was appointed assistant professor of surgery (1970–1975), and then rose through the academic ranks at Upstate serving as associate professor of surgery (1975-1989), associate dean of the College of Medicine (1978-1984), associate dean of the College of Medicine Clinical Affairs (1989–1994), professor of surgery (1989-2007), medical director of the University Hospital (1997–2007), and Lloyd S. Rogers Professor of Surgery (2000-2007) and SUNY Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus.

Numann also served as attending surgeon at Upstate (1989–2007); staff surgeon at Veteran's Affairs Hospital (1970–



Patricia J. Numann, MD '65

2007); and as consulting surgeon at Crouse Hospital (1970–2006), all located in Syracuse. Numann is board certified by the American Board of Surgery (1971, re-certified 1994).

Numann became a Fellow of the College in 1974 and has actively contributed to the work of the ACS for many years. She has attended every Clinical Congress since 1969. Most recently, she served on the ACS Foundation Board of Directors (2011–2018), starting as an ex-offico member during her College presidency. Among her other leadership positions in the ACS, she served as ACS second vice-president (1999-2000) and as director, ACS Fundamentals of Surgery Curriculum (FSC), and led the ACS FSC Steering Committee. She continues to serve as ACS FSC co-chair and on the ACS **Entering Resident Readiness** Assessment Committee.

In 2006, the ACS recognized Numann for her invaluable service contributions by naming her the recipient of its Distinguished Service Award, the College's highest honor. In 2018, she was selected as an inaugural Fellow of the ACS Academy of Master Surgical Educators.

Throughout her surgical career, Numann's clinical and scientific interests have focused on breast disease, and thyroid and parathyroid disease, a commitment reflected in the establishment of Breast and Endocrine Surgery Center at Upstate in 1986. Moreover, she received grants and served as principal investigator or co-investigator of several studies researching various aspects of breast and endocrine disease. When Numann retired from active clinical practice and as Lloyd S. Rogers Professor of Surgery in 2007, she was awarded emeritus status by SUNY, and the Breast and Endocrine Center was renamed in her honor. In 2009, it was announced that "in honor of her life's work and outstanding dedication," Upstate was creating its first endowed chair for a woman: the Patricia J. Numann, MD, Chair of Surgery.

Known as an outstanding and motivating educator, Numann received the Distinguished Teacher Award (1983) and President's Award for Excellence in Teaching (1990) from Upstate, where the graduating medical students have regularly asked her to serve as faculty marshal or to deliver the Oath of Hippocrates during commencement.

Numann authored or coauthored several chapters in surgical textbooks as well as numerous journal articles and abstracts, many of which focus on breast and parathyroid disease. She has served on the editorial boards of several prestigious medical and surgical journals including the *Journal of Surgical Research, Journal of the American College of Surgeons, World Journal of Surgery.*

Invence S. Chin, ND Neuronumenu

New Dean Lawrence Chin, MD, steers the

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College of Medicine through the coronavirus health crisis toward a new normal. hen Larry Chin, MD, was named dean of the College of Medicine in January, COVID-19 was not yet on his horizon. Dr. Chin, the former chair of neurosurgery who had served as interim dean since September, was focused on strengthening the medical education experience for Upstate students. But within two months, Chin found himself shepherding

the College and its medical students and faculty through the nation's biggest health emergency in modern history. The curriculum for first- and secondyear students moved totally online. Third-year students were pulled from clinical rotations, both to reduce their exposure and to conserve personal protective equipment in the hospital and other clinical settings. And for the first time, Match Day was held virtually, with Upstate students receiving their match notification via email.

"We're going to get through this," said Chin at the end of March. "It may alter how we conduct business in the hospital and perhaps even how we teach in medical school. But despite current obstacles, our priorities haven't changed."

At the top of Chin's list are goals to improve diversity and inclusion on campus, address student wellness to combat burnout, and redesign the

curriculum to better prepare students for the way healthcare is delivered today. Each is a complicated issue, but Chin is accustomed to multitasking. In addition to dean and department chair, his roles at Upstate have included directing the Gamma Knife and neuro-oncology programs, serving as director of the neurosurgery residency program, and chairing the Governing Board of the SUNY Upstate Faculty Practice Plan.

As a neurosurgeon focused on brain tumor, skull base, and spine surgery, Chin is used to working under pressure. He's also known as a quiet leader who cares

deeply about students and their educational experience. Although he's scaled back his clinical activity significantly in his new role,

he has not given up seeing patients or conducting surgery.

"As dean, I'm also responsible for the faculty and you don't know what their challenges are unless you're on the ground with them," Chin says. "For me to be a doctor means I have to do neurosurgery, but that also allows me to interact with the students in the natural setting."

From Clinician to Administrator

Chin has a vivid memory of receiving a doctor kit at five years old and thinking he wanted to be a brain surgeon. "I mean, what's cooler than the brain," he says.

Growing up in Troy, Michigan—the son of a General Motors engineer and a librarian—Chin didn't have any medical role models in the family. It wasn't until he was an undergraduate at the University of Michigan that he actually decided to pursue a career in medicine. But once he did, that meant being a neurosurgeon.

Chin stayed at the University of Michigan for medical school, then completed his neurosurgery residency at University of Southern California/ Los Angeles County Hospital. His first faculty position was at the University of Maryland, where he ran the Gamma Knife program and was the brain tumor specialist, developing research on cutting-edge treatments for benign and malignant brain tumors. In 2006, Chin was recruited to Boston University as chair of the Department of Neurosurgery. "That was the beginning of my administrative career. They had a learning community system, which really informed how I view the role of clinicians with regards to medical student education and advising students."

"When you lead people . . . you don't have to be an expert in everything, because you're going to be working with people who are experts. You're going to rely on their expertise. But you have to project the optimism and the enthusiasm that will allow them to use what they know to their fullest, so that they join you on the journey."

> At BU, Chin served briefly as assistant dean for multicultural affairs before making the move to Upstate in 2011. "The Upstate Department of Neurosurgery has

remarkable history. It was one of the first neurosurgery training programs, started in the 1950s by Robert King, MD, and has a distinguished history of training excellent neurosurgeons," says Chin, who was "honored" to be asked to lead the department and named the Robert B. and Molly G. King Endowed Professor of Neurosurgery. "It was just a tremendous opportunity."

Chin had made a mark advancing treatment of brain tumors and other neurological diseases with Gamma Knife radiosurgery, which is noninvasive and highly effective. But he brought with him more than just clinical prowess. His deep commitment to student education also became quickly apparent.

Chin worked with David Duggan, MD '79, then dean of the College Medicine and Julie White, PhD, dean of student affairs, to develop a learning community system at Upstate similar to what he had experienced at Boston University. The idea was to create small communities within each class, led by faculty mentors, who develop relationships and become their own support system over time. Learning community activities provide students with advice and support, and cover concepts such as wellness, ethics, community service and other intangibles gleaned from hearing the stories of physicians and older students, through which Chin says "students gain a greater understanding of what it's like being a doctor."

The program was launched with the incoming class in 2014, with five learning communities named after New York's Finger Lakes. Chin likens them to the five fingers of a hand. "The community is really Upstate," he says. "There are differences, but in the end we come together."

In September 2019, Upstate Interim President Mantosh Dewan, MD, asked Chin to serve as interim dean. He says he never considered saying no.

"Dr. Dewan is one of the most thoughtful, caring people I've ever met, a guy that you don't question when he asks you to do something," says Chin. "If he thought I was the person that he wanted to lead the school, then I certainly wasn't going to second guess him."

Again, he saw it as a wonderful opportunity. "I've always been interested in teaching, which for a long time was limited to teaching residents," he says. "Being able to devote most of my attention to the student experience and student education was something I couldn't pass up."

Evolving Medical Education

In an interview with the *Syracuse Post-Standard* last year about leadership, Chin described the best leaders as optimistic and enthusiastic team-builders.

"When you lead people . . . you don't have to be an expert in everything, because you're going to be working with people who are experts. You're going to rely on their expertise. But you have to project the optimism and the enthusiasm that will allow them to use what they know to their fullest, so that they join you on the journey," he said.

But Chin says there's no substitution for having a vision for the path forward. "Whatever entity you're trying to lead, where do you want to go?" he asks. "What's the goal?"

Chin's vision for the College of Medicine is clear. He wants to be a leader in medical care for underserved populations, which he believes requires changes in the demography of the physician workforce.

"One of the biggest issues in medicine is understanding why large segments of the population still don't get the kind of health care that they deserve," he says. "To address those issues, we need to train a more diverse physician workforce. I think that is an absolute must. The fact that medicine as a whole can be smarter and more effective by having diverse opinions and diverse people is unquestioned in my mind."

Second is a renewed focus on student/physician wellness. It's no secret that medical students, residents, and physicians suffer high rates of burnout, mental health issues, and suicide. "We can't take care of patients if we're not well ourselves. We've created positions at both the



Michael DePasquale, president of the Class of 2020, with Larry Chin, dean of the College of Medicine

College of Medicine and at the hospital to focus on wellness, which we hope will reduce burnout and improve patient care and safety," Chin says.

He's also hoping to impact student wellness through curricular changes that will expedite medical education and reduce the student debt burden. Chin is spearheading a major revamp of the College of Medicine curriculum to better reflect current trends in healthcare delivery. "We're going to include inter-professional education," he says. "Every day, we work with nurse practitioners, physician assistants, therapists, pharmacists, all sorts of medical professionals that are not just other doctors, so that has got to be part of our education."

The new curriculum will also draw from research on active learning and best practices in medical education. "There's a tremendous amount of research that shows active learning is more effective than just sitting and listening to someone lecture," says Chin. "In recent years, there's been more emphasis on problem solving and case studies along with simulation, and that's the direction we're moving."

Chin says he hopes to have a new re-imagined curriculum in place for the entering class in 2022. The biggest change would be the move to a curriculum that gives students the option to finish in three years. "Student debt is a major hurdle to student/physician wellness. Right now, students interview for residency programs and take away rotations and electives in their fourth year but don't have many requirements otherwise," he says. "I believe we can make the curriculum more efficient by having students spend their time on things that are truly educational while providing electives that suit individual interest."

The goal is to improve the physician workforce in Central New York and beyond. "I think the new curriculum is going to be something students will really like and something we'll be proud of," he says.

The New Normal

On Friday, March 19, Chin gathered in the Upstate Education Communications Studio with Upstate Interim President Mantosh Dewan, Dean of Students Julie White, and Class of 2020 President Mike DePasquale. Standing six feet apart, they each delivered a video message to fourth-year students. And as the clock struck noon, students received email notification of their residency placements.

"I feel terrible that we couldn't give them the celebration that they deserved but they did really well in the match," Chin says.

More than half of the class will enter primary care specialties. Fifty-six percent of graduating students will stay in New York State for residency, with 36 staying in Syracuse. "Hopefully, by the time they're starting in July, we'll be through the worst of the coronavirus," says Chin.

At the College of Medicine, adjustments continue as the situation unfolds.

This year's third-year students will need to finish their spring clinical rotations next fall. "Right now they're watching surgeries and clinical examinations online but there are some experiences that just can't be replaced," says Chin.

He does not expect that the "commit" deadline for next year's class will be changed. "I anticipate we'll start on time, but it's hard to know," he says. "The coronavirus is probably not going to be completely gone so dealing with it is going to be a new reality for us. We're minding the store, but we also need to take care of one another and adapt where necessary."

PSYCHIATRIST DAVID CHARNEY, MD '68, EXPLORES THE PSYCHOLOGY OF THE "INSIDER" SPY.

BY RENÉE GEARHART LEVY

ast May, Ex-CIA officer Kevin Mallory was convicted of selling classified information to the Chinese government and sentenced to 20 years in prison. He became the third former U.S. intelligence official that year to plead guilty to espionage-related charges involving China, part of what officials call "an alarming trend." At least 20 Americans

have been arrested on charges of giving classified documents to foreign intelligence agencies over the past decade.

Almost like a story line out of the popular TV show "The Americans," Mallory was contacted on LinkedIn by a Chinese recruiter he had mutual connections with, who said he worked for a Chinese think tank and was interested in his foreign policy experience. The man was actually a Chinese intelligence officer to whom Mallory would ultimately sell government secrets for \$25,000.

According to Virginia-based psychiatrist David Charney, MD '68, spies often decide to betray their country out of an "intolerable sense of personal failure" that coincides with a "perfect storm" of unfortunately timed life developments. "I have learned to look for the pile up of pressures and stresses in the six months to a year before they make the drastic decision to cross the line," he says. "The feeling of not being able to navigate your own life, that you're not holding everything together, that you're drowning. This is the starting point for all who cross the line."

In Mallory's case, he was deeply in debt and behind on his mortgage. For him, financial desper-

ation may have prompted his justification in crossing the line.

"If you feel like you're a loser, that you're a failure, how do you handle it?" Dr. Charney asks. "Some people will drink too much. Some people will have affairs. For the few who become spies, since they are embedded in the intelligence community, that's where they will play out their internal troubles."

Charney is a leading expert in the psychology of the "insider" spy. The Brooklyn-born clinician has spent decades treating members of the intelligence community and served on the defense team for some of the most notorious spy cases of the past two decades. He is the founder of NOIR for USA, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving national security by helping the U.S. intelligence community, policymakers, and the public understand the psychology of those who become traitors.

Charney believes the emergence of China as a security threat, as well as the recent cases of so-called "whistleblowers" Chelsea Manning and Edward Snowden, illustrate the potential threat of the "insider spy," not only within the government but also within companies serving as independent contractors on classified government projects.

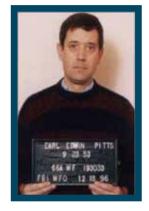
Rather than relying on methods that focus on catching a perpetrator in action through continuous active surveillance of a workforce, Charney advocates for internal initiatives to help troubled employees manage overwhelming life situations before it's too late, in ways that build self-respect and are not hostile or threatening.



David Charney, MD '68



Ex-CIA officer Kevin Mallory



Earl Pitts

"If you feel like you're a loser, that you're a failure, how do you handle it? Some people will drink too much. Some people will have affairs. For the few that become spies, since they are embedded in the intelligence community, that's where they will play out their internal troubles."

—David Charney, MD '68

"Prevention addresses the situation before the decision gets made to cross the line, and is the most important missing link in the security chain," says Charney.

INTELLIGENCE CONNECTIONS

Charney began his psychiatric career as a solo practitioner in Old Town Alexandria, treating adults with anxiety, depression, mood disorders and adult attention deficit disorder. After buying an office building, he expanded his practice to include other mental health practitioners.

That seemingly innocent business decision would go on to have interesting consequences. Unbeknownst to him, the mother of a psychiatric social worker he hired ran the Employee Assistance Program for the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). Nine months later, he received a letter from the CIA informing him he'd been approved to see referrals from the agency, something he was interested in doing but had never applied for. "It took me awhile to figure out how I got into the pipeline," he says.

Charney began treating patients who were CIA employees. "Primarily, these folks had typical problems that one would see anywhere except that they were working inside of that unique space. Intelligence personnel are trained not to bring up anything classified and I was instructed not to ask questions about anything classified," he says.

At the same time, Charney was hiring psychiatrists to "moonlight" on a part time basis. Some of these were government psychiatrists whose day jobs were primarily administrative and who wanted to keep up their clinical skills. One of them, "Larry," was a psychiatrist at the State Department who noticed that Charney had an unusual number of patients from the CIA. Eventually, Larry came to him to confess that he actually worked for the CIA himself.

"This was great because I actually had someone to talk with who understood that world," recalls Charney, who is also a clinical faculty member at George Washington University, teaching residents from the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

Larry was asked by a lawyer friend to consult on a case involving the defense of an FBI agent who turned out to be a KGB spy. Unable to assist due to conflict of interest, he referred the attorney to Charney.

That spy was Earl Pitts, who was arrested in 1996 for selling U.S. intelligence secrets to the Russians and was ultimately sentenced by a federal judge to 27 years in prison. Charney himself was conflicted, as he'd developed loyalties to the CIA. "So to help someone who was a traitor to them was a tough call," he says.

Ultimately, the opportunity was too unique to turn down. "Knowledge about the psychology of people who cross the line was very thin. I thought that if I could determine the psychology of why he did what he did, I might be able to make a real contribution," he says.

Pitts' attorney had a limited budget and offered to pay Charney for several sessions with her client. Instead, Charney joined the defense team, pro bono, which meant no limitation on the time he could spend with Pitts. Based on what the attorney had told him, Charney knew Pitts was struggling with suicidal ideation and worried how to address that. "He's not actually a patient, he's a client," Charney recalls. "The attorney and I had limited ways to medicate or do other kinds of treatments that I could do in my private office. So how would I handle that?"

Charney came up with the idea that if this spy could open up to him and let him understand the psychology of how he came to his decision to cross the line, that information would be valuable to the intelligence community and would be a way for Pitts to partially atone for what he had done. Pitts agreed to be his guinea pig and the two met for two hours each week for a year.

That experience resulted in Charney's first white paper, "True Psychology of the Insider Spy." To deepen his understanding, Charney took a course in counterintelligence at Washington, D.C.'s Institute of World Politics and began studying other recent cases of insider spying in the United States from the vantage point of an experienced psychiatrist.

In 2001, Charney had another major opportunity to study the mind of the insider spy when he joined defense team of Robert Hanssen, a former FBI agent who sold thousands of classified documents to the KGB between 1979 and 2001 detailing U.S. strategies in the event of nuclear war, developments in military weapons technologies, and aspects of the U.S. counterintelligence program—espionage that's been referred to as the "worst U.S. intelligence disaster in history."

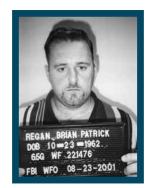
The Hanssen case was followed by the Brian Regan case, an Air Force intelligence officer arrested for stealing classified materials.

Now armed with interviews from three subjects in high profile cases, Charney was able to observe parallels and see patterns emerge. "Knowledge on the psychology of people who cross the line was very thin. I thought that if I could determine the psychology of why he did what he did, I might be able to make a real contribution."

—David Charney, MD '68



Robert Hanssen



Brian Regan

CROSSING The line

Despite efforts by intelligence agencies to pre-emptively screen out and deter potential traitors, defections still occur. Charney believes more attention needs to be paid to what's known about the mind of the insider spy.

As a medical doctor accustomed to looking at the mechanics of disease, Charney says because almost 95 percent of spies are male, he believes he has identified the genetic marker for spies—the Y chromosome!

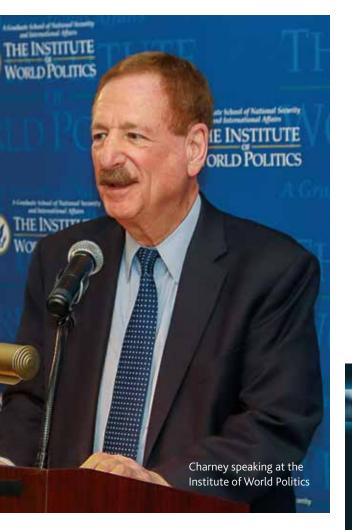
"When you're dealing with a man, you always have to deal with male pride and ego. You're dealing with

their own self appraisal of how they think they ought to be thought of," Charney explains. "But of course, everybody is their own worst critic. So, if a man feels that he's not measuring up to what he had in mind for himself, he views himself as a failure. And that eats at him terribly and he's got to do something to manage that terrible feeling."

How he handles it depends on the context of his life. For example, for someone in the intelligence community, spying may be a way of getting back at a boss he decided mistreated him. He may feel he can get retribution by showing superiors that he's smarter than they are.

Charney developed a general profile of spy psychology that outlines the key deliberative stages a person considering committing espionage may go through. Hurtful experiences in childhood may scar and sensitize, laying the groundwork. Additional stressors in work and private life that occur in a short timeframe (six to 12 months) may develop into a stress spiral that, along with a deep sense of being underappreciated, may open an individual to certain "opportunities," says Charney. The actual decision to take action is made when the stress becomes unbearable either in professional or personal life, or both.





When the rationalization for potential spying or theft kicks in, the insider creates a personal bubble within which his actions make sense and are justified. He feels relief that his problems are solved. But once that honeymoon phase is over, the insider spy typically feels great remorse, says Charney. The reasoning that made sense earlier is now hard to follow, and now that he is a traitor, he is looking at a second failure from which there is no escape. Prison is inevitable.

PROVIDING AN OFF RAMP

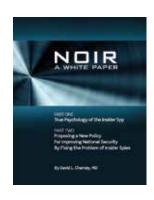
Because conventional prevention methods are far from foolproof, Charney has developed his own novel solution, which he outlined in his second white paper, "Proposing a New Policy for National Security by Fixing the Problem of Insider Spies."

He calls it "reconciliation," which essentially provides a government-sanctioned safe "off ramp" exit for the spy, creating an inducement for the spy to turn himself in when he realizes that his defection has only worsened his situation.

"With reconciliation, the insider spy turns himself in and must cooperate in delivering a full, complete, and truthful damage assessment—but he does not go to prison," Charney writes. By







removing prison from the equation, he can "reconcile" what he's done by turning himself in, helping prevent further damage caused by the security breach, and accept other punishment, such as loss of job and financial restitution, but which does not include life in prison.

Charney proposes the intelligence community create a National Office of Intelligence Reconciliation (NOIR), that would serve as a safe harbor of sorts for these insider spies, a way to lure them back and thus prevent further national security damage.

It's an out-of-the-box concept that's gotten mixed reviews from the intelligence community. While some say the concept could work, others fear that milder punishment may actually make it easier for foreign intelligence to recruit U.S. agents.

Like any good doctor, Charney has now turned his attention toward prevention. His most recent white paper, "Prevention: The Missing Link for Managing Threat in the Intelligence Community," asserts there is overreliance on detection.

In truth, most spies are not caught through internal detection but after being identified to the U.S. by someone working for the foreign intelligence agency they have spied for.

Charney says there are two critical missing links in intelligence community security chains—exits for before someone crosses the line and exits for after someone crosses the line.

"If both missing links were added to the considerable number of existing and planned detection links, a full-spectrum solution would come into existence for the comprehensive management of insider threat," says Charney. "We need more tools in the arsenal."

Charney established a non-profit organization to advance his ideas called NOIR for USA. Charney's concepts run counter to current practice and he admits that initially, he encountered little appetite for them from current officials.

"People who are still inside the government are not so quick to express support for these ideas because they have to adhere to the common wisdom prevalent inside the buildings right now," Charney said. But former officials Charney has spoken with seem more receptive. "Privately, I've been told this is actually a pretty good idea," he says.

To read Dr. Charney's white papers on insider threat, other related essays, and media coverage, visit his website: NOIR4USA.org.

STUDENT **rounds**

Visions of Equity

STUDENT CONFERENCE AIMS TO EMPOWER HEALTH ACTIVISTS AGAINST HEALTH CARE INEQUITIES.

Chere is power in the white coat you wear." That was the message imparted by gun violence prevention advocate Kina Collins, speaking at the Health Justice Conference 2020 at Upstate Medical University. Collins, leader of Generation Progress, a Chicagobased advocacy group (and currently a Congressional candidate), urged those studying medicine to advocate for change. She cited a debate between the National Rifle Association (NRA) and doctors calling for restrictions on firearms. Following an NRA Twitter post admonishing physicians to "stay in your lane," a group of doctors responded with their own online campaign, #ThisIsOurLane, which included bloody photos of themselves and their operating rooms after trying to save the lives of gun violence victims.

Collins' talk, in which she compared gun violence to a "virus," was among a variety of breakout sessions on topics ranging from abortion access and infant mortality to addressing health disparities through universal healthcare, organized by College of Medicine students under the theme "Visions of Equity."

In the United States, health outcomes are influenced by factors including race and ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, and geographic location. "It's important to let people know there is still a lot of work to do to improve health equity," says conference co-chair Azwade Rahman, a third-year MD/MPH student.

One of the most powerful presentations came from Mario Mendoza, MD, a clinical anesthesiologist and healthcare consultant, who shared his own Kina Collins (right), a community activist from Chicago, spoke about gun violence

Kina Collins (right), a community activist from Chicago, spoke about gun violence as a public health issue at the conference. She led an ice breaker with students during her session (above).

immigration story coming from El Salvador at age seven, and his 12-hour journey with a "covote" across the U.S.-Mexico border. He told about growing up in the Bronx as an undocumented immigrant, his family's unsuccessful application for political asylum, becoming a naturalized citizen in the 2000s, and how mentors helped guide his path into science, medical school, and beyond. Mendoza is the founder of the nonprofit organization, LifeUNdocumented, which works to support humane immigration policy that is data driven and globally responsive.

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"It was very impactful because he was telling his own story and he's very passionate about what he's doing," says conference cochair Robertha Barnes, a first-year medical student. "Everyone kept talking about his session. One of my friends said she cried."

Health Justice at Upstate was founded by medical students Sydney Russell Leed '21 and Tanesha Beckford '20 in 2017 with assistance from Upstate's Center for Bioethics and Humanities. The first conference, Health Justice: Breaking Down Barriers, was held in 2018. Since then, the initiative has blossomed to include a student scholarship fund and donations to local grassroots organizations. Held on Martin Luther King Day, this year's conference was organized by Rahman and Barnes along with first-year medical student Deashia McAlpine, all of whom volunteered at the conference last year (Barnes and McAlpine as master's students in medical technology as part of the MS Scholars program).

The goal of the conference is to educate participants about structural inequalities in health care and empower health activists to take meaningful action against the social and structural barriers to health faced by patients.

All three co-chairs cited similar motivations for their own involvement. "I wanted to educate my peers on issues they may not know a lot about—such as the connection between gun violence and public health or abortion access," says Barnes. "The goal is to inspire people to make change and teach them ways to make change in their communities."



The 2020 Health Justice at Upstate Conference was organized by co-chairs Deashia McAlpine '23, Azwade Rahman '22, and Robertha Barnes '23.

After settling on their conference theme, the three brainstormed relevant issues then researched expert speakers. Some of those came from Upstate, others from across the country. "We don't want to repeat the same presentations every year because there's plenty to talk about," says Rahman.

The daylong event began and ended with break-out sessions to give attendees the opportunity to hone in on their own interests, as well as to network and discuss solutions. A soul food lunch was followed by the keynote address, given by Utibe R. Essien, assistant professor of Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Essien's research is focused on racial and ethnic health disparities. He is core investigator in the Center for Health Equity Research and Promotion in the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System, where he studies patient, provider, and system-level predictors of use of novel treatments in chronic disease management among veterans.

In his talk, "Bending the Arc Toward Justice in Health," Essien shared correlations between health outcomes, race, and income levels. He demonstrated via maps that an individual's health outcome was statistically different based on their subway stop, showing evidence both in New York City and Boston.

Like other speakers, Essien called on students to actively speak out for justice in health care, and offered pointers for equitable practice, including "check your biases" and "always consider social determinants."

Despite a snowstorm the day before, nearly 300 students attended the conference, hailing from as far as SUNY Buffalo and Canisius

College to the west and Brooklyn from the east. McAlpine says she was particularly pleased by the large number of undergraduate students in attendance, something she would like to see expand further in years to come.

She would also like to see leadership of the conference expand beyond the College of Medicine and MPH program to bring in additional perspectives. "When we were planning the group discussions we wanted, I didn't realize some of those topics would be so heavily important because they weren't in my wheelhouse," McAlpine says. "Getting a perspective from somebody else who's really interested in health justice but comes from another area of healthcare can only add to the mix."

The three co-chairs agreed that while planning a successful conference was more consuming than they'd bargained for, their sacrifice of time and effort was well worth it.

"The real reason I'm pursuing medicine is to stand up for people who are commonly left out and not given a voice," says Barnes. "So even though I'm only just starting out, I feel like in my own little way I got a chance to advocate and take some action right now."

Murray A. Grossman, '45 of Stuart, FL, writes, "It will be 75 years on June 30th that I graduated from Upstate. I am in my 98th year and was the youngest in the graduating class. I am still in decent health and mentally everything seems to be fine. I spend my winters in Stuart and the summers in Syracuse."

1948

Donald N. Schwing, of Onekama, MI, and his wife Suzanne are "alive and well!" Donald retired at 90 and is now in his 98th year. They are having a party July 25. If you are in the area, please stop in.



1952

Martin F. Sturman, of

Media, PA, shares that his granddaughter, Carly Bothof, who has been raised in the Netherlands, received a four-year athletic scholarship from Syracuse University for field hockey. She was discovered by a team of U.S. talent scouts. She is also a top student.

1953

Frederic F. Taylor, of

Park City, UT, writes, "Both my wife and I are upright, moving slowly, have most of our faculties, and are in Denver for the winter months. Our house is at 7,200 feet and our daughter's house at 5,000, a bit of relief in breathing (or psychological). Finally got to join the great grandparent group last summer a boy."

1954

Arnold M. Moses,

of Syracuse, NY, shares that his grandson, Eric Gurevitch, was awarded a Fulbright scholarship to continue his studies on near eastern religions and science. He is currently based in India.

Robert H. Zimmer, of Jamesville, NY, remains healthy and still bike rides the Erie Canal Towpath, and hunts deer with the progeny and in-laws of our departed classmate **Bill Wiley**. "My generous brother hosts me several months in Bradenton, FL, each winter. All the best!."



1956

Michael L. Del Monico, of Raleigh, NC, is living with his children in Raleigh and this should be his last move. He still misses New York.

Arthur I. Segaul, of Denver, CO, writes, "I am 88 years old and Barbara and I are both still kicking."

1958

Richard Schoenfeld,

of Bethesda, MD, writes, "I am enjoying life with my bride of 61 years, three kids, and eight grandchildren. If anyone gets to the Washington, DC, area, please look me up."



Sondra and Dick Schoenfeld '58



Julian M. Aroesty, of

Lexington, MA, is still actively reviewing cardiology malpractice cases for CRICO, the Harvard malpractice insurer, and Coverys, a national malpractice insurer. He continues to write for UpTo-Date, doing pro bono cardiac consultations over the web at an underserved clinic in Lynn, MA, attending teaching conferences at the hospital three times per week in person or over the web, and is a cardiac expert witness in malpractice cases (almost all defense but also occasional plaintiff cases). "My granddaughter Sophie Aroesty won a Fulbright award and is spending a year in the area from which my parents emigrated in 1910 and 1920. I am doing my best to raise my two-and-a-half-year old grandson bilingual in Spanish. My winters are spent in Longboat Key, FL, cycling (2,100 miles last winter) and reading history or rereading the classics. At least so far, retirement has been a blast."

Daniel L. Dombroski,

of Camillus, NY, writes, "looking forward to our 60th reunion!"

1961

Carlo R. deRosa, of Placida, FL, continues to age in Florida. "Blue water, fine sand, warm, and no snow. Miss talking to patients."

962

Jack Wittenberg, of Newton Highlands, NY, saw **Bob Poss** recently in Marblehead, MA. "I am healthy and active."

PAUL STOBNICKE, MD '53

Treating the Whole Patient

There are few physicians that have the perspective on changes in medicine that Paul Stobnicke, MD '53, does. The 95-year-old, still licensed to practice in New York State, says that changes during his 65 years of family practice are nothing less than extraordinary.

While he is thrilled by scientific and technological advances that improve the diagnosis and treatment of disease, Stobnicke is less enthused by what has happened to the practice of medicine itself, which he refers to as a "profit-driven industrial medical complex," driven by the greed of the pharmaceutical and insurance industries.

Dr. Stobnicke, a native of Oswego, New York, was a solo practitioner in Syracuse throughout his career. When he opened his practice, he says virtually no one had health insurance. His office fee was \$2 and the entire cost of pregnancy care, delivery, and after care was \$75. "I happily accepted payment for some of my fees with eggs, tomatoes, and cookies," he recalls.

He says his patients became like family, with relationships developed over decades. He delivered babies, cared for those babies into adulthood, and then began the cycle again when they had children.

Making house calls was the norm, something Stobnicke says gave him a window into his patients lives. "We cared for patients as whole people and learned about the lives they were leading outside of the office," he says. "Many were struggling with financial or emotional problems and this knowledge was important in how we could help them."

Stobnicke recalls visiting patients whose homes had dirt floors or where there were only two beds for as many as eight or nine children. In his seventies, he became medical director for the Syracuse City School District, which provided an additional lens on poverty in the Syracuse area and its impact on health. "There were children we were feeding breakfast and that was going to be the only meal they'd get that day," he recalls. Stobnicke retired from practice at 77, and now gives talks on medical issues at his senior living center, where many of his fellow residents have adopted him as their live-in family doctor.

He believes any hope of changing medicine lies with future generations of physicians, who must try to regain the autonomy lost to large medical employers and the insurance industry. At the very least, he urges young doctors to



Paul Stobnicke, MD '53, in the aviation/music room in his apartment.

look and listen to patients without staring at their computer screen. "I know many doctors have to spend a lot of time to fill in the medical record, but that time with the patient is more important than the payer," he says.

He urges doctors to be aware of the entire person in front of them, rather than just their symptoms. "Please learn to listen to the patient with care and talk with them in an empathetic and compassionate way instead of quickly reaching for your prescription pad," he says. "Those extra moments with you will be much more important than anything they receive at the pharmacy."

Stobnicke was steered toward medicine by William Cahan, MD, a flight surgeon aboard the Liberty ship where Stobnicke spent three weeks at the end of his World War II service as an Air Force fighter pilot, flying 91 missions against the Japanese in the South Pacific in P-53 and P-69 fighter planes. Stobnicke took that advice, using the GI bill and loans from family and Dr. Cahan to fund his undergraduate and medical education at Syracuse University. He and his wife Sybil, who he met while in the Air Force, raised five children in Syracuse, and had 16 grandchildren. Now widowed for three years, Stobnicke enjoys playing the organ, speaking and writing on medical topics, and recently recorded an interview with the Library of Congress about his military experience.

Without a doubt, he says going into family medicine was one of the best decisions of his life. "I loved my practice and my patients, but sadly, I don't hear that often from my colleagues today," says Stobnicke, who wants to inspire medical students to seek out the same kind of experience he had. "With competence, dedication, compassion, and especially, with a kind heart, you will be the most important constituent to assist in the promotion of health for thousands of people who can become not just satisfied and contented patients, but also your very best friends."

-Renée Gearhart Levy



Frank G. Yanowitz '66

1963

Philip M. Gaynes and Suzy, of Longboat Key, FL, spent a joyful weekend at their home in January with Arnie Derman and Harriet. "We went hiking at a state park and celebrated the fact that we are all still enjoying active lives. Arnie and I were roommates in medical school and have maintained a wonderful friendship all these years," he writes.

1964

David W. Watson, of Charlotte, NC, was sorry he missed reunion. "I had a gallbladder problem, now removed. Turnout looked light per photo, but percentage of contributors looked fine."

1965 Revion September 11-12, 2020

1966

Frank G. Yanowitz, of Salt Lake City, UT, retired in June 2018, but continues to teach ECG interpretation to University of Utah medical residents using materials from his website, http://ecg.utah.edu. "I turned 80 in July and now ski for free at Alta, Utah's most famous ski resort. Life is good," he writes.

1968

Robert L. Bard, of New York, NY, presented "MRI of Skin Cancer" at the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine 2020 World Ultrasound Conference in New York City in March.



1971

Rosemary Bellino-Hall,

of Lawton, OK, is "off to Patagonia for our fourth time by way of Santiago, Chile, to fly fish. Hopefully will catch a few rainbow or brown trout. Will also take a quick tour of Valparaiso a city of many expatriates."

1972

David N. Osser, of Needham, MA, became a grandpa for the second time a few months ago. He is still active with work, and has two books on psychopharmacology coming out this year (Oxford U. Press and Wolters-Kluwer).

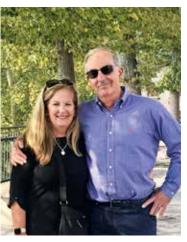


David N. Osser '72 with wife Stephanie and granddaughter Naomi



1963 alumni Philip Gaynes (left) and Arnie Derman (right) with wives Suzy and Harriet.

Philip S. Schein, '65 of Bryn Mawr, PA, was recently awarded the Space Research Pioneer Award from the United States National Laboratory, International Space Station.



Paul F. Torrisi '72 and his wife Mary

Paul F. Torrisi, of Skaneateles, NY, and wife Mary are celebrating their 50th anniversary in 2020. Paul is retired from Retina-Vitreous Surgeons of CNY, a retinal surgery practice he cofounded, with offices in Syracuse, Binghamton, and Watertown, following a career of more than 40 years in ophthalmology. Mary continues with her career in art, and is more productive than ever, after raising their three children, Michele (deceased), Paul Jr., and Julia. They continue to enjoy lakefront living in Skaneateles, where they are busy with their family and four grandchildren, Jack (17), Ellie (15), Kevin (13), and Tess (9). Sailing, skiing, tennis, and golf are beloved hobbies, and lately, a few months of winter/spring are enjoyed in Naples, FL. They also both enjoy traveling in Europe and the U.S.

1974

Philip Schulman, of Melville, NY, decided to return to part-time employment at New York Cancer and Blood Specialists at Mount Sinai after a nine-month retirement. He sees hematology and malignant hematology patients and serves as the director of hematologic malignancies at the Center. In addition, he continues to play guitar at various venues, open mics, and to write music. He has also published a novel, Deadly Motivations, which is available on Amazon, and Barnes and Noble.



Phillip C. Gioia, of Auburn, NY, is enjoying life and work.

Joseph W. Helak, of

Blowing Rock, NC, plans to retire from the practice of cardiology in June, after 42 years. He plans to spend time with his wife and four grandchildren between Wilmington, NC, and Washington, DC. "It has been a very rewarding career and I am grateful to



Joseph W. Helak '75 and his wife Kathy

all my mentors who helped me along the way and to my many patients that I had the privilege of caring for," he writes.

Kenneth I. Steinberg, of New York, NY, recently went scuba diving in Djibouti, Africa.

1977

John J. Cucinotta, of Manlius, NY, retired from medicine, having spent most of his career as a radiologist at Crouse Hospital in Syracuse. His wife is a retired high school chemistry teacher. "We look forward to traveling, and spending more time with our children and grandchildren. We are also planning a trip to a baseball game at Yankee Stadium this spring."

Debra Kuracina, of Palm Desert, CA, writes, "My son, Damian D'Auria, finally graduated from New York University Dental School and now has a full-time job in Big Bear Lake, CA. Yahoo!"



Damian D'Auria, son of Debra Kuracina '77

Mary Jo Dunbar, '78 of Syracuse, is still practicing pediatrics full time locally and enjoying it. "It is rewarding to see families grow. Still skiing here at Labrador, where I first took lessons and in Vermont. The kids are grown up and not too far away so my husband and I get to see them a fair amount. Life is good."

1978

A. James Ciaccio, of Skaneateles, NY, finished 10 years in emergency medicine at Upstate and plans to retire in a year. "My daughter Leah (Ciaccio) Andonian is an anesthesiologist who started at Upstate Community on January 20. Her husband David Andonian, an emergency doctor, is also in the Upstate Emergency Department and is a colleague of mine. It's a family affair," he writes.

Robert Fulop, of Short Hills, NJ, joined the Mount Sinai Health Care System. He is still working full time in his old office as a Mount Sinai doctor.

1980 Reのion September 11-12, 2020

John F. Fatti, of Camillus, NY, retired after 33 years in private practice in Syracuse. Five grandchildren, golf, fishing, and travels have replaced the adventures of hand surgery. "Hard to believe it's been 40 years," he writes.



John F. Fatti '80 with granddaughter Aria

1981

Ronald C. Brodsky, of Norfolk, VA, and Wendy welcomed their first grandchild, Noah Benjamin, on January 3. "Frequent visits to Denver on the horizon," he writes.



Ronald C. Brodsky '81 and grandson Noah

Diane M. Cavallaro, of

Clinton, NY, was widowed for the second time on September 8, 2019, when her husband David died of complications from cancer treatment. She lost her first husband Jim to cancer in 1998.

1982

Bonnie S. Koreff-Wolf, moved to southeast Florida. She is working full time as a medical director for a health insurance company and is closer to her four grandchildren. Her two sons are practicing medicine in Florida—Jason is a urologist in Miami and Michael is a radiologist in Naples. "Life is great," she writes.

Leon Martin, Jr., of Norcross, GA, writes, "One more year before retirement from emergency medicine."

1983

Kevin M. Coughlin, of Elmira, NY, retired in June 2019. He is coaching cross country and winter/spring track and field at Notre Dame High School in Elmira

Norman R. Friedman, of Colorado Springs, CO, is retired, and his son **Ben** Friedman is a second-year medical student at Upstate.

GABRIEL COHN, MD '86

Pioneering Therapies for

A schief medical officer of Homology Medicines, Gabriel Cohn, MD '86, MBA, leads a clinical team at the forefront of developing gene therapies for rare genetic disorders. Dr. Cohn, who joined the company in December 2019, guides clinical development and operations related to Homology's dual gene therapy and gene editing technology platform, one of the reasons he was attracted to the role.

"Some companies just do gene therapy where you add back the gene of interest to the target cells; other companies do gene editing. This company actually does both, which is unique and incredibly exciting," he says.

Cohn's efforts currently focus primarily on advancing the Phase 1/2 pheNIX gene therapy, randomized, concurrently controlled, dose-escalation trial for adults with phenylketonuria (PKU), which is expected to report initial clinical data this year.

PKU is a genetic condition that causes the amino acid phenylalanine to build up in the body, and in its severest form, can lead to brain damage, intellectual disabilities, behavioral symptoms, or seizures. It's very rare, with fewer than 20,000 cases in the U.S. each year.

"We're evaluating the dosage, the safety profile, and what the efficacy profile is at three different doses," he says. "That will help inform the most appropriate dose moving forward."

Cohn's professional background combines more than 20 years of clinical development experience focused primarily in rare genetic diseases with an academic career focused on reproductive and cancer genetics. Prior to Homology, Cohn was vice president, clinical development lead at AVROBIO, Inc., where he led the clinical development for the Gaucher disease and Pompe disease gene therapy programs, providing medical leadership for protocol design, regulatory filings and FDA interactions, global clinical trial site identification and initiation, and investigator interactions. He also served in several roles at Shire Human Genetic Therapies (HGT), including medical director, North America, driving the medical affairs strategy and support for the transition of VPRIV, an enzyme replacement therapy for Gaucher disease type 1, from clinical development through to U.S. launch.

Genetic Disorders

Cohn's interest in medical genetics began as an undergraduate at Brooklyn College, where he was involved in research to understand the genetic composition and DNA of viruses. As a medical student and resident in OB-GYN at Upstate, he considered pursuing a career in GYN oncology, but ultimately honed in on using genetics for prenatal diagnosis and research in heritable cancers.

He completed a fellowship in medical genetics at the National Institutes of Health, then returned to Upstate as the first reproductive geneticist within the Maternal Fetal Medicine Group. After a year, he was recruited to Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, Massachusetts, to build a program in reproductive medical genetics, where he remained for 15 years, adding programs in pediatric genetics, adult genetics, cancer genetics, and therapeutics, while continuing to practice obstetrics.

The field of reproductive genetics involves making diagnoses and providing counseling to patients with an anomalous fetus or prenatal diagnosis of a genetic condition. "When I was practicing genetics, it was primarily diagnostic and management—alerting the NICU and pediatricians to make appropriate plans for the baby down the line," he says.

When he was recruited by Shire to help develop therapies for Gaucher's disease, he decided it was time for a new challenge. "I had practiced for many years with limited treatment options for many of these diseases," Cohn says. "The opportunity to help drive solutions was very appealing."

Cohn is a Fellow of both the American College of Medical Genetics and the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. He is author of more than 40 peer-reviewed publications, book chapters, and review articles, and more than 70 published abstracts and presentations.

Today, his range of experience allows Cohn to analyze and propel solutions from many vantage points. "I understand the basic science, the mechanisms and properties by which some of these therapies work, and that allows for more effective interactions and partnerships with my basic science colleagues, particularly as we think of how to best translate these investigational agents to the clinic " he says.



Gabriel Cohn, MD '86, is working to advance gene therapies for genetic disorders.

"And having practiced medicine and participated in clinical trials, I understand the perspective of the treating physician or the investigator in terms of challenges at the sites and being able to work with the sites through some of those challenges, but also to design the trials in a way that that doesn't become overly burdensome for either the patient or the physician."

And finally, through his role on the pharmaceutical side, Cohn understands the business pressures of drug development, the challenges involved in designing successful clinical trials, the process of obtaining FDA approval, and the need to articulate the voice of treating physicians, patients, and their families within the organization.

Ultimately, he says, it's about making a difference in the lives of patients and their families. "I am a strong believer in the potential of Homology's dual gene therapy and gene editing platform to change the course of rare genetic disease by advancing new treatments, and ultimately, cures," he says. "I look forward to progressing our clinical pipeline to address the unmet needs of patients."

-Renée Gearhart Levy

1984

John R. Ayres, of Sarasota, FL, is semi-retired and only working one to two weeks per month. He and his wife, Deb, split their time between Sarasota and Sea Bright, NJ. "Our two daughters both moved to Brooklyn to get away from us so we got a home in Sea Bright to be closer to them. It's near the beach and is a great escape from the summer heat in Florida. I organized the first Sarasota Upstate alumni get together on March 12, which brought more than 20 people from various graduating classes together at Michaels' on East for food, wine, and shared stories of medical school and medical practice. While we all followed different paths after leaving Syracuse, we were in agreement that Upstate provided an excellent foundation for our future careers in medicine. There was some necessary social distancing due to the COVID-19 outbreak, but we are hoping to make this an annual event."

John M. Marzo, of

Williamsville, NY, writes, "Great job with reunion We had a blast, 1984 is a special class!"

Kevin O'Connor, of

Horseheads, NY, recently added board certification in emergency medical services through the American Board of Emergency Medicine. He is also board certified in emergency medicine and family medicine.

1985 Revion September 11-12, 2020

1986

Eduardo A. Arazoza, of Victor, NY, writes, "All is good in Rochester. Still waiting for golf season."

1988

Erick C. Bulawa, of Greeneville, TN, received his fifth board certification by the National Board of Physician Nutrition Specialists. He is also board certified in internal medicine, pediatrics, clinical lipidology, and obesity medicine. With the five board certifications he has a unique skillset in treating chronic metabolic disease.

David A. Campanile, of Skaneateles, NY, retired two years ago and says retirement is "highly underrated." He and wife Jennifer ('87 CHRP) never lack for activity. Their middle daughter, Gianna, was married in April 2019 and lives in Cherry Hill, NJ, and their oldest, Alexa, is engaged to be married in September. Alexa is a PACU nurse and lives in Washington, DC. Their youngest, Mia, lives in Syracuse and graduated from Union College in 2018. She just finished her BSN and will begin working on orthopedics at St. Joes Hospital in Syracuse.

Daniel M. Young, of Vestal, NY, writes, "I am very happy that our daughter Jocelyn Young, DO, M.Ed., has moved back to the Binghamton area to become faculty at UHS Wilson Family Medicine Residency, where I have been the program director since 2012. Jocelyn completed her residency at Highland Hospital in Rochester, where she served as chief resident in her fourth year. With her masters in education from University of Rochester, she will be a great addition to the faculty."

1990 Revion September 11-12, 2020

1991

Paul C. Buechel, of Nolensville, TN, continues to practice general neurology and electrophysiology for the St. Thomas Medical System in Murfreesboro, TN. In addition, he also runs a free medical clinic in neurological and general medical care for the past 15 years, with a strong Christian focus, at the Williamson County Health Department in Franklin, TN, for indigent and immigrant patients. His hobbies continue to include outdoor sports, hiking, hunting and fishing, mission activities, writing, and adventure travel. "Including a recent trip to Tanzania and Kenya this past autumn, with a highlight for myself and my 13-year-old daughter being tent-camping amongst a pride of lions for three consecutive nights, with them generally verbalizing and roaring, immediately outside our tent, quite regularly. Talk about an adrenaline rush! Please let me know if any are visiting near Nashville," he writes.



Lion charge photograph by Paul C. Buechel '91



Paul C. Buechel '91 in Africa

Mark Charlamb, of

Skaneateles, NY, writes, "After 20-plus years, I find myself back at Upstate Medical University in the cardiology division with Chris Nardone '91, Larry Charlamb '88, Matt O'Hern '94 and Theresa Waters, HS '16."

1992

Eric Lavonas, of Denver, CO, is practicing emergency medicine at Denver Health and medical toxicology at the Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center, and working as senior scientific editor for the American Heart Association's 2020 Guidelines. "Greetings to all," he writes.

1993

Kirit Patel, of Midland, TX, has been practicing cardiothoracic and vascular surgery in the Midland/ Odessa area for 19 years. He is married with three children.



Kirit Patel '93



Christina L. Brooks '95 and Nancy A. Schaefer '95 at graduation

1995 Revion September 11-12, 2020

Nancy A. Schaefer, of Hyannis Port, MA, lost her best friend of almost 30 years, Christina (Merski) **Brooks**. They met the first week of medical school and had a very rare but beautiful friendship that lasted until the end. Christina died in September after a long and courageous battle with metastatic breast cancer. Please reach out if you want to share any wonderful memories you had of Kris to nancymeder@ yahoo.com.

2000 Revion September 11-12, 2020

2003

Keri L. Burns, of Albuquerque, NM, began working as the medical director for the surgery service line for Presbyterian Medical Group last fall. She oversees the majority of the adult surgeons and sur-



Christina L. Brooks '95 with Nancy A. Schaefer '95, five months before her passing

gical services for their hospitals in Albuquerque and Santa Fe. She also works as an acute care general surgeon in Albuquerque.

Vijay S. Ramanath, of Plano, TX, heads the adult structural heart disease program at THR Presbyterian Hospital in Plano.

2004

Padma Kandadai, of Cambridge, MA, was named chair of the clinical curriculum subcommittee at Boston University School of Medicine and helps coordinate the clerkship curriculum across the third year. She also serves as the clerkship director for the OB-GYN clerkship. Clinically, she is the division director for female pelvic medicine and reconstructive surgery at Boston Medical Center. She lives in Cambridge with her son, husband, and a Bernese mountain dog named "Bernese Sanders."

Teresa J. Pliskowski, of Kirkland, WA, was married in July 2019 to Brook Brayman at St. Mark's Cathedral in Seattle, WA, after four years of dating. They spent two weeks on their honeymoon in southern Spain and Morocco. Teresa works for Overlake Hospital in Bellevue and Brook is a high school English teacher.



Teresa J. Pliskowski '04 and her husband at their wedding

2005 Relion 2008 September 11•12, 2020

Daniel R. Lefebvre. of Westwood, MA, is coeditor of two new textbooks published by Thieme this year, Ophthalmic Plastic Surgery-Tricks of the Trade and Eyelid Reconstruction.

Rachel M. Pessah-**Pollack**, of Roslyn Heights, NY, joined New York University Langone Health as a clinical associate professor in the division of endocrinology.

Elizabeth K. Nelsen, of Liverpool, NY, is associate professor of pediatrics at Upstate Medical University and was promoted to pediatric residency program director in September 2019. She previously served as associate program director for seven years. Dr. Nelsen joined the faculty at Upstate in 2010 after completing her pediatric residency and chief residency at Upstate. In addition to her role as program director, she works as a general pediatrician at Upstate Pediatric and Adolescent Center, the outpatient pediatric office associated with Upstate Golisano Children's Hospital in Syracuse.

Vikram Garg, of San Diego, CA, recently transitioned from clinical practice to research and has been appointed medical director for internal medicine/rheumatology at PRA Health Sciences.

Joseph Khabbaza, of Brecksville, OH, and wife Lindsey welcomed their third daughter, Ava Antoinette, on September 4, 2019. She was brought into this world at Cleveland Clinic Hillcrest Hospital by Colleen Raymond '97.



Ava Antoinette, daughter of Joseph Khabbaza '08



2013

Rhonda L. Philopena, of Fayetteville, NY, and husband Andrew welcomed their first baby Mariella on August 23, 2019. Rhonda currently works as an attending in the Pediatric Emergency Department at Upstate.



Rhonda Philopena '13, husband Andrew, and daughter Mariella

Spencer T. Langevin, of Bayside, NY, and Natalie Moore-Lopez, MPH '13, announce the birth of their son Zachary James Langevin on October 12, 2019. "Big brother Xavier is thrilled to have a new addition to the family!"



Xavier (big brother) and Zachary James, sons of Spencer T. Langevin '14

2015 Relion September 11•12, 2020

Mimi C. Briggs, of Glen Oaks, NY, was married on October 4, 2019, to James Newman '16. Many of their classmates attended, including Molly Belkin '16 and husband Brian Weinreich, who she met in Syracuse while at Upstate; John Pizzuti '16 and wife Jessica Pizzuti '17; Maria Nicolais '16 and husband Joe McGreevy '14, Upstate Physician Assistant Program; Anup Shah '16 and his girlfriend Amy Shah; Matt Kelly '16 and his girlfriend Jill Egan '17; Steve Karnyski '16 and his fiance Alexandra Caldwell; Courtney Bellantoni, wife of Andrew Bellantoni '16, who was unable to attend; Ryann Quinn '16, and her fiance Ryan Holstead '16; Mary Strader '16 and her husband Casey Strader; and Mo Alsamrai '16.

Brandon S. King, of Colchester, VT, is happy to announce his acceptance into cardiothoracic and critical care anesthesiology fellowships at the Johns Hopkins University Hospital.

Rachel A. Kopicki, finished her residency in family medicine as chief resident in June 2019, then moved to New Zealand to work as a general practitioner with her fiancé.

2018

Aneesa M. Thannickal and Glenn A. Stewart, of Rochester, MN, were engaged on December 19, 2019.



Mimi C. Briggs '16 and James B. Newman '16 with classmates at their wedding

2017

Caitlin A. Nicholson, of Philadelphia, PA, matched to a primary care sports medicine fellowship at Rush University in Chicago. She will start this August, after she finishes her family medicine residency training at University of Pennsylvania. "I'm looking forward to this one-year position, during which I will cover DePaul University athletics as well as the Chicago Bulls and White Sox."

2019

Jenny L. Schreiber and Jordana L. Gilman, of Rochester, NY, were married on May 26, 2019!



Jenny L. Schreiber '19 and Jordana L. Gilman '19

Matthew Barra and Dave DiStefano are

both first-year orthopedic surgery residents at the University of Rochester. They were thrilled to be assigned together on the University of Rochester Burn Surgery Service for the month of November, where their attending was **Derek Bell '02**, head of the Burn Program.

"What ensued was a great month filled with hard work, education, and camaraderie," writes DiStefano. "Besides all going to the same medical school, Dr. Bell and I are both from Syracuse and Dr. Bell went to college in Matt's hometown of Pittsford, NY. Dr. Bell and I were able to reflect on our unique experiences during third year as Binghamton clinical campus students. We also found that we shared the same post-test watering holes on Marshall Street and in Armory Square. It seems that Faegan's will always be the spot for Friday noon beers and/or Jaeger bombs after unit exams.

"As interns in a new hospital, Matt and I are still figuring out the system and how to do things the best way; it was great to work under someone as open, supportive, and sharply dressed as Dr. Bell," says DiStefano. "He is patient, approachable, and a masterful surgeon and educator. From the first day on service, he eagerly took us under his wing. It felt as though he made it his personal mission to hone our

clinical acumen, surgical skill, and work ethic. During our month under Dr. Bell's dedicated tutelage, Matt and I became much more confident and capable residents in the operating room, on the floors, and fielding consults in the Emergency Department. We ended the month with a newfound sense of confidence, leadership, and extremely strong Burn Beards, as you can see from the picture. This was arguably our most impressive accomplishment of the month."



Matthew Barra '19, Derek Bell '02, and Dave DiStefano '19

Residents

Heather L. Dealy, of Springfield, PA, participated in January on a mission trip to provide ophthalmic care and surgery to truly underserved people in Guatemala. "I am proud to be a part of Promise in Sight, an amazing organization that provides both optometric and ophthalmic surgery to many who would otherwise never have an eye exam." They were in Guastatoya, Guatemala, and partnered with both the Delaware Lions Club and the Lions of Guatemala.

Brian Manfredi, of

Baltimore, MD, finished his radiology residency at Morristown and fellowship in Baltimore (MSK). "Since then, I have gotten married and have produced one daughter, now three, with another one due any day. I joined a radiology private practice in Saratoga Springs, NY, and become a partner. Hip hip horray! It hasn't all been roses, unfortunately. I lost most of my hearing due to Ménière's disease. I've had two surgeries since my diagnosis in 2013 and have more or less stabilized for now, which is great. I miss our Upstate class. You guys were the bomb."

Jeffrey S. Sneider, of

Syracuse, NY, retired from practice in June 2019 after 41 years. He still works as medical director for HealtheConnections, the RHIO for central New York.

Stuart Trust, of Syracuse, NY, shares that his granddaughter, Sarah Trust, a nurse in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at Upstate was married to Manu Arul '18, who is now a second-year surgery resident at Upstate. His other granddaughter, Emily, is the mother of his beautiful great-granddaughter, Carson. He continues providing hospital tours to high school students with an emphasis on disadvantaged Syracuse city students. He also continues to teach second year medical students, and always brings his homemade cookies to class.



Dear Alumni,

We are living in unprecedented times. Many of you in active practice are on the front lines fighting COVID-19. We would like to hear your stories in your own words.

If you would like to share your COVID-19 experience with us, please visit https://medalumni. upstate.edu/story-ideas or email norcrosp@upstate.edu.



IN MEMORIAM

1936

PETER F. BAKER, of Port Charlotte, FL, died July 31, 2012.

ELLA TOMPKINS ROBESON, of Hampton, MD, died November 24, 2002. Dr. Tompkins was appointed a health officer in Virginia. In 1947, she became director of health for the city of Hampton and served until her retirement in 1971. She was survived by her son, John; and two grandchildren.

1937

FRANK E. BARNES, JR., of Auburn, NY, died August 17, 2007. In 1942 Dr. Barnes served in the U.S. Navy as a medical doctor and participated in the invasion of North Africa, Salerno, and Sicily. In 1945, he served a residency in anesthesiology and completed his naval service as chief of anesthesiology at Sampson Naval Base. After World War II, he returned to Auburn to establish a private medical practice. He became chief of anesthesia at Auburn Memorial and Mercy Hospitals. Barnes served as president of both Auburn Memorial Hospital and Mercy Hospital medical and dental staff. He was survived by his sons Frank and Jay; daughter Jennifer; and two grandchildren.

1944

NATALIE STEPHENS TURNER, of Fort Myers, FL, died January 13, 2012. Dr. Stephens was certified by the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology and had a downtown practice in OB-GYN in Chicago and served at various hospitals, including Cook County. She spent her career in private practice, most of her career as an attending physician for Northwestern University Hospitals, where she was Assistant Professor Emeritus in OB-GYN. In 1974 she and medical students founded Rape Victims Advocates, which provides extensive services in Chicago hospitals. Stephens was survived by her son Stephen; daughter Martha; and four grandchildren.

1947

GEORGE P. FULMER, of San Rafael, CA, died January 14. Dr. Fulmer attended Syracuse University as a pre-med student and as a sophomore in 1944 was drafted into the Army. After boot camp, he attended Upstate while training with the Army. He was discharged from the Army in 1946 and received his MD in 1947. After his internship and residency at Ohio State Hospitals in Columbus, he entered a practice in Solvay with Nichols Pirro, MD. When the Korean War started, he volunteered as a physician in the Air Force and was stationed at the Goose Bay Labrador Air Force base. He was discharged at the rank of captain, and moved to Ontario, Canada, where he worked for the government, providing needed medical services to the First Nations people for six years. Fulmer returned to New York to complete his residency in internal medicine, and in 1961, returned to Canada to work for the Canadian government at Miller Bay Indian Hospital. In 1966, he moved to San Anselmo, CA, and completed a fellowship in endocrinology at University of California San Francisco and practiced in the city. Fulmer was survived by his sons Hugh and Christopher; daughters Mary-George, Anne, Kathleen and Maureen; 14 grandchildren; and nine great grandchildren.

JOHN W. HAYDEN, of La Crosse, WI, died February 5, 2017. Dr. Hayden enlisted in the Navy in World War II, then entered the College of Medicine on the V12 Bill. He did his internship in pathology under Nobel Laureate George Whipple, MD, at Rochester's Strong Memorial Hospital. He was called into service in the U.S. Navy during the Korean conflict, serving from 1951-1953 as a lieutenant and general medical officer on the USS Midway and the U.S. Naval Academy. Hayden returned to Boston where he was a resident at Peter Bent Brigham Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital and chief orthopedic resident at Boston Children's Hospital. In 1958, he moved to La Crosse, and with Dr. Tompkins, established the orthopedic department of the Gundersen Clinic-Lutheran Hospital. He was survived by his sons Charles, John and Christopher; daughters Melissa and Sarah; and 12 grandchildren.

MURIEL C. SILBAR, of Fox Point, WI, died September 4, 2019. Dr. Silbar was a pioneer in medicine, being one of only four women in her medical school class at Upstate. She spent her career serving the patients of the Milwaukee County Hospital. She was survived by her daughter Margo; son Elliott; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

1949

SALLY HAGER, of Lexington, MA, died May 4, 2009. Dr. Hager was survived by her daughter Carol; son Robert; and two grandchildren.

VINCENT PATTAVINA, of Quincy, MA, died November 12, 2015. Dr. Pattavina had a private practice in south Braintree and was affiliated with the former Quincy City Hospital for 25 years and also at South Shore Hospital in Weymouth, Carney Hospital in Dorchester, and Brighton Marine Hospital. He retired in 1996 and then worked for the U.S. Army at the Fargo Building in Boston with military recruits. Pattavina was a World War II and Korean War veteran, having served in the U.S. Navy. He continued his military service in the U.S. Navy Reserves and retired as a Captain after 30 years of service. Pattavina was survived by his sons Vincent, Charles and Thomas; daughter Betsy; 14 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

1951

JAMES GIANAKOPOULOS, of Springfield, MA, died November 2, 2018. Dr. Gianakopoulos practiced as a family physician with his partners at the Springfield Clinic for more than 40 years. He served honorably in the U.S. Army during World War II. He was survived by his three children, Antigone, George and William; and 10 grandchildren.

1952

NORMA B. GRANVILLE, of Bloomfield, CT, died January 30, 2018. Dr. Granville served in the U.S. Navy Nurses Corps Ensign from 1945-1946, during World War II. After the War, she made use of her GI benefits to further her education. She began her career in hematology working at Saint Francis Hospital in Hartford, CT, and was soon awarded the prestigious, two-year New England Center Hospital hematology fellowship in Boston, MA. Granville returned to Connecticut, where she served as the director of hematology services at Saint Francis Hospital from 1958-1985. She was survived by two nieces and one nephew.

IN MEMORIAM

1953

WILLET RAYNOR BOWEN, of Brookfield, CT, died October 3, 2016. Dr. Bowen was a World War II veteran, serving in the Navy on the USS Boxer. He moved to Brookfield, CT, were he dedicated himself to raising his family and practicing medicine as a pediatrician for more than 25 years. He was chief of pediatrics at Danbury Hospital. Bowen was survived by daughters Mary, Ruth, Theresa and Margaret; son Joseph; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

RICHARD A. GARNISH, of Clifton Springs, NY, died April 15, 2013. Dr. Garnish was a captain in the U.S. Army, stationed in Japan during the Korean War. Dr. Garnish owned and operated his own family practice in Clifton Springs for 39 years, retiring in 1995. He was survived by his wife, Marion; daughters Catherine, Patricia and Nancy; son Christopher; and six grandchildren.

J. ROBERT HUSZAR, of Portsmouth, MA, died July 14, 2018. Dr. Huszar did an internship at Boston City Hospital, then served in the Air Force. Following his service, he completed his residency at Saint Francis Hospital in Hartford, CT, and accepted a position there as director of research. Huszar developed a system for the radio transmission of EKG signals to a hospital from an ambulance (the Cardio Alert) and collaborated on the development of an unfiltered air curtain for the isolation of lowresistance patients (the Steri-Closure). Huszar was survived by his wife, Jean; daughters Marta, Paula, Wendy and Jennifer; and five grandchildren.

1955

ARAM JIGARJIAN, of Palm Springs, CA, died in January 2019. Dr. Jigarjian completed his medical internship at the University of Cincinnati, then returned to Upstate to complete his residency and training to become an orthopedic surgeon. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy to begin his medical career and served as a lieutenant. After his military service, Jigarjian settled in Syracuse. He went into private practice with an orthopedic medical group in Binghamton, NY, and later moved his family to Palm Springs, CA, to begin a new orthopedic practice at the Palm Springs Medical Center. He treated patients throughout the Coachella Valley for more than 20 years. He was also director of the Department of Surgery at Desert Regional Medical Center. Jigarjian was survived by his daughter Judy; sons Rich, James and Rob; and three grandchildren.

RICHARD J. RICE, of Palm Desert, CA, died July 13, 2019. Dr. Rice spent part of his medical residency as a captain in the Air Force at Travis Air Force Base, CA. He became the youngest ever chief of staff of Santa Monica Hospital in 1967. He spent five years as the medical director of the Santa Monica UCLA Hospital Medical Center and was in private practice for 35 years as a general practitioner caring for his patients in Santa Monica. Rice was survived by his wife, Ruth; daughters Nancy and Karen; son David; and two grandchildren.

HORACE W. WHITELEY, JR., of

Chestertown, MD, died July 31, 2013. Dr. Whiteley trained in surgical oncology at Memorial Hospital in New York and went on to become a true pioneer in the surgical treatment of cancer at Sloan Kettering. After retiring from active practice he served as a surveyor/consultant with The Joint Commission. Whiteley was survived by his wife, Sihn Ja; son Horace; and three granddaughters.

1956

FRANCIS L. CESARANO, of Miami, FL, died January 30, 2008.

STANLEY DAVIS CHOVNICK, of Ocala, FL, died March 27, 2019. Dr. Chovnick practiced surgery and urology. He ran his own medical practice in Cobleskill, NY and taught as an assistant clinical professor in urology at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City. He moved to New Port Richey, FL, in 1971 and continued to practice urology until retirement at the age of 77. Chovnick was survived by his daughters, Ananda and Pamela; sons Bruce and Josh; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

JAMES P. GIANGOBBE, of Goodyear, AZ, died November 20, 2019. Dr. Giangobbe did his medical residency at Jersey City Medical Center from 1956 to 1958. He then served active duty in the U.S. Air Force and retired to the reserves at the rank of captain. He established his medical practice in Maryvale, AZ, in 1962. He was chief of staff at Maryvale Samaritan Hospital and president of the Arizona Academy of Family Practice. He retired from patient care in 1992. He was survived by his wife Patricia; sons Mitchell and Gregory; and five grandchildren. **ELAINE K. GOLDSTONE**, of West Palm Beach, FL, died January 12, 2016. Dr. Goldstone received her medical degree in anesthesiology. She was survived by her daughter, Lori; four grandchildren; and two great grandchildren.

WESLEY P. SAUTER, of Bluffton, SC, died December 9, 2016. Dr. Sauter's medical career included general practice in several rural communities of New York, (Cincinnatus and South Otselic). He specialized in anesthesia and practiced for 35 years, including serving as chief of staff at St Luke's Memorial Hospital in Utica, NY. Sauter served in the U.S. Navy in World War II aboard the aircraft carrier USS Belleau Wood and the Korean War where he served as a medic. Sauter was survived by his sons, Jim and David; daughters Nancy, Amy and Melinda; and seven grandchildren.

1957

STEPHEN A. HIRSCH, of Baltimore, MD, died September 26, 2019. Dr. Hirsch entered the U.S. Army and served in West Germany as a captain in the Medical Corps. In the early 1960s, he moved to Baltimore to complete his residency in psychiatry at Johns Hopkins and City Hospitals. He established a private psychiatry practice, which he maintained for more than 50 years. Hirsch was survived by his daughters, Pamela, Gwen, and Billie; son L. Jonathan; and three grandchildren.

1960

ARISTAKS KACHADOURIAN, of

Binghamton, NY, died September 9, 2019. Dr. Kachadourian completed his surgical residency at Jersey City Medical Center, NJ. He completed his training in vascular surgery at Mount Sinai Hospital, New York City. He joined the military in 1967, becoming captain and discharged two years later as major in the U.S. Army at Fort MacPherson in Atlanta, GA. He returned to Binghamton in 1972 and became a partner in the general surgical practice of Drs. Bauman and Peters serving General, Lourdes, and Wilson Hospitals. Kachadourian was survived by his wife, Adrienne; daughters Talene, Anise, Karni, Alicia and Lorig; and six grandchildren.

1963

DONALD L. NATHANSON, of Wynnewood, PA, died December 27, 2017. Dr. Nathanson was a psychiatrist in private practice in Philadelphia, and associate professor at Thomas Jefferson University and Hahneman Hospitals. Nathanson was survived by his wife Roz; daughter Julie; and one grandson.

JOSEPH V. SCRIVANI, of Fayetteville, NY, died November 16, 2019. Dr. Scrivani served two years in the U.S. Air Force. He completed a residency in radiology at the University of Oregon in 1966 and retired from University Hospital in 2006, where he was director of women's imaging. Scrivani was survived by his wife Arlene; son David; daughter Elizabeth; and one grandson.

1961

BARBARA A. LEVEY, of Los Angeles, CA, died October 29, 2019. Dr. Levey dedicated her life's work as a clinical pharmacologist in a university setting, holding roles at the University of Miami, University of Pittsburgh (where she was also the dean of admissions), the Robert Wood Johnson School of Medicine at Rutgers University, and for the last 21 years of her career, as associate vice chancellor of Biomedical Affairs and professor of medicine (Pharmacology) at the University of California Los Angeles, before retiring in 2015. Levey was survived by her husband Dr. Gerald S. Levey; son John; daughter Robin; and three grandchildren.

SIR FREDERICK N. BALLANTYNE, a

former governor general of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, died January 23. Dr. Ballantyne was the longest serving head of state, serving from September 2002 to July 2019. He was named a Knight Grand Cross of the Order of Saint Michael and Saint George by Queen Elizabeth II in 2002. Ballantyne practiced cardiology. He served his country as the sole cardiologist for many years, even as he held the office of senior medical officer. He interned at the Montreal General Hospital and then completed his residency in internal medicine in Rochester, NY, followed by fellowship in cardiology. He returned to St. Vincent and the Grenadines in 1971 and was appointed chief of medicine at the Kingstown General Hospital, renamed the Milton Cato Memorial Hospital. Ballantyne was honored with the Humanitarian Award in 2013 from the Upstate Medical Alumni Foundation. He was survived by his wife Lady Sally-Ann; and seven children.

1970

ROBERT W. DOEBLER, of Sewickley, PA, died November 16, 2019. Dr. Doebler practiced urology for 45 years. He trained at the U.S. Naval Regional Medical Center in Philadelphia and served in the U.S. Navy Medical Corps for seven years in Philadelphia; Naples, Italy; and Charleston, SC. He founded his medical practice, Valley Urological Associates in 1981 and continued to serve patients in the Sweickley Valley until months before his passing. Doebler was survived by his wife, Paula; daughter Stefanie; son Matthew; and two granddaughters.

1978

WESLEY CANFIELD, of Beaver Dams, NY, died October 1, 2019. He was survived by his wife, Kaye; daughters Marta and Emily; and two grandsons.

1995

CHRISTINA L. BROOKS, of Colorado Spring, CO, died September 12, 2019. Dr. Brooks practiced emergency medicine. She was an incredible person who would put the concerns of others before her own. She was survived by her husband, Michael Brooks; son Alexander; daughter Kassia; father Norman Merski; and mother Katherine Barker.

Alexander Aiello Paley '19

ALEXANDER AIELLO PALEY, of Albany, NY, died October 27, 2019. Dr. Paley entered medical school at Upstate in 2014. During his medical studies, he balanced his schoolwork with outreach activities and community service. He volunteered regularly at a clinic that helped diabetic individuals experiencing homelessness, and formed a strong bond with his elementary school-age reading buddy, whom he worked with throughout his years at Upstate. Paley was referred to by his classmates as Alex "Kaley" for his love of cooking and healthy eating. He created a dinner rotation with his medical school classmates and often encouraged his friends to join him on runs. After a brief medical leave of absence to recover from brain surgery and treatment for a brain tumor during his third year of medical school, Paley returned to school and graduated in May 2019, with the intention of beginning a residency in family medicine at Ellis Hospital in Schenectady, NY. His selflessness was evident even after his passing, donating his brain to Upstate for brain cancer research. Paley was survived by his loving parents, Natalie Aiello and Bob Paley; sisters Leah and Jordan; two nieces; and one nephew.



IN MEMORIAM

Residents

IRMA FATTAL, of Vestal, NY, died August 15, 2015. Dr. Fattal received her medical training at Semmelweis University, in Budapest, Hungary. She escaped to Canada, where she practiced and taught medicine before moving to Binghamton. She became board certified in psychiatry and neurology. She practiced psychiatry and taught medical students in the Upstate Clinical Campus program. She was survived by her daughters Nora and Corrinne; son Peter; and 10 grandchildren.

STEPHEN J. GORDON, of San Diego, CA, died July 18, 2018.

FERGUS D.J. LANE, of Bristol, CT, died September 28, 2019. Dr. Lane earned a law degree from the University Southampton, England, in 1960 then decided law was not for him and became a purser in the Merchant Navy. He received his medical degree from the University Bristol, England in 1970. He served as a ship's doctor, studied in India, and practiced medicine in Salisbury, Rhodesia. He moved to the United States in the 1970's and became a U.S. citizen in 1981. He earned his U.S. medical certification at Upstate and then went to Connecticut, where he practiced anesthesiology at Bristol Hospital. He retired in 2001. He was survived by his wife, Libby; children Tyler, Hastings, Madison, Mary and Kathryn; and two grandchildren.

WALTER F. LEAVELL, of Cincinnati, OH, died November 28, 2019. Dr. Leavell graduated from the University Cincinnati College of Pharmacy in 1957 and began his career as a pharmacist in Dayton, OH. In 1960, he was accepted by Meharry Medical College in Nashville, TN. Leavell completed his studies in the doctor of medicine program (as a member of the Alpha Omega Honor Society) in 1964. He then moved to Syracuse and served his internship and residency at Upstate/St. Joseph Hospital. He completed an NIH fellowship in peripheral vascular disease during his second year in the program. In his senior year he was selected as the first African-American chief resident in the Department of Internal Medicine. In 1969, he was appointed assistant professor in the College of Medicine at Upstate. Leavell served for a number of years in the Air Force Reserve, rising to the rank of major and commander of a medical flight. He also worked part time as a medical examiner for the Onondaga County coroner. In 1971, he was named associate dean for the College for Medicine. Leavell earned a

national reputation as an inspiring leader in medical education, due in part to the publication of his manual on how to increase the recruitment and retention of minority medical students. During his career he served as president of Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, senior associate vice president of health affairs at Howard University, dean of Meharry Medical College, and vice dean of the University Cincinnati College of Medicine. Leavell was survived by his wife of 63 years, Vivian; sons Pierce and Pierre; five grandchildren; and three greatgrandchildren.

DAVID T. NASH, of Palm Beach, FL, died November 2, 2019. Dr. Nash graduated from New York University Medical School and then completed his residencies at Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York City, at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston, and at Upstate Medical University. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Air Force as a physician. He was stationed in Guam after the Korean War and was honorably discharged as a major. Nash established his cardiology practice in Syracuse. He wrote books educating people on the prevention of heart disease, as well as hundreds of scientific articles. He was a pioneer in the connection between cholesterol and heart disease. Dr. Nash was survived by his sons Stephen '85 and Robert; and six grandchildren.

MARIO L. PEREIRA, of Tampa, FL, died November 11, 2017. Dr. Pereira served in the U.S. Army during the Gulf War-Desert Storm. He was stationed in Stuttgart, Germany, with the 11th Chemical Company. He was the recipient of the Bronze Service Star, Parachutist Badge, Overseas Service Ribbon, and the Southeast Asia Service Metal. He obtained his board certification in orthopedic surgery as a spine surgeon. Pereira was survived by his wife Diane; daughters Gabriella, Alexandria, and Madeline; and son Antonio.

OLGA P. WEBER-THOMPSON, of

Fayetteville, NY, died March 20, 2018. Dr. Weber-Thompson received her medical degree from the University Bern, Switzerland. She came to the U.S. in 1953 and practiced medicine, specializing in anesthesiology. Weber-Thompson was survived by her husband, Walter; daughter Maria; sons Stephen and Gregory; and five grandchildren. **EDWIN H. YARWOOD**, of Liverpool, NY, died May 3, 2019. Dr. Yarwood practiced medicine in his office on the first floor of his Liverpool home. He was survived by his son, Craig; daughter Marta; his first wife, Sally; four grandchildren; and five stepchildren.

Faculty

M. MASOOD NAIM, of Fayetteville, NY, died October 25, 2019. Dr. Naim was born in Pakistan and earned his medical degree from King Edward Medical College in Lahore, Pakistan, in 1969. He then immigrated to the U.S. and completed a transitional year in New York City, then OB-GYN residency and urogynecology fellowship at Upstate. He was a preeminent faculty member at Upstate where he served as section chief of the urogynecology division, taught residents and medical students, mentored junior faculty, and cared for patients with compassion. He was survived by his wife, Sajida; children Saira, Sami, and Farah; and three grandchildren.

Emeritus Faculty

H. RICHARD HELLSTROM, of Fayetteville, NY, died October 19, 2019. Dr. Hellstrom received his medical degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1952. His professional career began at the VA Hospital in Pittsburgh in 1953. He joined the University of Pittsburgh Medical School as an associate professor in 1966. In 1979, Hellstrom accepted an appointment in the College of Medicine as a professor in the Department of Pathology at Upstate and chief of laboratory service at the VA Medical Center in Syracuse. He held these positions until he retired in 1998. In April 1998, he was appointed Professor Emeritus in the Department of Pathology at Upstate. Hellstrom was survived by his wife, Martha.



Coming Soon to a City Near You!

CALIFORNIA

8:48/15:27

Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Kaweah Delta Health Care District Stanford University University of Southern California (2)

CONNECTICUT

Hartford Hospital University of Connecticut School of Medicine (2) Yale-New Haven Hospital

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

George Washington University MedStar Washington Hospital Center St. Elizabeths Hospital/DBH

FLORIDA

Johns Hopkins All Childrens Hospital Orlando Health University of Florida COM Shands Hospital

GEORGIA Emory University School of Medicine (2)

ILLINOIS

Northwestern McGaw/NMH/VA Rush University Medical Center University of Chicago Medical Center

INDIANA

. Indiana University School of Medicine

MARYLAND

University of Maryland Medical Center (3) Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston University Medical Center (4) Lahey Clinic

Lemuel Shattuck Hospital Tufts Medical Center (2) University of Massachusetts Medical School (2)

While many Upstate students remain in Central New York for residency, others head to training sites across the country. Here's where the Class of 2020 will begin their residencies on July 1.

MICHIGAN

Detroit Medical Center/Wayne State University Henry Ford Hospital St. Joseph Mercy-Ann Arbor University of Michigan Hospitals Ann Arbor

MINNESOTA

Mayo Clinic School of Graduate Medical Education University of Minnesota Medical School

NEW JERSEY

Rutgers R. W. Johnson Medical School (2)

NEW YORK

..... Albany Medical Center (9) Creedmoor Psychiatric Center Ellis Hospital Hofstra North Shore LIJ School of Medicine Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai (2) Icahn School of Medicine South Nassau Community Hospital Icahn School of Medicine St. Lukes-Roosevelt Montefiore Medical Center/Einstein (6) New York Presbyterian Hospital-Columbia University Medical Center (2) New York University Grossman School of Medicine New York University Winthrop Hospital Orange Regional Medical Center Richmond University Medical Center Rochester General Hospital St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center (5) Stony Brook Teaching Hospitals (6) SUNY Upstate Medical University (27) University of Rochester/Strong Memorial (9) UHS-Wilson Medical Center University at Buffalo School of Medicine Westchester Medical Center (2) Zucker School of Medicine Northwell NS/LIJ (3) Zucker School of Medicine Northwell Zucker Hillside

Students from the Class if 2020 in a scene from their Match Day video. To view the video, visit https://medalumni.upstate.edu/match

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23

NORTH CAROLINA

University of North Carolina Hospitals (2)

OHIO

. Case Western/University Hospitals **Cleveland Medical Center** Nationwide Childrens Hospital University of Cincinnati Medical Center (2)

PENNSYLVANIA

Allegheny General Hospital (2) Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania Lancaster General Hospital Penn State Hershey Medical Center Temple University Hospital (2) Thomas Jefferson University Tower Health/Chestnut Hill Hospital (2)

RHODE ISLAND

Butler Hospital /Brown University Kent Hospital Rhode Island Hospital/Brown University

TENNESSEE

Vanderbilt University Medical Center

TEXAS

McLennan County Family Medicine San Antonio Military Medical Center

VIRGINIA

Eastern Virginia Medical School Virginia Commonwealth University Health Systems

WASHINGTON

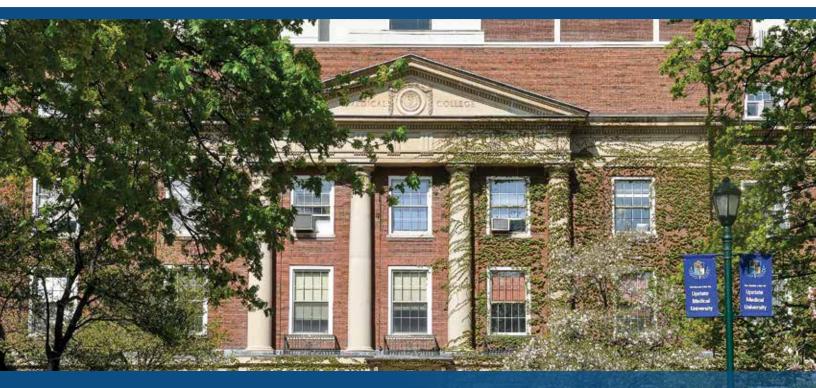
Madigan Army Medical Center

CANADA

McMaster University University of British Columbia

UPSTATE MEDICAL ALUMNI FOUNDATION

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SEPTEMBER 11 & 12