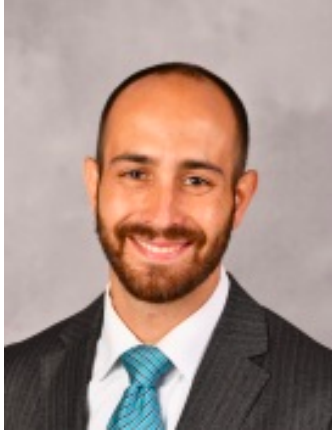


# Happy Birthday!



Rafi  
April 2



Shervin  
April 13



Celine  
April 21

Director: Dr. Amit Dhamoon  
Coordinator: Andrea Cifonelli

**UPSTATE**  
MEDICAL UNIVERSITY  
*MD/PhD Program*



# MD/PHD

NEWSLETTER  
APRIL 2024

Dear Colleagues,

I am really looking forward to spring this year. Over the coming weeks our Grand Rounds cycle will finish up and we are looking forward to hearing your input during our town hall. We will plan for some workshops in the summer so that we have the opportunity to get together and learn. We will say congratulations and goodbye to our graduates in the coming months and congratulations and hello to our incoming MD, PhD students. I am looking forward to our summer picnic and another installment of our book club. As always, please reach out if there is anything that you need.

Best wishes,  
Amit

# 2024 MDPHD TOWN HALL

## 01 2023/24 REVIEW

- WHAT IS GOING WELL?
- WHAT IS NOT GOING WELL? SUGGESTIONS?

## 02 RECRUITMENT UPDATE

- ACCEPTED STUDENT DAY FEEDBACK
- STUDENT ROLE IN RECRUITMENT

## 03 2024/25 GR

- SCHEDULE
- REVIEW, SUGGESTIONS, EXPECTATIONS

## 04 MS3 TRANSITION

- EXPECTATIONS AND IMPORTANT DATES WITH NEW CURRICULUM
- CLINICAL TRAINING IN PHD

## 05 COMMUNITY/EVENTS

- PICNIC AND ORIENTATION WEEK

**April 4, 2024**  
**6-7PM, Setter 3507/8**  
*Following Grand Rounds*

# Publications



Nature Communications:

Rab4A-directed endosome traffic shapes pro-inflammatory mitochondrial metabolism in T cells via mitophagy, CD98 expression, and kynurenine-sensitive mTOR activation

Notable authors include:

Tiffany Caza (MD/PhD Class of 2014)

Zachary Oaks (MD/PhD Class of 2018)

Nick Huang (MD/PhD Class of 2022)

Brandon Wyman (MD/PhD Class of 2024)

Me (MD/PhD Class of 2025)

## MDPhD Matches

### Congrats!

**Jenni - ISMMS Mount Sinai Hospital- NY Surgery - Preliminary**

**Mike - U of R/Strong Memorial- NY Internal Medicine**

**Hannah - UCLA Semel Inst. for Neuroscience- Psychiatry/Research**

**Nick - Loma Linda Univ Med Ctr- Family Medicine**

**Brandon - SUNY Upstate Med University Medicine-Preliminary,**

**Brown/Rhode Island Hospital- Anesthesiology**

# **MDPhD Spring Dissertation Defenses**



**Sam LaMagna, Tuesday, April 2, 2024; 12:00pm  
Location: 4709, NRB**



**Maria Ortiz, Wednesday, April 3, 2024; 10:00am  
Location: 103 Weiskotten Hall**



**Josh Harris, Thursday April 11, 2024; 2:00pm  
Location: Weiskotten Hall 2231/2213**



## **Summer Volunteer Opportunity Reach One Teach One**

### **What is the Reach One Teach One (R.O.T.O.) @ Zonta House?**

A program run for young girls (5-12 y/o) in the Syracuse community  
Our role: Run science experiments with our students (experiments change every week)

### **Where is it?**

At the Zonta House: 401 Douglas St, Syracuse, NY 13203 (5 min drive)

### **How will I get there?**

Carpooling and self-transportation options are available!

### **What is the commitment?**

Time is flexible, on-site weekly meetings, over the summer  
The curriculum and experiments are all written but can be adjusted

### **Why should you participate?**

The girls love having us there and will brighten up your day.

You will inspire these young people to achieve.

It is a great study break and stress relief.

It's a great way to practice communication skills.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Allysa ([kemraja@upstate.edu](mailto:kemraja@upstate.edu)) or Emma Retzlaff ([Reztlafe@upstate.edu](mailto:Reztlafe@upstate.edu)).

