Director: Dr. Amit Dhamoon Coordinator: Andrea Cifonelli



### Happy Birthday!



Arnav June 4







Cora June 15



Joe June 20

#### **Message from Amit**

Dear Ope, Saisha, Kailey, Katie, and Tracy,

Welcome to the Upstate MD, PhD community! We are so excited to have you join us!

Dear Colleagues,

I hope that all of you are having a wonderful summer. Can't wait to have you over to our place in Tully in a few weeks. Please bring sure to bring towels—mostly to dry off Arnav when he falls in the water.

Best wishes, Amit

# 2024 MDPhD Picnic







# IN NEED OF A GRILL MASTER - LMK if you or a friend or s/o can help us out!

When: June 12th, 1p-4p
7422 Song Lake Road, Tully, NY 13159
\*Please carpool as there is limited parking

Potluck + BYOB

### RSVP + indicate your dish to pass

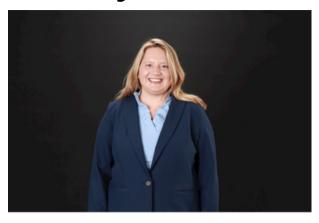
Hot dogs, hamburgers (with vegan options), soft drinks provided



Families/SO's welcome to attend Enjoy swimming and kayaking!

### Welcome!

#### **Kailey Jackett**



I graduated from Colgate University in 2021 with a bachelor's degree in molecular biology. I have spent the past three years, researching the tumor microenvironment and metastasis of pediatric solid tumors under the direction of Dr. Rosandra Kaplan at the National Cancer Institute. I am excited to continue to explore the field of cancer biology at Upstate. I also enjoy running, cooking, and being a dog-mom!

#### **Opeyemi Lekan-Michael**



I graduated from Columbia with a major in Biology and a minor in Psychology. I will be starting my MD/PhD program at SUNY Upstate in the fall of 2024. I am excited about the potential labs I could rotate in over the summer and the skills I could gain in both the classroom and lab, which will aid in my journey to becoming a physician-scientist. I look forward to enjoying the scenery in the area. I am a huge fan of soccer and also have interests in tennis, football, and basketball.

#### Saisha Ramdour



I grew up in Mauritius and love spending time outdoors, hiking, backpacking, kayaking and scuba diving. I also enjoy local music, art scenes and food.

I graduated in December of 2021 from Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, PA, with a Bachelor of Arts in Neuroscience. My research in college with Dr Timothy Roth focused on the neuroanatomy of cognitively deficient hybridizing chickadees. I then worked for 2.5 years at the Airway Inflammation and Resolution Lab at Brigham & Women's Hospital, Boston, MA, as a research assistant to Dr Melody Duvall, studying lung inflammation in humans, including subjects with severe asthma or viral respiratory infection. I also volunteer with the Global Foundation for Community Health, aiming to curb chronic noncommunicable diseases in African and Indian Ocean Rim Countries through community empowerment and frugal innovations.

I am matriculating into the SUNY Upstate MD/PhD program June 2024 and look forward to my training as physician scientist!

### Welcome!

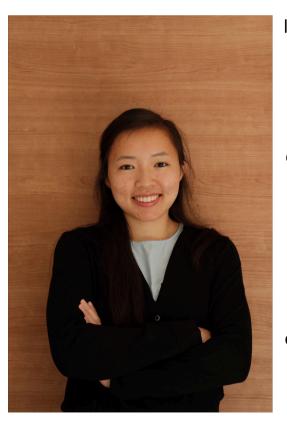
#### Katharina (Katie) Heitzman



Bio coming soon!

We welcome Katie from the Maryland where she has been doing research with Lupus at the NIH after graduating from St. Bonaventure University. Katie is originally a western New Yorker. Welcome to Syracuse, Katie!

**Tracy Eng** 



I graduated from Emory University in 2022, where I studied chemistry and applied mathematics. During college, I joined Emory's orthopaedics department, where I studied exercise treatment for osteoarthritis. I have continued to work in my orthopaedics lab for the past two years, where my research shifted to studying stem cell treatments for osteoarthritis. I am excited to join Upstate's MD/PhD program in 2024, where I hope to continue conducting musculoskeletal research while also utilizing my love for math. Outside of medicine and research, I enjoy running, hiking, cooking, and cuddling with my one-eyed cat, Eigen (I like math a lot). I look forward to trying many new trails and activities in upstate NY, including woodworking.

# How you can get involved

**MDPhD Social Committee** 

**MDPhD** Recruitment panel

**COGS** <> COM Transition panels

**MDPhD Alumni Committee** 

Email Andrea if you are interested in any of the above.

# WENEED MORE OF THIS!



SOCIAL COMMITTEE ANYONE?

### 2025 MS3 Transitioners

Mandatory requirements:

- 1. MS3 Orientation (March 10-14)
- 2. Advisement Meeting with Dr. Mason and Dr. Dhamoon

#### More information in follow-up email



### **Publication Data**

Thanks to all who sent me Upstate-affiliated publication data. I require updates as new affiliated publications hit the press. Thanks!

### Fall Schedule

Grand Rounds, Standardized Patient and Fall Meetings with Dr. Dhamoon:
All schedules coming soon.

PhD's: Establish your 2024/5 Clinical Mentor