

Happy Birthday!

Director: Dr. Adam Waickman
Assistant Director: Dr. Auyon Ghosh
Coordinator: Andrea Cifonelli

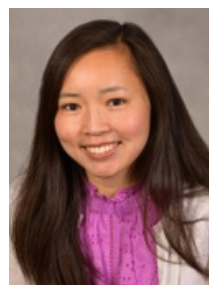
UPSTATE
MEDICAL UNIVERSITY
MD/PhD Program

MD/PHD NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2026



Wolu
Oct. 6



Tracy
Oct. 8



Anna Maria
Oct. 13



Tatiana
Oct. 18

A Note from Dr. Waickman

As the leaves turn and Syracuse settles into its most colorful season, I hope you're all settling into the rhythm of the fall semester. It's a fitting time to reflect on how far each of you has come and to look ahead to what's next.

One of the highlights of "what's next" is our Pre-Doctoral Clinician-Scientist Regional Conference on Saturday, November 14, from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM in the NAB, Room 4414. We're delighted to welcome Dr. Bishal Gyawali, MD, PhD, as our keynote speaker, and the day will bring together physician-scientist trainees from across the region to share their work, exchange ideas, and build connections that often last well beyond a single meeting.

I strongly encourage every one of you to attend. Events like this are where you practice presenting your science, find future collaborators and mentors, and get a clear sense of the broader community you're joining. G2, G3, and G4 students, this is a great opportunity to present your research at the poster session, and I hope to see many of you there. If you have a serious conflict, please let me know as soon as possible (and cc Andrea). Registration closes Friday, October 30 at midnight.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to the students who have worked so hard to organize this conference: Celine Hardy, Kailey Jackett, Olivia Laniak, Mitchell Mazza, and Saisha Ramdour. Planning an event of this scope takes a great deal of time, coordination, and care, all on top of demanding coursework, clinical training, and research. Your leadership reflects the very best of our program, and I'm grateful for everything you've put into making this day a success.

Wishing you all a productive and restorative fall. Enjoy the colors, and I look forward to seeing you in November!



PRE-DOCTORAL CLINICIAN-SCIENTIST REGIONAL CONFERENCE

November 14, 2026

Located at the NAB, Room 4414

9 AM – 4:30 PM

Featuring Keynote Speaker Dr. Bishal Gyawali MD, PhD

REGISTER NOW!

by Friday, October 30 until midnight at

<https://www.upstate.edu/mdphd/md-phd-conference.php>

UPSTATE
MEDICAL UNIVERSITY

MD/PhD Program

All Upstat MD/PhD students expected to attend! G2/G3/G4 students should present at poster session. Please email Dr. Waickman ASAP (cc Andrea) if you have a serious conflict.
Register here: <https://www.upstate.edu/mdphd/md-phd-conference.php>

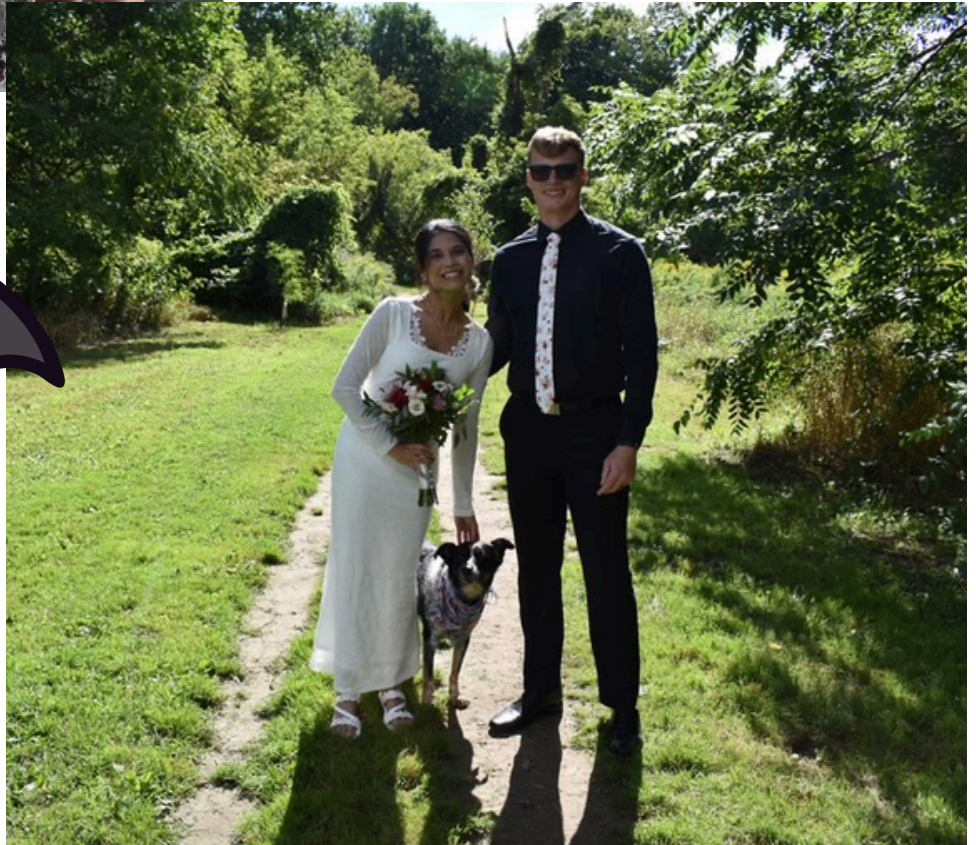
Awards and Publications

Congrats to Nick for receiving the **Swift Family Legacy Grant** in recognition of his achievements within the Norton College of Medicine!





Gargi- warmest
congratulations on this
wonderful new chapter! The
MDPHD Program community
wishes you and your partner a
lifetime filled with love,
laughter, joy, and countless
wonderful memories together.
May this next chapter bring
you both so much fun and joy.
Congratulations!



In honor
of Jackie



A celebration of our friend and colleague, Jaclyn Rittershaus

Posthumous Degree Awarding Ceremony

*Hosted by College of Graduate Studies, the Center for Vision
Research, and the MD/PhD Program*

FRIDAY 16TH OCTOBER

2:00 - 4:00 PM

**LOCATION: WEISKOTTEN MEDICAL
AUDITORIUM**

Save this time and date- details forthcoming