From the Editor-in-Chief: Gloria Jorge, C-TAGME

Welcome to all as we look forward to a new year – 2022 – and what it has in store for us! I hope everyone enjoyed some semblance of “normalcy” with family and loved ones during this past holiday season.

This is a special issue of The Buzz, in more ways than one. Sadly and with a heavy heart, I inform you of my retirement effective Monday, January 31, 2022. It has been a wonderful and fulfilling experience working in GME, a journey that traversed 34 years. I am indebted to all my former PDs, residents, and GME staff, who provided guidance and knowledge of this sometimes complex field. I cannot stress and emphasize enough the importance of our role in managing residency/fellowship training programs. We must engage and participate in professional development activities. Many department, institutional, and national resources, such as TAGME certification, are available to us, and it is our duty to take advantage of these resources to enhance our skills and become the best leaders in our field.

I am humbled by the outpour of well wishes and the kind words received from many of you. I am proud of the accomplishments of the RPCF Board of Directors and members who, in a short period, have put us on the map, so to speak, as we continue to make progress and forge ahead in our mission and aims. I am thrilled to have seen this forum come to fruition and, even more, to be a participating member.

I want to thank Juliet, Natalie, Kino, Debra, and Chantall for entrusting and allowing me to be the Editor-in-Chief of The Buzz for these past few months. I am grateful to have had the means to share current events and tips from the GME world and highlights from those special activities where we, as RPCF members, say PRESENT. And, I look forward to hearing about the many more good things to come.

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This special edition will serve as a tribute and recognition to those who have gone beyond their call of duty and, in doing so, have made an impact personally and professionally. It will also serve to remember our dear friend and colleague, Philip Kogan, who left us way too soon, but will never be forgotten.

Wishing you all a successful Match and remainder of the academic year. And most of all, good health and good fortune in all your endeavors – until we meet again.

Be well.
Gloria
ACGME NEWS:

2022 ACGME Annual Education Conference March 30 – April 1, 2022

Access the link below for the full schedule! Registration is OPEN!

https://web.event.com/event/8cd7ac8f-def2-4bf0-812e-92ca9dd228d6/websitePage:0a0906b5-7e9b-471b-8dd9-a6a10ccc86e3

Of Interest on the ACGME Website …


and …

https://radiopublic.com/acgme-aware-wellbeing-podcasts-WYpmlk
PEDIATRIC TOY DRIVE:
A SPECIAL RECOGNITION TO DARELL BANKS

RPCF is proud to highlight and acknowledge the hard work and commitment of our fellow colleague, Darell Banks. The Pediatric Toy Drive took place on January 14, 2022, and was a huge success in large part to the driving force behind Darell. This annual event is named for Dr. Madu Rao who sadly passed away last year. Dr. Wadowski, Chair of Pediatrics, had these words to say about Darell which I share with all of you…

Coordination of this activity, from gaining sponsors to collecting the toys to arranging the event, is largely driven by Mr. Darell Banks, Staff Assistant and Associate Program Coordinator in Pediatrics. More than anyone (except perhaps the late Dr. Madu Rao), Darell really should be singled out and recognized for his amazing efforts, dedication and selfless contributions to this generous, kind and thoughtful outreach activity for our kids. Without him, this likely would not be happening. He stands as a model of a caring, compassionate member of the Downstate staff.

Truly,
Stephen Wadowski
Professor and Chairman
Department of Pediatrics
SUNY Downstate HSU
RECOGNIZING OUR LEADERS IN DEI – ACGME DEI AWARD FOR SPONSORING INSTITUTION

ACGME Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Award
Sponsoring Institution - SUNY DOWNSTATE

CONGRATULATIONS!! As GME training administrators we are extremely proud of the recognition bestowed upon our institution by the ACGME! SUNY Downstate wins the Institutional ACGME Barbara Ross-Lee, DO, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Award submitted by Dr. Christina Guillen (Pediatrics), Dr. Christina Pardo (OB/GYN) and Dr. Teresa Smith (DIO).

We are delighted to be acknowledged by the ACGME for our efforts in diversity, equity, and inclusion. We would like to thank the College of Medicine, Dean Broncand, and President Riley for their dedication to GME and DEI. We would also like to thank Dr. Carla Bouton-Foster, our Associate Dean of Diversity, Inclusion, and Research for her support and outstanding UME initiatives.” – Teresa Y. Smith, MD, MSEd, FACEP.

In our last issue, we congratulated our leaders in DEI on receiving the ACGME DEI Award for Sponsoring Institution. In this issue, Natalie Arrindell, MBA, Administrator for GME, interviews Dr. Teresa Y. Smith, MD, MSEd, FACEP, our Associate Dean of Graduate Medical Education and Affiliations, and Designated Institutional Official.

Dr. Smith shares her thoughts as the recipient of the Institutional ACGME Barbara Ross-Lee, DO Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Award, the importance of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI) in Graduate Medical Education (GME), leadership, and DEI in all aspects of our agendas. Below is the excerpt from their interview.

Dr. Smith:
Before you ask the question, I want to make it clear that the institution won the award. It was a collaboration of all of us, not just me. It's our institutional award, it's not one person, one program, it's the entire institution, it's everyone! It took the efforts of the entire campus to help achieve our success in diversity, equity, and inclusion, including the Undergraduate Medical Education (UME)’s pipeline programs under the leadership of Dr. Carla Bouton-Foster. We have a lot of programs with the youth, from elementary school to colleges, and the bridge program, which helps get underrepresented medicine candidates directly into medical school. This is a pipeline to getting these youths into our residency programs. Then, all of the wonderful work we’re doing with diversity, equity, and inclusion in Graduate Medical Education (GME); it was the entire campus initiatives that were acknowledged with the ACGME Barbara Ross-Lee, DO Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Award.

The submitters for the award were Dr. Christina Guillen from Pediatrics, Dr. Christina Pardo of OBS/GYN, and myself. But to complete the application, we had to get letters of statements from Program Directors, residents, and the Dean. We appreciate everyone’s support of our application and are grateful for the outcome.

Natalie:
Dr. Smith, that was my question!
Ok, you won this prestigious award, but tell us about the behind-the-scenes? How many submissions did you submit before finally winning this award/recognition? Were any residents/fellow involved?

Dr. Smith:
It was a collaboration of all of us! For the complete interview, please click on the icon!
Directions

Step 1
In bowl of electric mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, cream butter and sugar until fluffy, about 4 minutes. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each. Sift flour, baking soda, and salt into large bowl. On low speed, gradually add flour mixture to mixer bowl, alternating with buttermilk, until combined. Wrap dough in plastic; chill until firm, 1 hour or overnight.

Step 2
To color white sanding sugar, if using: Place a few tablespoons in a small bowl. Mix in petal dust with a toothpick, a bit at a time, until desired shade is reached. Colored sanding sugar will last indefinitely.

Step 3
Heat oven to 350 degrees with two racks centered. Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper. On lightly floured surface, roll chilled dough 1/8 inch thick. Cut out hearts using any 1- to 3 1/2-inch heart cookie cutters. If desired, cut centers out of some hearts. Transfer with spatula to baking sheets. Chill for 30 minutes. Sprinkle with sanding sugar, if using.

New Editors-in Chief

Devareco and Chelsea have graciously accepted to co-chair the position of Editor-in-Chief of the RPCF newsletter, I hope you will extend a warm welcome as I pass the baton on to them. They are highly motivated and are looking forward to presenting new ideas, along with your contributions, in making our newsletter an informative and enjoyable read!

Leadership Role Model

Congratulations! The Radiation Oncology Residency Program has received Continued Accreditation from the ACGME! Three years in the making, the program had to resolve and address a number of issues that placed the program in a Warning status with the ACGME. Teamwork, diligence, and the collaboration of three (3) institutions led to the complete turnaround and successful ACGME outcome! Kudos to Kino for his leadership skills, his PD-Dr. David Schwartz, and everyone who took part in the successful site visit. A reminder to all that their presentation, How to Successfully Navigate a Virtual Site Visit – Tips from Our Own Experience, was featured in our October issue, presented to us via ZOOM, and can be found on our website under Resources. We welcome your questions, concerns, and comments if you have already had your site visit, or are preparing for one. We are here to help!
Bake until just golden but not too brown, about 10 minutes. Transfer cookies to rack. Continue with dough; reroll scraps.

**Step 4**
To make sandwich hearts: Brush bottom heart lightly with jam; cover with a second heart with center cut out; jam will adhere hearts. Fill cut-out area with more jam.

**RPCF BIRTHDAY CORNER**

Many happy returns to our coordinators celebrating birthdays

**Stephanie Lane 1/11**  
**Kim Kearns 1/23**  
**Wen-Ching Lee 2/6**  
**Debra Owens 2/7**  
**Deborah Pointer 2/18**

(If your birthday is not listed, or you have not provided us with your birthday information, please contact Juliet Arthur to be added to our Birthday List)

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**SENIOR STAFF ASSOCIATE MEDICAL EDUCATION SYSTEMS SPECIALIST**

On Monday, January 24, 2022, we were notified of the passing of one of ours... Philip Kogan - an individual who was always available to lend a hand, and especially, kept us on our toes with everything that had to do with New Innovations. RPCF joins the DHSU GME community in remembering the wonderful person, colleague, friend, that Philip was to all – he will be missed.

_Gloria Jorge_  
_Academic Administrator_  
_Department of Radiology_

In Philip's honor and his memory, please consider a donation to the National LGBT Cancer Network: [https://cancer-network.org/donate/](https://cancer-network.org/donate/)

The executive Committee, on behalf of the RPCF, planted two trees in memory of Philip
Trees for Israel

"When you shall come to the land you shall plant trees." – Leviticus 19:23

Two Trees Have Been Planted In Israel
In Memory Of
Philip Kogan

"You will be forever missed and always in our hearts"
May This Serve As A Living Tribute To His Memory
SUNY Downstate Residency Program Coordinators Forum (RPCF)
WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE... A Tribute to Philip Kogan

Philip was always caring and helpful. He was so intelligent and humble. I would always be grateful for everything he taught me. I will miss his smile and the great sense of humor he had in our office. Rest in peace Philip you will forever be in my heart!

Natalie Arrindell, MBA
Administrator for GME

New Innovations can be such a daunting task to complete for many, but Philip always made using New Innovations easy to navigate. He always had such a calm demeanor, smile on his face and reassurance that everything would be ok. I will truly miss you Philip, you made what seemed like complicated issues easy to get through. This is such a loss not only for the GME office, but for all of the departments that Philip had the opportunity to work with. Philip, you are gone, but never forgotten.

Juliet Arthur, MHA, C-TAGME
Department of Psychiatry

My transition to being a Residency Coordinator was not easy; however, Philip made himself available for all my questions (silly or not). He would constantly say “You will be ok or you can do it” and this helped me a lot. He will always remain in my memory as a supportive and helpful individual. RIP..(Gone but not forgotten).

Devareco Wilkie, MSc
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Gynecological Oncology

So many things come to mind when I think of Philip. One being the smile and warm welcome I received when I walked into GME office. Such a humble and gracious human being who I will greatly miss.

Lois Cooper
Department of Hematology and Oncology

Always approachable, simple, honest, patient, very helpful, and sincere. He walked with us through New Innovations; and did it with a smile. He will be missed but his legacy at Downstate will live on. May he rest in peace.

Barbara Singh
Geriatric Psychiatry

Philip: teacher, humane, inclusive, very kind, positive, the best!

Wynclette Knight, MPA
Department of Urology
Life is short.
Be swift to love; make haste to be kind.
You left us with a flame from that light.
Rest in Peace Dr. Kogan

Velda J. Jones
Cardiovascular Fellowship

How, I will miss my discussions about Cornell University & Ithaca, NY, the Moosewood Restaurant and the Rongovian Embassy with Phillip. Thank you Phillip for your New Innovations support and help.

Deborah Pointer, MEd
Neonatal, Infectious Disease & Nephrology Fellowships

The Geriatric Fellowship Director, Dr. Prospere, and myself Miss McMichael Coordinator thanks you for always keeping us on point. S.I.P. my co-worker, you will be truly missed.

Gwendolyn McMichael
Geriatric Medicine

It was an absolute honor to have worked with Dr. Philip Kogan who during every interaction I found him to be engaging as he would say to me: Natasha, you always call with the hard questions. Rest in eternal peace my dearly departed colleague.

Natasha Henry
Department of Pathology

He was a true “HUMANTARIAN”, humble and very kind spirited.

Yvone Edwards
Infectious Diseases

Philip, you left an indelible mark on everyone you encountered including myself. I thank you for making New Innovations seem so easy. I would call flustered and you would calm me down and make my issue so simple and easily solved. I appreciate you so much and you will be missed.

Kino Williams, MS, CPHQ, C-TAGME
Department of Radiation Oncology

Phil was one of a kind. I will never forget how welcoming he was to me as a "newbie" coordinator. He was my go-to for anything and I truly appreciated how patient and kind he was to ensure I understood the task at hand. You will always be remembered Phil. May you rest in peace my dear friend.

Beatrice Pierre-Francoeur, MS
Department of Ophthalmology
Look for our “guide” to navigating the new DHSU website in our next edition!!
RPCF STANDING COMMITTEES

- Awards & Scholarship
- Event Planning
- GMEC Representative
- Membership
- Mentoring
- Newsletter/Editorial
- Policies
- Professional Development
- TAGME
- Website
- Wellness

Consider joining one of our committees today!

(We provide this blank page for you to take notes or to jot down some ideas you may have for our future newsletters!)

RPCF Goals:

- Publishing at least one research article in JAGME
- Presenting at the 2022 ACGME Annual Conference
- Workshops to be presented by SUNY Downstate faculty, staff, and coordinators, and from affiliate institutions
- Coordinator-collaborations with various departments within SUNY Downstate
- After-work wellness and community activities