



The Buzz

Residency Program Coordinators' Forum Newsletter

OCTOBER 29, 2021

FALL 2021 EDITION

In this issue:

- **WELCOME**
from the
Editor-in-Chief
of *The Buzz*
- **ACGME NEWS**

Conference Going Virtual!

The Annual Educational Conference is going virtual, and will now be held March 30-April 1, 2022. This year's theme, *Meaning in Medicine: Rebuilding Connections*, highlights the importance of coming together as a GME community to rebuild, restore, and reflect on what the past year has meant for health care and academic medicine.

- CLER National Report 2021

ACGME Thought of the Day...



What are the six CLER focus areas?

- Opioid Use Disorder

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



Welcome to the Fall 2021 Edition of the RPCF Newsletter. Much has happened since our world turned upside down in March of 2020. A special Summer edition of *The Buzz* served to remember our colleagues and friends who worked tirelessly during the pandemic and also to the heroes we lost. We have been resilient in maintaining our heads high in following our forum's mission and aims throughout this journey. A debt of gratitude goes out to the front-line workers who went above and beyond their call of duty, provided

much-needed support, and cared for our residents, fellows, and patients! These were uncharted waters we navigated, and we are back better and stronger than ever! These experiences served to establish the theme of our 2021 Annual Retreat: *"Make YOU the Priority! Restore, Reenergize and Revitalize Your Professional Health and Wellbeing"*.

This Fall edition of *The Buzz* will summarize recent events at SUNY Downstate and ACGME. The annual RPCF retreat returned after a 2-year hiatus. It proved to be a much-needed venue for networking with our fellow coordinators, providing an environment of well-being in addition to professional development. We also highlight the humanitarian traits of our coordinators in the Haitian Relief efforts. In these times of stress and uncertainty, Mother Nature reminds us of our vulnerability and what is truly important – the opportunity to help those in need.

Coordinators are the backbone and the silent heroes of our training programs. As such, we are proud to give tribute to our award recipients and to spotlight in every newsletter we publish one of our members. This month, the spotlight shines on Wynclette Knight from the department of Urology.

We are excited to introduce our much-anticipated RPCF website located on the DMC GME webpage. It provides a wealth of information, tools, and resources needed to fulfill our duties and responsibilities in one central area. We encourage you to peruse our website for additional information.

Lastly, we highlight a few of the events and notices taking place in the GME world. ACGME, taking a step back, has decided to host once again the annual ACGME Conference virtual - for the health and safety of all attendees. Dates changed from the initial notification when it was to be held "in-person." Please take note it is now March 30-Apr 1, 2022.

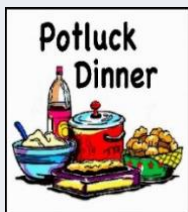
RPCF welcomes your comments and suggestions for notices and events to include in YOUR newsletter. We encourage you to join one of our many standing Committees and share your experiences and tips with your fellow coordinators.

Wishing you all a successful interview season – until we meet again.

Be well.
Gloria

UPCOMING EVENTS & REMINDERS:

- How to Successfully Navigate a Virtual Site Visit – Tips from Our Own Experience.
Nov 16, 2021.
Kino Williams, Dr. D.Schwartz – RadOnc residency program
- Annual RPCF Holiday Potluck
Dec 14, 2021.



- Renewal/Non-renewal of Resident Contracts
November



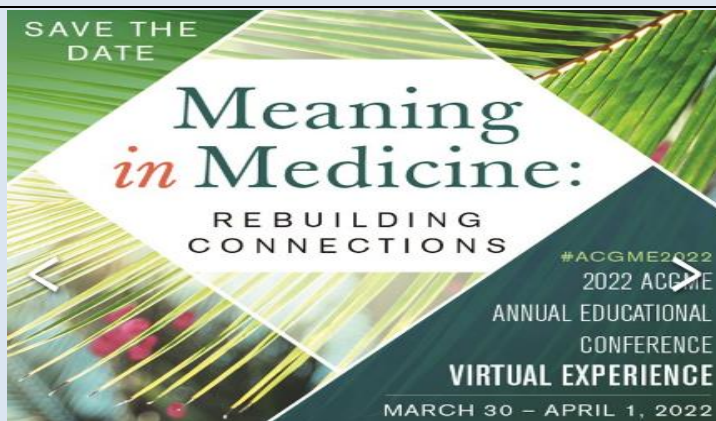
- Milestones Mid-Year Reporting is November 1, 2021 – January 14, 2022

Please submit Milestones assessments online at any time during the reporting window.

Email questions to milestones@acgme.org

ACGME BREAKING NEWS:

2022 ACGME Annual Education Conference will be VIRTUAL again this year!



After announcing the 2022 ACGME annual conference would be "in-person," ACGME has decided to host the Conference virtually. As reported earlier by Dr. Nasca and recently by Dr. Brigham, the decision was made for "the health and safety of attendees, exhibitors, and personnel". The Conference has now moved to March 30-April 1, 2022. Last year many of us had the opportunity to participate in this annual event, perhaps for the first time, taking advantage of a virtual event. I hope you will all participate again this year. It is an invaluable experience, whether in-person or virtual, to learn about the latest GME regulations, network with others, and obtain current information of what is happening in the world of GME.

Of Interest on the ACGME Website ...

CLER National Report and Opioid Use Disorder

ACGME Releases CLER National Report of Findings 2021

The CLER National Report is a lengthy document. Good read, but quite long. The importance of this document is that it helps us understand our clinical learning environment (CLE) and presents the challenges and opportunities faced by training programs nationwide in the six CLER focus areas.

To better understand each of the six CLER focus areas, try reviewing the individual focus briefs – issued back in 2016. It will give you a clear picture of what the clinical learning environment should look like and is a must-read for anyone considering TAGME certification! (Do you know where to find the briefs?...



The report presents a national look at the health care environments that serve as clinical learning environments for resident and fellow physicians. It reveals both strengths, such as increased engagement in reporting patient safety events, as well as challenges as seen in the lack of a systems-based approach to addressing well-being.

<https://www.acgme.org/globalassets/pdfs/cler/2021clernationalreportoffindings.pdf>

INTERVIEW SEASON

NRMP News

2022 NRMP Main Residency Match Calendar

Jan 31
11:59 p.m. ET:
Applicant Standard Registration Deadline for the Match and SOAP (\$50 additional fee for late registration)

Feb 1
12:00 p.m. ET:
Ranking opens Medical schools begin verifying student/graduate graduation credentials

Mar 2
9:00 p.m. ET:
Rank Order List Certification

Deadline
• Applicant late registration for the Match and SOAP and Match withdrawal deadline
• Medical school student/graduate graduation credentials verification deadline • Institutional official change approvals deadline • Program reversion deadline

Mar 14
Match Week Begins
A detailed Match Week and SOAP schedule will be released as soon as it is finalized.

Mar 18
Match Day

OPIOID Use Disorder

SUD, or substance abuse disorder, is a significant concern to the ACGME. As a result, considerable effort has been placed on the program requirements to "*provide instruction and experience in pain management if applicable for the specialty including recognition of the signs of addiction.*" This requirement directs appropriate residency and fellowship programs to develop evidence-based educational interventions. Those programs falling into this category, or for further information on initiatives available to implement into your program, click on the link below.

<https://www.acgme.org/what-we-do/initiatives/opioid-use-disorder/>

INTERVIEW SEASON IS HERE!

Whether you are going for a structured or unstructured format, note the following:

POTENTIAL VIOLATIONS: WHAT **NOT** TO ASK DURING THE INTERVIEW:

1. Ask where else interviewing
2. Ask about marital status
3. Ask about children/intent to have children
4. Ask about religion
5. Tell applicant rank position
6. Ask how they would rank the program
7. Place an unsolicited phone call/email to applicant from a program

Asking Illegal Questions

You Can NOT ask

- Do you have or take medication for depression, mental conditions?
- Do you already have or are you planning to have children during residency?

You Can ask

- What was a stressful event in your life? How did you cope?
- What outside activities are important to you?
- Do you feel you have a good support system to cope with stresses of residency? What are they?

FELLOWSHIP MATCH CALENDAR (See side margin for Main Residency Match)

- **RPCF 2021**

Annual Retreat
Make YOU the
Priority!

- **HAITI RELIEF EFFORT**

RPCF Steps up to
the plate

- **TAGME**

RPCF Task Force
for Certification &
Professional
Development



2021 certification assessments will be completed via online, live proctored sessions.

Assessments will be on a date and time convenient to the applicant, to be scheduled from

July 7, 2021 – Dec 3, 2021.

- **COORDINATOR SPOTLIGHT**

Wynclette Knight
– Urology

- **RPCF AWARDS**

Recognition

- **RPCF WEBSITE**

It's here!

- **BREAST CANCER AWARENESS**

Let's wear pink!

Fellowship Matches	Appt Year	Match Opens	Rank Order List Opens	Quota Change Deadline	Rank Order List Deadline	Match Day
Adolescent Medicine	2022	8/18/2021	9/22/2021	10/20/2021	11/3/2021	11/17/2021
Anesthesiology	2022	6/23/2021	8/4/2021	9/8/2021	9/22/2021	10/6/2021
Colon and Rectal Surgery	2022	8/11/2021	9/8/2021	9/29/2021	10/13/2021	10/27/2021
Emergency Medicine	2022	8/18/2021	9/22/2021	10/20/2021	11/3/2021	11/17/2021
Female Pelvic Medicine & Reconstructive Surgery	2022	5/5/2021	6/2/2021	7/7/2021	7/21/2021	8/4/2021
Hand Surgery	2023	2/16/2022	3/30/2022	4/20/2022	5/4/2022	5/18/2022
Laryngology	2023	2/9/2022	3/23/2022	4/13/2022	4/27/2022	5/11/2022
Medical Genetics	2022	8/11/2021	9/8/2021	9/29/2021	10/13/2021	10/27/2021
Medical Specialties Matching Program	2022	8/25/2021	9/29/2021	11/3/2021	11/17/2021	12/1/2021
Obstetrics/Gynecology	2022	6/23/2021	8/4/2021	9/8/2021	9/22/2021	10/6/2021
Pediatric Specialties Match	2022	9/22/2021	10/27/2021	11/17/2021	12/1/2021	12/15/2021
Pediatric Surgery	2023	2/9/2022	3/23/2022	4/13/2022	4/27/2022	5/11/2022
Psychiatry	2022	10/6/2021	11/3/2021	12/1/2021	12/15/2021	1/5/2022
Radiology	2022	3/24/2021	4/21/2021	5/19/2021	6/2/2021	6/16/2021
Rehabilitation Medicine	2022	9/22/2021	10/27/2021	11/17/2021	12/1/2021	12/15/2021
Spinal Cord Injury Medicine	2022	8/11/2021	9/8/2021	9/29/2021	10/13/2021	10/27/2021
Sports Medicine	2022	10/6/2021	11/3/2021	12/1/2021	12/15/2021	1/5/2022
Surgical Critical Care	2022	6/23/2021	8/4/2021	9/8/2021	9/22/2021	10/6/2021
Surgical Oncology	2022	3/24/2021	4/21/2021	5/19/2021	6/2/2021	6/16/2021
Thoracic and Vascular Surgery	2023	2/9/2022	3/23/2022	4/13/2022	4/27/2022	5/11/2022
Vascular Neurology	2023	2/9/2022	3/23/2022	4/13/2022	4/27/2022	5/11/2022

Do you KNOW?



The difference between the CCC and the PEC, and ... what is the requirement for membership in each committee?



Become familiar with the CPR by reviewing the PDs' Guide to the Common Program Requirements. Although a lengthy document, it is a must-read for all coordinators! A great resource and guide to understanding the Common Program Requirements. REMEMBER! You are still responsible for adhering to your program's specialty-specific requirements!

The Program Directors' Guide to the Common Program Requirements

<https://www.acgme.org/program-directors-and-coordinators/welcome/program-directors-guide-to-the-common-program-requirements/>

2021 RPCF EDUCATIONAL VIRTUAL RETREAT

Juanita Braxton, PhD, EdS, MBA was the keynote speaker for the 2021 RPCF Educational Virtual Retreat. Dr. Braxton provided an enlightening, inspiring, and emotional presentation that touched each and every one of us attending the session. Making YOU the priority will certainly be the mantra for years to come!



Our speakers presented on a variety of topics.

The Honorable Senator Zellnor Myrie spoke of the importance and power of our voices being heard, today more than ever. Dr. Myers, acclaimed SUNY psychiatrist, presented tips for taking care of yourself, family and each other.

Our DIO, Dr. Smith, gave a wonderful presentation entitled *Leading with a Purpose*. As a member of the RPCF, I was honored to present on the importance of professional development for coordinators and training administrators.

We thank everyone who helped make this event a reality, and we look forward to 2022!

FACTS

New York City is home to one of the largest Haitian communities outside of Haiti – more than 130,000 individuals – the vast majority of whom live in Brooklyn and Queens.

The neighborhood that has the largest Haitian community in New York is Flatbush, Brooklyn. The 2010 US Census indicates that 3% of Brooklynites are of Haitian descent. It is possible to find many Haitian businesses and restaurants on Flatbush Avenue, Nostrand Avenue, and Church Avenue.



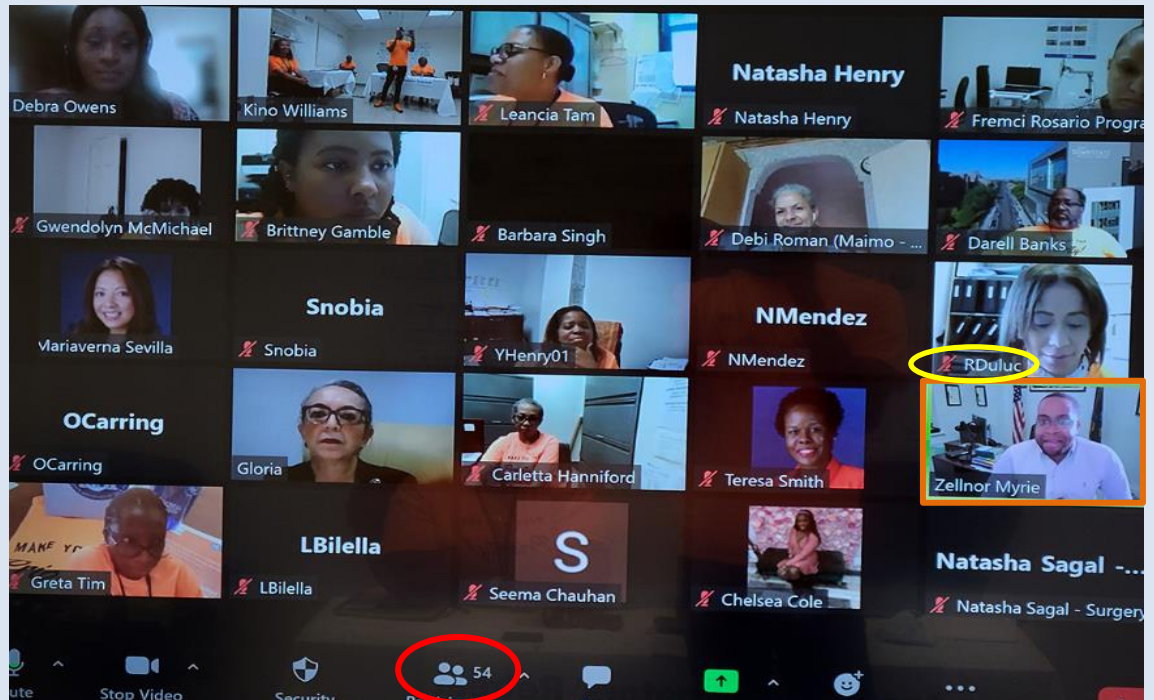
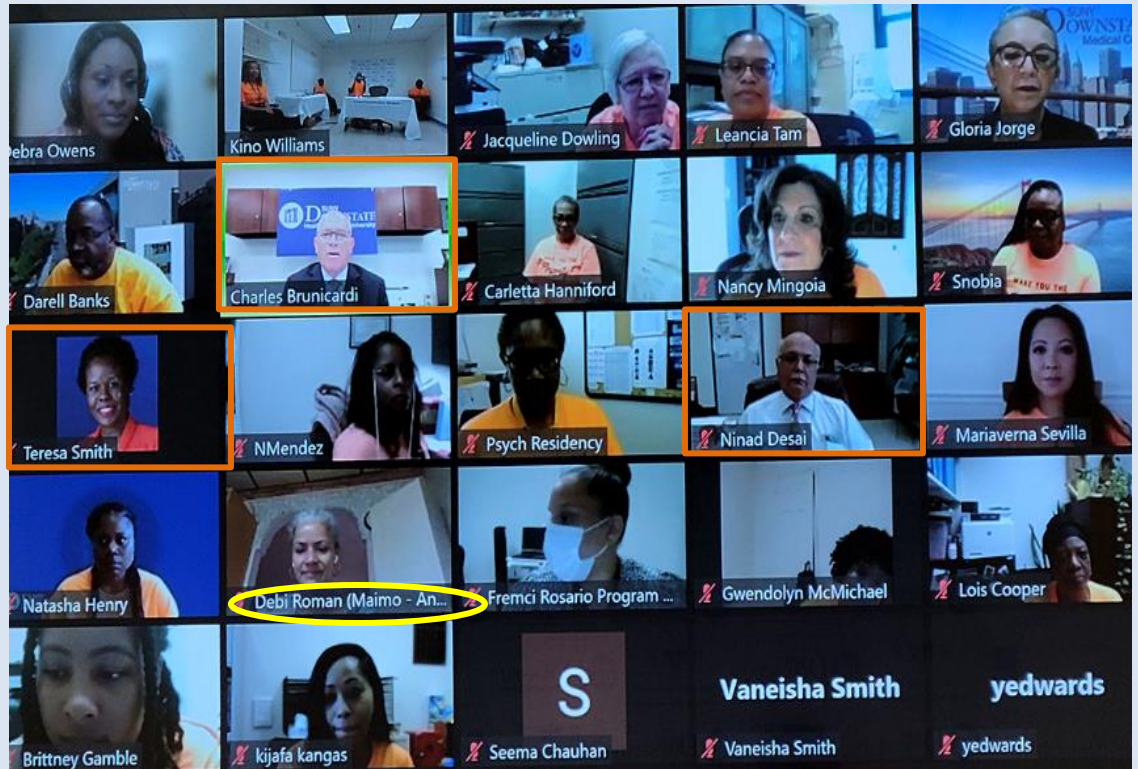
RECIPE CORNER

Iced Pumpkin Cookies



Just in time for fall! Do not be discouraged by the length of ingredients and instructions on how to make these delicious, iced cookies... you will not be disappointed! Visit our website for the recipe!

Several distinguished guests included SUNY DMC Dean Brunicardi, DIO Dr. Smith, KCH Dir Dr. Desai and NYS Senator Zellnor Myrie. Coordinators from our affiliate sites, including Maimonides, were also in attendance.



Many attended our much anticipated annual retreat!!



SHOUT OUT TO OUR NEW COORDINATORS

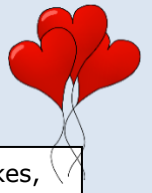


- **Fremci Rosario,**
Internal Medicine- Primary Care
- **Diane Edwards-Reid,**
Medicine- Neurology



PROMOTION
Congratulations to **Chelsea Cole,** promoted from Assistant Program Coordinator to **Program Coordinator** in the Emergency Medicine Department!

RPCF STEPS UP TO THE PLATE: HAITI RELIEF EFFORT



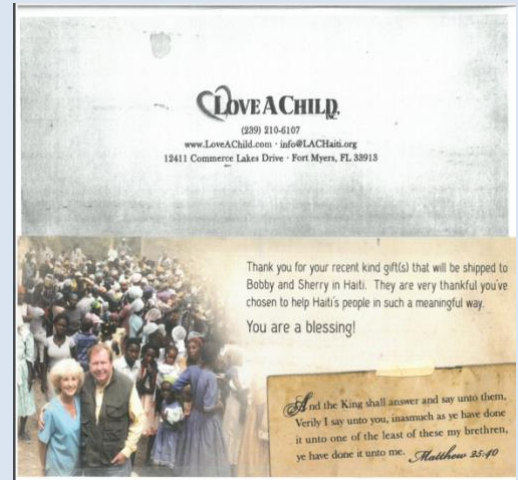
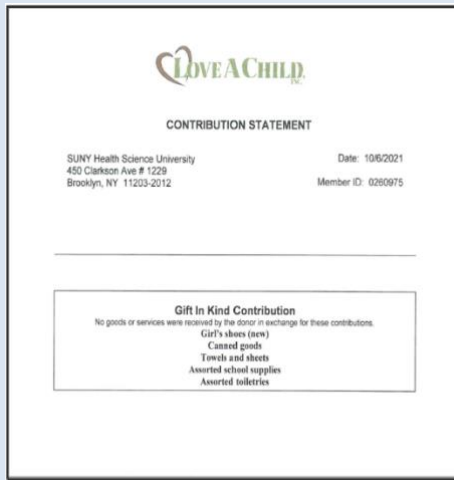
2021 Haiti earthquake



Destruction from the earthquake

Haiti, susceptible to hurricanes and earthquakes, experienced yet another massive earthquake on Aug 24, a 7.2 magnitude, resulting in a multitude of devastation and death tolls.

RPCF once again stepped up to help those in need. A number of donations, seven boxes, were collected and presented to Love a Child, an organization providing humanitarian assistance to children in Haiti. RPCF was awarded the certificates below in recognition of our support to children in need. Thank you to all who participated in this noble cause, and especially to Juliet Arthur and Natalie Arrindell for taking the helm and leading RPCF in this charity event.





Professional Development for Coordinators/Administrators: TAGME Certification

April 2022 – TAGME Assessment Registration Opens!


As accreditation for medical training grows ever more complex, institutions require experienced, proven specialists who can navigate, document, report, and understand the nuances of successful GME programs. Achieving the C-TAGME credential is a comprehensive process. It will expand your GME knowledge, prepare you for greater on-the-job responsibilities, enhance your professional image, reflect accomplishment, build self-esteem, and increase potential career advancement. So what are you waiting for?!

RPCF has created a new TAGME Task Force. Members of the task force will be charged with formulating questions and answers, best practices, a cheat sheet, and an "on-the-day of the exam what should you do" guide. By creating this task force, the RPCF hopes to encourage coordinators to pursue TAGME certification by providing after-hours review workshops, study guides, and mock assessments. The members of our TAGME Taskforce Group are Natasha Henry, Mariaverna Sevilla, Debra Owens, Chantal Littrean, Juliet Arthur, and Natalie Arrindell.

All eligible coordinators who would like to sit for the TAGME certification examinations should email Natalie (GME), Juliet, or Kino. You must be currently employed as a GME professional of an ACGME program and have completed two (2) consecutive years in this role by the final day of the application period in the year you wish to apply.

Please keep in mind that our GME will cover the examination fee for **1st-time test takers**. Those repeating the exam, or taking the MOC assessment, are responsible for paying the assessment fee themselves. **NOTE: CLERRF will cover examination fees for this certification or any other certification you want to complete. This option requires you to pay the examination fees upfront and get reimbursed by UUP (union) once you have passed the certifying examination.**

For NYS/UUP CLEFR Program guidelines and application, please go to: goer.ny.gov/nysuupclefr.



For additional information contact:
 NYS/UUP JLMC
 2 Empire State Plaza, 8th Floor
 Albany, NY 12223
 Email: nysuupclefr@goer.ny.gov
 Phone: 518.486.4666
 Fax: 518.486.9220

SUNY Downstate is proud to have six (6) TAGME certified coordinators on staff. Certification is valid for 5 years at which time Maintenance of Certification must be obtained by taking the MOC assessment.

TAGME Certified Coordinator	Original Certification Year	MOC Year
Juliet Arthur, MHA, C-TAGME	2017	2022
Gloria Jorge, C-TAGME	2009	2025
Chantal Littrean, MPH, C-TAGME	2017	2022
Debra Owens, MEd, C-TAGME	2017	2022
Natasha Henry, C-TAGME	2020	2025
Mariaverna Sevilla, C-TAGME	2020	2025

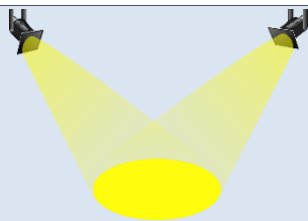
RPCF BIRTHDAY CORNER



Many happy returns to our coordinators celebrating birthdays this month!

Natasha Segal
10/2
Velda Jones
10/27

(If your October 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!)



RPCF COORDINATOR SPOTLIGHT

WYNCLETTE KNIGHT, MPA, DHA (candidate)
Academic Coordinator
Urology



This month our spotlight shines on Wyncllette Knight, who has been at SUNY Downstate since 2000, and a coordinator since 2006. Throughout this time, she has worked only in the Urology department. Kino Williams conducted a very touching and heartwarming interview. A short excerpt is included in this newsletter; however, we encourage you to visit our website to read the interview in its entirety. Ms. Knight, who is currently completing her DHA, provides a compelling narrative of her struggles during her illness and what she went through to overcome her many obstacles. The soon-to-be Dr. Knight reflects on the many individuals who supported her throughout her journey and motivates us to pursue our goals. An inspiring personal story we should all look forward to reading!

Excerpt from the interview by Kino Williams. See our website for the complete interview!

What is it that you like about GME: I love seeing the residents develop into confident, well rounded and respectful physicians. Bedside manners, humility and interpersonal skills are also very important to me. It's important to develop relationships with your residents because the coordinator/resident is so different and unique. You have to power to help guide your residents and I take that relationship and responsibility seriously. I also love working with the GME staff, Natalie, Michelle, Phillip (Kwame when he was down there). It is a pleasure working with these persons and the coordinators in the forum.

Is there any resident who stands out to you during your entire tenure: Dr. Andrew Weiner, because he started out as a resident and now he is the Urology Program Director and our professional relationship has now taken on a different dynamic.

What is it like working with your current program director: I find myself playing the role of teacher because I have done this for so long and he has now taken up the role of director. And a lot of times you don't realize how much you know until situations like this present themselves.

How many program directors have you worked with: Four (4) program directors: Drs. Macchia, Weiss, Mc Neil and Weiner.

Any favorites: Dr. Macchia, I learned everything from him. He provided the foundation of my GME knowledge.

What advice would you give a coordinator wanting to pursue higher learning, but is second guessing themselves or not sure where to begin: *Be prepared to work, be self-motivated. Time management is very important to your success; being able to balance that work/school/family balance maybe difficult but you can accomplish it. BEGIN, JUST BEGIN...you will find a way to continue till you have completed your degree. If I can you can also!*

Gisella Burnett, Staff Assistant to Ms. Knight, please give me your thoughts on Ms.

Knight: *Wyncllette is and has been the backbone of our residency program as the coordinator and visionary for its success since she took on this role. She is the constant that keeps the program running, and running well. Our residents truly have a coordinator that envisions their progress and success not just in this competitive field but in life's journey as a whole. You couldn't find anyone more dedicated than Wyncllette and recognition for this dedication is more than overdue.*

RPCF AWARDS & RECOGNITION



RPCF is proud to recognize the effort, dedication, and commitment our coordinators bring to the table every day. We recognize those that exemplified these characteristics true to our mission, aims and especially our mission statement: *we advocate for ourselves and each other*. We honor those who selflessly gave their time and support to others in need. Congratulations!



LOIS COOPER



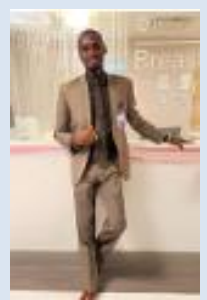
NATASHA HENRY



NATHALIE MENDEZ



JULIET ARTHUR



KINO WILLIAMS

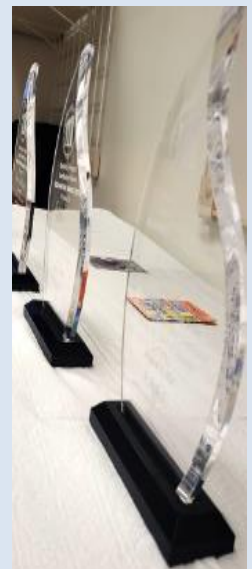
LOIS COOPER – Hematology/Oncology Fellowship Programs: Outstanding contribution to the education/support of fellow coordinators during COVID-19 pandemic.

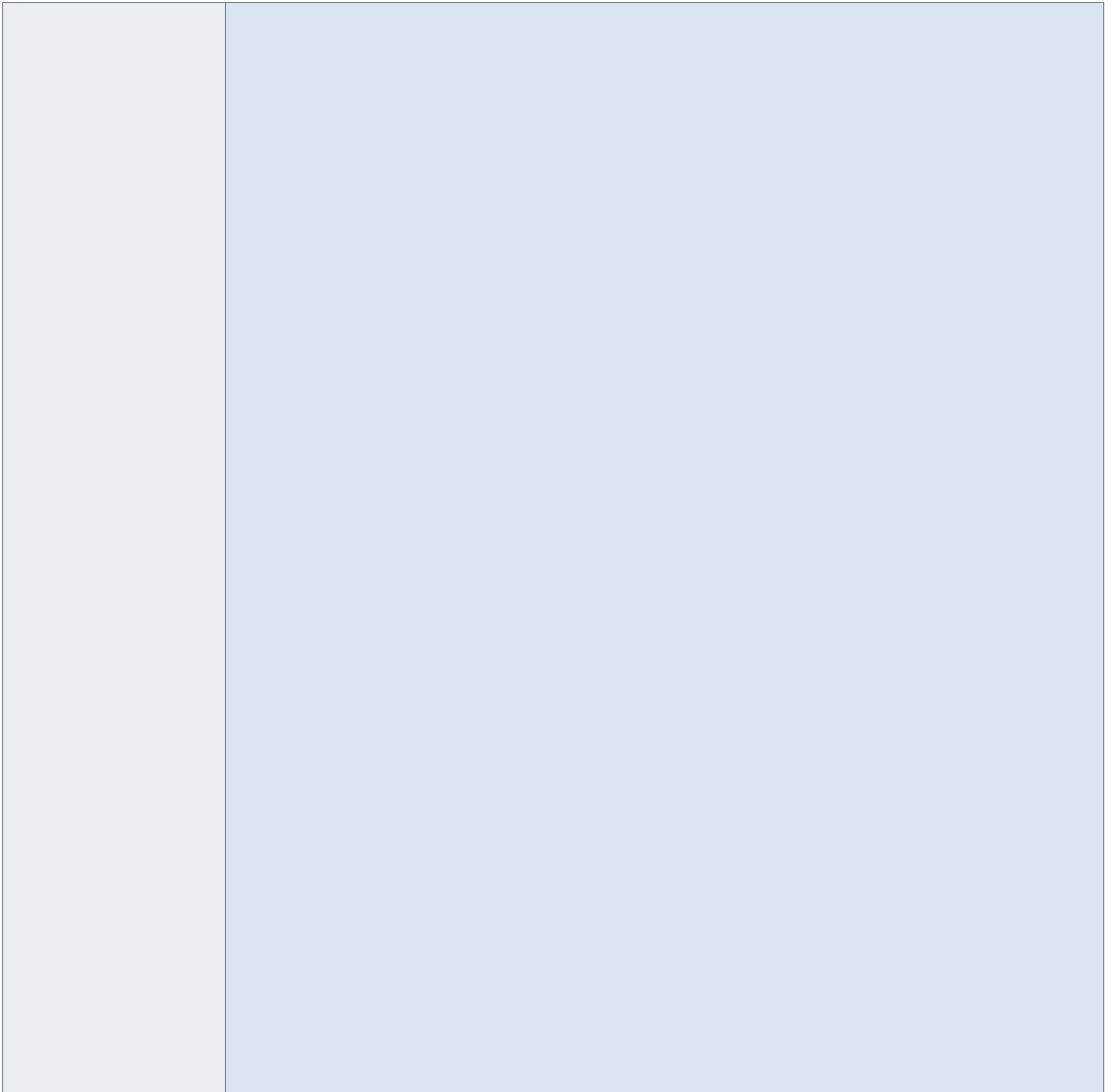
NATASHA HENRY – Pathology Residency Program. Continued self-development during COVID-19 pandemic.

NATHALIE MENDEZ – Dermatology Residency Program. Outstanding humanitarian contribution during COVID-19 pandemic.

JULIET ARTHUR – Psychiatry Residency Program. Outstanding contribution in support of GME during COVID-19 pandemic.

KINO WILLIAMS – Radiation Oncology Residency Program. Outstanding humanitarian contribution during COVID-19 pandemic.





RPCF STANDING COMMITTEES

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

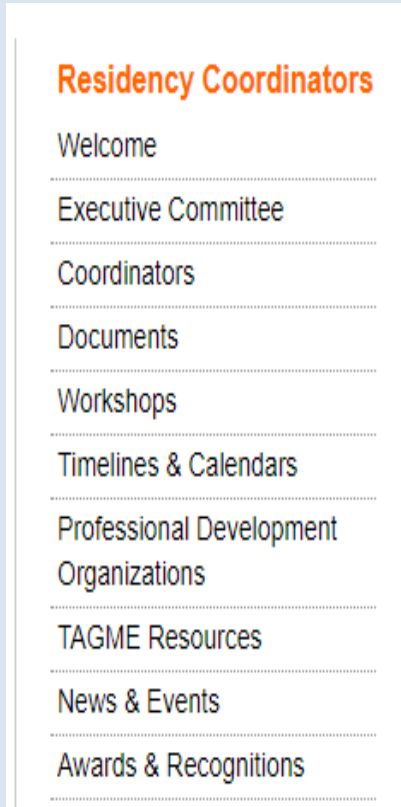
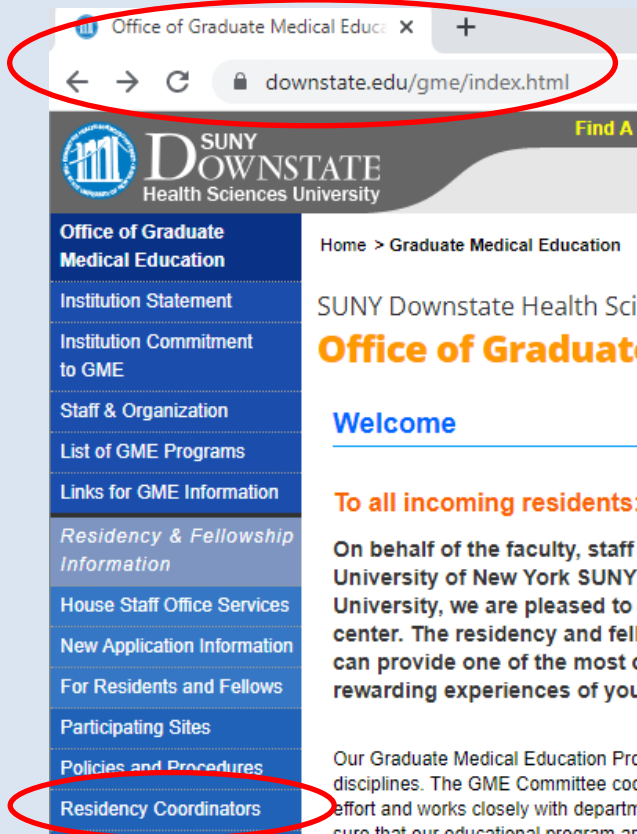
Consider joining one of our committees today!

RPCF WEBSITE! Resources at a Glance!

<https://www.downstate.edu/gme/index.html>

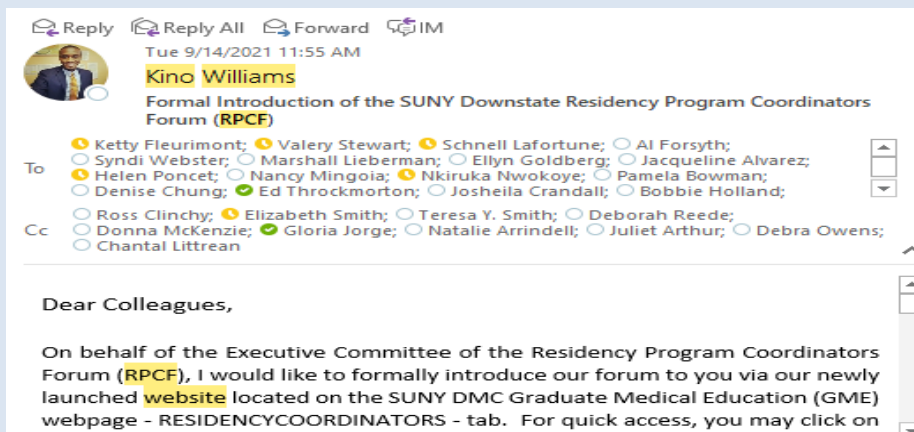


RPCF is excited to introduce our new website – located on the GME webpage of the SUNY Downstate website. Access the GME webpage (Education tab on the DMC main website) and on the left hand side menu bar select RESIDENCY COORDINATORS. You will be taken to the RPCF webpage where you will find the tabs listed below. The new website brings all the necessary resources and tools, in one central location, to assist you in successfully managing your training program. We encourage you to take a look and become familiar with YOUR website!



<https://www.downstate.edu/gme/coordinators/>

Kino Williams formally introduced our website to the College of Medicine via email on behalf of the RPCF. He encouraged everyone to support the role of the coordinator for the benefit of not only the coordinators but the departments and institution as a whole. Thank you, Kino! **Go to our website to read the entire email!**





Every 2 minutes, a woman in the U.S. is diagnosed with breast cancer.

Other than skin cancer, [breast cancer](#) is the most common cancer among American women.

Do You Know What the Color Pink Represents

(squarecowmovers.com)

When you consider the emotional and mental affect that pink has it's quite understandable why it was chosen to be the color of breast cancer awareness. It wasn't simply because of the color's feminine association, though that is a factor. Margaret Welch, the Director of the Color Association of the United States, notes that studies have found that pink is thought to be:

- Life affirming
- Calming
- Playful
- Quieting
- Stress relieving

Pastel pink like the color used in the breast cancer awareness ribbon is also thought to be health giving.



RPCF SAYS "PRESENT" !

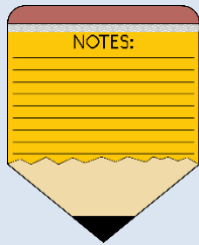


FOR #PINKTHURSDAY – OCT 28, 2021

RPCF was proud to participate in the Downstate Photo Op in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. We stand in solidarity in support of women worldwide who face living with breast cancer, and the courageous survivors who have made it their mission to bring awareness to this disease.



Members of the SUNY Downstate community come together to show their support by wearing pink, including RPCF members Shelly Anthony (Pulmonary & Critical Care), Yvonne Henry (Orthopaedic Surgery) Juliet Arthur (Psychiatry) and Kino Williams (RadOnc).



(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
- Additional 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