



Department of Behavioral Medicine and Psychiatry Resident Bios



2018 Class

- **Dr. Ebony Dix, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School**
- **Dr. Khalid Sharif, King Abdulaziz University College of Medicine**
- **Dr. Angela Soder, Wright State Boonshoft School of Medicine**
- **Dr. Francis Ysla, Ponce Health Sciences University**
- **Dr. Jawad Zafar, West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine**





RUTGERS

Robert Wood Johnson
Medical School

Dr. Ebony Dix



FUN FACTS:

Ebony is a Chief Resident for 2017-18. She worked on Wall Street for many years before going to Med School. She speaks several languages and has several cats. She will do a Geri Fellowship in 2018.

Hometown:

New York, NY

Undergraduate:

Columbia University

Hobbies:

Eating, Food, Dining, Thinking about eating and food, Going to good restaurants, More food





Dr. Khalid Sharif



FUN FACTS:

Khal was an internist in a former life. He was in the Department Scholars Program prior to starting residency. Ask him about his snake mug.

Hometown:

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Med School /Undergrad:

King Abdulaziz University
College of Medicine

Hobbies:

Mood lighting, Abstract paintings, Hoarding computers





FUN FACT:

Angie has a Shih Tzu named Zeus who is in charge of most aspects of her life.

Dr. Angela Soder



Hometown:
Wapakoneta, OH

Undergraduate:
Ohio University

Hobbies:
Travel, Food, volleyball, Shih Tzus



Dr. Francis Ysla



FUN FACTS:

Francis was a wide receiver on his power-house high school football team in Cali. He can often be found working out with his fellow Cal Golden Bear, Jeff.

Hometown:
San Diego, CA

Undergraduate:
University of California,
Berkeley

Hobbies:
Music, Working out, Travel,
Food, Chillin'





Dr. Jawad Zafar



FUN FACTS:

Jawad is a Chief for 2017-18.
Jawad plans to practice in Beckley after a forensic fellowship. These are not very fun facts.

Hometown:
Beckley, WV

Undergraduate:
West Virginia University

Hobbies:
Being chief resident at WVU



2019 Class

- **Dr. Ramez Altuwijri, King Saud College of Medicine**
- **Dr. Halima Al-Qawasmi, WVU School of Medicine, Charleston**
- **Dr. Jourdan Aromin, WVU School of Medicine, Morgantown**
- **Dr. Jeremy Hustead, WVU School of Medicine, Morgantown**
- **Dr. Jeffrey Liubicich, SUNY Downstate Medical Center**
- **Dr. Eden Rouse, ECU Brody School of Medicine**
- **Dr. Patrick Vincent, Penn State Hershey College of Medicine**



Dr. Ramez Altuwijri



FUN FACTS:

The name Ramez is a variation of *Ramesses*-the name of the great emperors of Ancient Egypt. He has no plans to run any empires in the future.



Hometown:

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Undergraduate:

King Saud University

Hobbies:

Walking, Soccer,
Reading, History





Dr. Halima Al-Qawasmi



FUN FACTS:

Halima was born in Miami, Florida and has lived in all three of the major University/Teaching cities in WV: Morgantown, Charleston and Huntington. She loves her cat Erana!

Hometown:
Huntington, WV

Undergraduate:
Marshall University

Hobbies:
Spending time with family,
Cooking, Reading, Puzzles,
Cross-stitching, Running,
Computer games





Dr. Jourdan Aromin



FUN FACTS:

Jourdan is a veteran of the notoriously eclectic Morgantown underground music scene. He has a rare dog, a Shiba Inu, named Yoshi.

Hometown:
Beckley, WV

Undergraduate:
West Virginia University

Hobbies:
Playing Guitar, WVU
Sports, Alternative
Music





Dr. Sheena Dohar



FUN FACTS:

Sheena has a big Lebanese-Italian family in Youngstown she loves spending time with. She wins the best dressed resident award every year.

Hometown:

Youngstown, OH

Undergraduate:

Carnegie Mellon

Hobbies:

Food, Sleep, Travel,
Spending time with family





Dr. Jeremy Hustead



FUN FACT:

In high school, Jeremy placed in the top 10 of a nationwide rap group competition but has since retired from Hip-Hop.

Hometown:

Ambridge, PA

Undergraduate:

Geneva College

Hobbies:

Reading (especially history), Playing Guitar, Baking and Cooking, Attending Penguins hockey games, Films, Music



Dr. Jeffrey Liubicich



FUN FACTS:

Jeff was the 2007 MLB.com National Fantasy Baseball Open Champion. His true love in life is protein powder!



Hometown:

Walnut Creek, CA

Undergraduate:

University of California, Berkeley

Hobbies:

Advanced statistical analysis of professional sports, surfing, traveling, reading, protein shakes





Dr. Eden Rouse



FUN FACTS:

Eden loves to go “picking” to find unique and interesting items at junk stores, thrift shops and antique stores. She plans to redecorate the resident area soon.

Hometown:
Richmond, VA

Undergraduate:
NC State University

Hobbies:
Antiquing, thrift-shopping,
swimming, reading,
writing/journaling





PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
HERSHEY
College of Medicine
1853

Dr. Patrick Vincent



FUN FACTS:

Patrick enjoys writing short stories in addition to his other hobbies. He is the REAL *Most Interesting Man in the World*.

Hometown:

Canonsburg, PA

Undergraduate:

St. Vincent College

Hobbies:

Skiing, golfing, running, and bowling (was on the bowling team in high school)



2020 Class

- **Dr. Rawan Alshaikh-King Abdulaziz University CoM**
- **Dr. Sadia Chaudhary, Nishtar Medical College**
- **Dr. Stephen Deci-West Virginia University SoM**
- **Dr. Patrick Henderson-Oklahoma University CoM**
- **Dr. Robert Looper-West Virginia University SoM**
- **Dr. Nathan Pearson-West Virginia University SoM**
- **Dr. Yasha Rastgar-The George Washington University SoM**
- **Dr. Jayson Varughese-East Carolina University Brody SoM**





Dr. Rawan Alshaikh



FUN FACTS:

Rawan previously had residency training and worked as an internist in Saudi Arabia. She is new mom!

Hometown:

Jeddah , Saudi Arabia

Med School /Undergrad:

King Abdulaziz University
College of Medicine

Hobbies:

Traveling, shopping and jogging





FUN FACTS:

Sadia transferred to WVU after completing her intern year at Rutgers. Her husband is a GI fellow at Allegheny and they have adopted homeless animals in the past.

Dr. Sadia Chaudhary



Hometown:

Multan, Pakistan

Prior Training:

Med School: Nishtar Medical College

PGY 1: Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

Hobbies:

Travelling, Badminton, Volley ball, Reading, Poems, Cooking,





Dr. Stephen Deci



FUN FACTS

Stephen has an undergraduate degree in Forensic and Investigative Science from WVU. He has never appeared on an episode of CSI.

Hometown:

Morgantown, WV

Undergraduate:

West Virginia University

Hobbies:

Cooking, Eating, Traveling, Skiing, Biking, Reading, Hiking, Art, Culture





**College of
Medicine**

Dr. Patrick Henderson



Hometown:

Tulsa, OK

Undergraduate:

University of Oklahoma

Hobbies:

Jogging, bike riding, movies,
video games and building
and painting miniature
figurines

FUN FACTS:

Patrick was the 2014-15 OU Tulsa School of Community Medicine's Award winner for demonstration of exceptional professionalism and integrity. He was born in Canada.





Dr. Robert Looper

FUN FACTS:

Robert worked as a student leader for the outdoor orientation program Adventure West Virginia. He spends his free time with his dog.



Hometown:
Fairmont, WV

Undergraduate:
West Virginia University

Hobbies:
Hiking, whitewater rafting, guitar





Dr. Nathan Pearson



FUN FACTS:

Nate spent a week working with habitat for humanity in the 9th ward area of New Orleans during medical school. He embraces being a townie.

Hometown:

Morgantown, WV

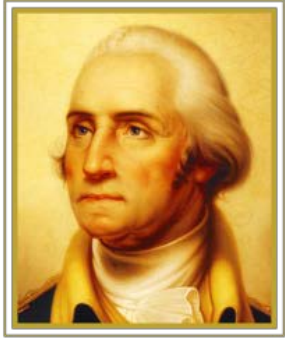
Undergraduate:

West Virginia University

Hobbies:

Basketball, Soccer,
Philosophy, Ethics





THE GEORGE
WASHINGTON
UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON DC

School of Medicine and
Health Sciences

FUN FACTS:

Yasha's interest in psychiatry started with an undergraduate research project on NMDA receptors in the amygdala. He and Dr. Berry (a Michigan State Grad) are somehow able to get along at work.

Dr. Yasha Rastgar



Hometown:
Linwood, NJ

Undergraduate:
University of Michigan

Hobbies:
Running, reading,
cooking, basketball





Dr. Jayson Varughese



Hometown:
Bahama, NC

Undergraduate:
University of North
Carolina at Chapel Hill

Hobbies:
Gardening, Collecting coins,
Collecting stamps, Singing
semi-classical vocal, Playing
guitar, Basketball

FUN FACTS

Jayson has participated in home building projects in underserved areas of Oklahoma, Louisiana, Alabama, India and Mexico. He is newly married.



2021 Class

- **Dr. Carrie Andrews-University of South Carolina School of Medicine**
- **Dr. Danielle Guinan-Florida State University College of Medicine**
- **Dr. Daniel Leonor-Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School**
- **Dr. Suliman Mansour-King Abdulaziz University College of Medicine**
- **Dr. Michael Nickasch-West Virginia University School of Medicine**
- **Dr. Maxwell Randall-Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine**
- **Dr. Ernest Spiotto-Albany Medical College**





UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

School of Medicine

FUN FACTS:

Carrie was born in Beckley, WV. She has fostered over 10 rescue dogs and plans to continue to foster.

Dr. Carrie Andrews



Hometown:
Columbia, SC

Undergraduate:
Presbyterian College

Hobbies:
Yoga, Music, Piano
(Classical), Fostering
dogs.



Dr. Danielle Guinan



FUN FACTS:

Danielle was on the University of Florida Club Swim Team. She is a self-taught painter.



Hometown:

Hobe Sound, FL

Undergraduate:

University of Florida

Hobbies:

Art, Piano(classically-trained), Swimming, Baking.





RUTGERS

Robert Wood Johnson
Medical School

FUN FACTS:

Daniel was born in New York City. He participated in tobacco research while at Rutgers. He was "referred" to our program by former resident Anthony Tobia.

Dr. Daniel Leonor



Hometown:
Teaneck, NJ

Undergraduate:
Muhlenberg College

Hobbies:
Puzzles, brain teasers,
trivia, movies, and
music.



Dr. Suliman Mansour



FUN FACTS:

Suliman is a new dad. He successfully completed the Tufts joint Masters of Science Program in Pain Research, Education and Policy.



Hometown:

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Med School /Undergrad:

King Abdulaziz University
College of Medicine
M.S.-Tufts University

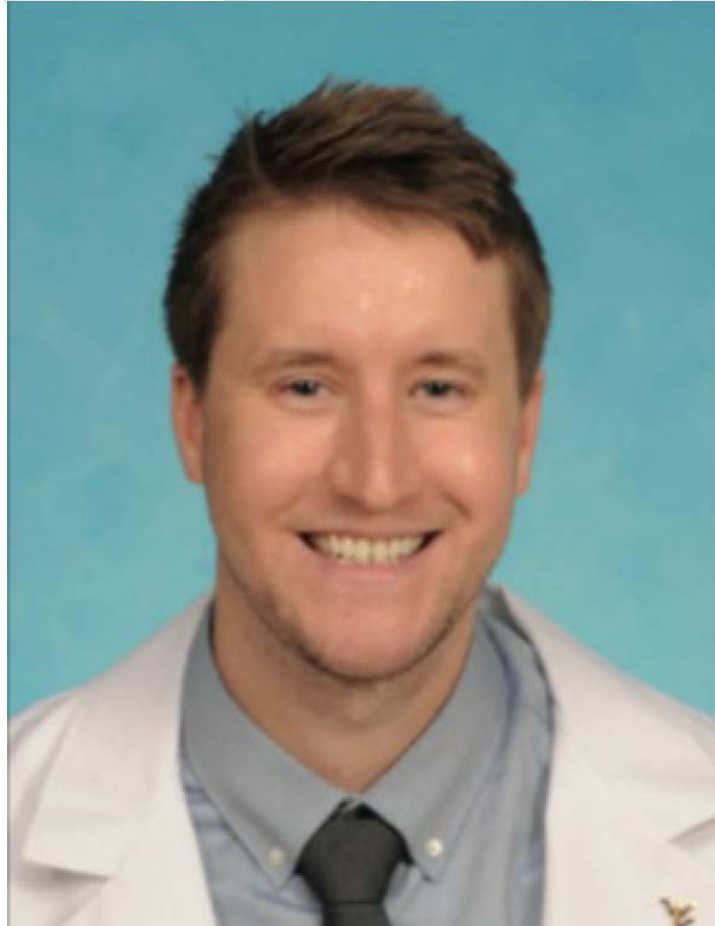
Hobbies:

Outdoor Sports,
Traveling, Soccer, Fishing





Dr. Michael Nickasch



FUN FACTS:

Michael has been a soccer coach in Morgantown. He has published with Dr. Zheng and other WVU faculty as a student.

Hometown:

Andover, MN

Undergraduate:

University of North Dakota

Hobbies:

WVU Medicine Soccer Club, Music Production, Sailing, Travel, Grilling, Online Gaming, Hot Sauce





Dr. Maxwell Randall



FUN FACTS:

Max completed his medical school prerequisites at WVU. He spent much of his time growing up in Montana. He is (former resident) Ryan Wakim's brother-in-law.

Hometown:
Huntington, WV

Undergraduate:
Fairmont State University

Hobbies:
Reading, healthy living, sports, weight lifting, movies.





Dr. Ernest Spiotto



FUN FACTS:

Ernest worked for many years in management in warehousing and the food processing (Pop Tarts!) industry before perusing a career in medicine. He has an interest in rural health.

Hometown:

Bethesda, MD

Undergraduate:

University of Nevada,
Las Vegas

Hobbies:

Traveling with his wife,
Broadway Plays, Visiting
National Parks, Kayaking

