

Arnold P. Gold Foundation Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Award

Resident Recipients

Dr. Zeyad Baker is a first year resident in the pediatrics program. He grew up in Hasbrouck Hts, NJ and attended Georgetown University, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in 2001. He then went on to graduate from Ross University with his medical degree in 2006. In addition to medicine, Dr. Baker enjoys volunteering at the Boys & Girls Club. Previously, he wanted to be a lawyer until he attended a Physicians for Peace trip after he graduated Georgetown. Once he decided to become a physician, he only wanted to be a Pediatrician and nothing else.

Dr. Thomas R. Christiano has just completed his intern year in surgery here at NJMS. He was raised locally in Livingston, NJ and then traveled to Villanova University for his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science in 1999. He continued his stay in Pennsylvania and received his Masters of Biological Sciences from Drexel College of Medicine in 2002. He then returned to UMDNJ- New Jersey Medical School where he graduated last year with his medical degree. His interests outside medicine include music, sports, and dining.

Dr. Eugene K. Kim is in his PGY-6 year in surgery. His is a home grown New Jersey boy raised in Wayne, NJ. After graduating from Dartmouth College, he returned to NJ to attend NJMS where he received his medical degree in 2001. After graduating this year, he is starting a fellowship in plastic surgery at University of California, Irvine. He was inducted into AOA this year as a housestaff inductee and was also a second time Golden Apple recipient this year.

Dr. Timothy Ryan Mainardi is a PGY1 in Internal Medicine. Dr. Mainardi is originally from Memphis, TN and obtained his BA in Biology from Macalester College in 1998. Before attending medical school at New Jersey Medical School, he was a Creative Director of Interactive at Ruder Finn Public Relations. He is currently married to Alison Mainardi (almost one year) and enjoys cooking. A favorite personal recipe of his is a concoction he makes with his homemade sourdough starter, homemade preserved lemons and North African spice paste. He originally went to college to do creative writing; however, Dr. Mainardi said after his advisor looked at his writing, she suggested that he try science!

Dr. Christina Pisani is a PGY-1 in the OB/GYN department. She spent her life in New Jersey, growing up in Vernon, attending Stevens Institute of Technology, and then NJMS. In her undergraduate institution she majored in Chemical Biology and Literature. She is getting married October 27, 2007 to NJMS classmate Adam Ligas. She enjoys singing, running (trying to get herself into the NY marathon this year), spending time with family, and spending time with her dog, Misix. She is one of five children, the youngest being six years old, and holds her family values to the utmost importance. She also loves to take pictures and make scrapbooks.

Dr. Bobby J. Rupani is a PGY-5 resident in surgery. She is truly a New Jersey raised and educated doctor. After growing up in Rockaway, NJ, she attended William Paterson College, where she received a BA in psychology in 1996. She then attended UMDNJ-NJMS and received her medical degree in 2001. Her interests outside of medicine include cooking, music, gardening, traveling, and playing with her rottie Thia. Her parents provided her with the opportunity to a physician when they left everything they knew in India to come to America. They instilled in her that honesty, hard work and dedication is the way to do anything in life. Her husband has supported her patiently through her residency. She will be the vascular fellow at UMDNJ-University Hospital for the years 2007-2009.