



Dartmouth
GEISEL SCHOOL OF
MEDICINE

STUDENT
GOVERNMENT

SEPTEMBER 2025

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Annual Alumni Reunion Weekend
Come volunteer at the Reunion Welcome Reception, Live with Leadership, Medical school tours, URIM meetups, Childrens' Night Out, or the all class reception

Fri-Sat, Sept 19 - Sept 20
[Sign up to volunteer HERE](#) and meet alumni, build connections, get Geisel swag, and strengthen the Geisel alumni network.

White Coat & Gavel Olympics
Geisel vs UVM vs Vermont Law & Grad School! Mark your calendars and start training! Let's bring home the cup! 🏆

Sat, Sept 20, Burlington, VT
[Register for a sport TODAY!](#)
Hosted by UVM Larner College of Medicine.

HOUSE LOGO CONTEST
Calling All MD Students!
We're inviting your artistic talent to help design the logos for our four houses!

How it works:

- You may submit a design for one house or all four—it's up to you.
- A small committee will review submissions and select the top three designs for each house.
- The student body will then vote on the finalists.

Parameters:

- Recommended to incorporate house colors
 - Blue - Spring Green #4682B4
 - Spiced - Olive Green #6B8E23
 - Maple - Tuck Orange #D94415
 - Oak - Autumn Brown #8B4513
- Be creative, original, and representative of your house spirit
- Submit in a standard photo file format (JPEG, PNG)

How to Submit:

- Email your designs to Monica.Adams-Foster@dartmouth.edu by Sunday, September 21, 2025

By submitting your design(s), you agree to allow your work to be featured on swag, in marketing materials, on our website, and more.

Submit ideas by Sun, Sept 21
Email your House logo ideas to Monica.Adams-Foster@dartmouth.edu

Fireside Chat: Succeeding in i3 and Heme
M2s (and any passionate M3s/M4s) come share tips with M1s! Casual, no admin, just real talk.

Tues, Sept. 23, 6:00pm, Vail 118

Community Service Organizations Lunch
M1's and M2's, come hear about the various ways you can get involved in Community Service at Geisel!

Wed, Sept 24, 12pm, Vail 118
If you are a student leader of a community service group, [FILL this form](#) to let us know about your group!

Mac's Maple Tour
Come for some delicious maple creamies!

Wed, Sept 24, 3-5pm
259 River Road, Plainfield, NH

Chai & Chat
Hosted by the International Medical Students' Association

Wed, Sept. 24
Admissions Lounge
3 Rope Ferry Road, Hanover, NH

October Student Gov Meeting
Join us every 2nd Tuesday of the month to get hear updates from SG members and admin! [All elected SG members](#) are expected to attend Student Government meetings consistently.

Tues, Oct 14, 6:00pm
DHMC Aud G and Zoom
Keep an eye out for an email to RSVP if you are coming in person!

Elections coming soon!

M1 Class Reps & Learning Collab Student Leaders Stay tuned for more info!

Learn about the [roles and responsibilities](#) for [M1 Class Reps](#) and for [Learning Collaborative Student Leaders](#) (M1, M2, M4).
Applications for a [Student Gov Communications Manager](#) will also be sent out shortly!

Geisel Swag Storefront

Grab your gear with logos from [Geisel School of Medicine](#) and [Geisel Health Sciences!](#)

Geisel Specialty Network Search

The Geisel Student Connect Portal is LIVE, and the **Specialty Network Search** is now available to help students connect with alumni by specialty. Connect with alumni by **specialty, residency location, class year**, and more. Ideal for students seeking **mentorship, advice**, or just to learn more about different fields! Watch this [short video tutorial](#) to learn how to get started.
[Create your account TODAY!](#)

STUDENT GOVERNMENT UPDATES

Meeting SlideDeck

Meeting Recording

PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT: [Vincent Busque](#) (President) & [Derek Colaizzo](#) (VP)

- We're **keeping SG meetings fun**— August's post-meeting hangout was at SNAX, and after the September SG meeting we hung out at the Jesse's. Come join us in person in October!
- The **Learning Collaborative House Leadership model** is live! Each of the 4 houses will have 2 M1 leaders, 1 M2 leader, and 1 M4 leader (M3s get a break this year). **Elections will be held later this month.** House leaders will collaborate with SG but remain a distinct structure. They'll also attend SG meetings to stay connected.
- **M1 Class Rep Elections season is coming!** Stay tuned to learn about how to get involved. Positions include: 3 Class Reps; 4 Curriculum Reps (medical education); 2 Community Service Reps; 2 DICE Reps; 2 Wellness Reps; 2 Mental Health Reps
- The **House Logo Contest** is open! A great chance to make your mark — submit your designs by **Sunday, Sept 21.**
- A big **thank you to Mikki Jaeger** for 25 incredible years in the registrar's office. Please send her a note of gratitude if you can! **Alex Rich** will be stepping into her role, and we're excited to work with her.
- Don't miss the **new Medical Student Research Newsletter** — highlights student work, publications, grand rounds, and opportunities. It's been a joint effort from the Office of Student Research, Professional Development Chairs, and SG.
- **ERAS season:** M4s are submitting residency applications starting Sept 20. Be sure to congratulate and support them during this busy time!
- The linked [Student Gov Bylaw changes](#) were voted on and passed.

TREASURER: [Mairiad Pfaff](#)

- After consulting with Dr. Cunningham, we're adding a **5% budget reserve** into the bylaws.
 - Why? In past years, SG sometimes ran out of funds! or overspent before tracking caught up. With this reserve, 5% of the budget stays untouched at the start of the year — serving as a cushion to prevent overspending.
- **Interest group funds from external sources** (like scholarships, donor gifts, or conference awards) will now be housed in the **Office of Student Life** with Dr. Cunningham and Kate Adams.
 - If this applies to your interest group, reach out to me directly.
- The **P-card is back up and running!** If you need it for approved SG expenses, contact me in advance so we can coordinate handoff.

MD-PhD Reps: [Andre Armero](#) & [Alexys Gayne](#)

- We wrapped up a busy summer with our **End-of-Summer BBQ**, complete with some very competitive games. Excited to keep the mix of **social + academic events** going strong!
- Currently in full swing with **retreat planning** for mid-October — working with faculty to bring in presenters and helpful sessions.

MD-MBA Reps: [Frida Velcani](#) & [Liah D'Sa](#)

- Our **Fall Business Retreat** is coming up on **Sept 19** — a chance for T1s and T2s to meet, review survey results, and plan programming with alumni through **Fireside Chats** (open to all).
- Hosting our next **Interview Prep Session** with Tuck alumni, focusing on how to highlight the dual degree in residency applications.
- Rolling out **MD-MBA merchandise** — we're collecting design ideas from both current students and those interested in the program.
- For any **M1s or others curious about MD-MBA**, feel free to reach out to Frida or Liah anytime — we're happy to chat about the program and opportunities.

ACADEMICS: [Helen Thomason](#) & [Corbin Dameron](#)

- **Fine-tuning the SPEs** (Standardized Performance Evaluations) — the narrative-style assessments used in clinical grading — based on student feedback.
- Grading clarification: **M4 electives** remain graded on a **four-tier system** (Honors, High Pass, Pass, Fail), while **M3 clerkships** use a three-tier system.
- This year will have a **Phase 1 course review** — all pre-clerkship course leaders will submit summaries of the changes they've made.
- Gathering **feedback on Panopto closed captioning** — we want to know if you find them helpful or distracting.
- **Benchmark reviews** now come with an answer sheet (currently rolling out slowly, so stay tuned).
- Working to **map Step 1 content** more closely to pre-clerkship courses so key material is better integrated.

AAMC OSR Reps: [Helen Thomason](#), [Daniel Ryvkin](#), [Tittilayo Mabogunje](#), & [Andrew Bostwick](#)

- We represent Geisel in the Organization of Student Representatives (OSR) within the AAMC, keeping you informed about national-level medical education developments. We'd love your input! If you've heard of something through AAMC or have ideas on how you'd like to get updates (newsletter blurb, SG meeting shout-out, or another format), let us know.
- Right now, we're **connecting with other OSR reps across the Northeast** to see what's working well at their schools and bring those ideas here.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: [Daniel Ryvkin](#) & [Alessandra Bryan](#)

- **Big Sib, Little Sib Program:** Pairings between M1s and M2s have been made. If you missed sign-ups but want to join, reach out—we'll help match you.
- **Specialty Peer Mentoring Program:** Matches pre-clinical students with clinical students based on specialty interests. The sign-up deadline was Sept 10th, but contact us if you miss it and still want in.
- **Fireside Chat on How to Be Successful in I3 and Heme** is coming up **Tuesday, Sept 23, at 6 PM.** Designed for M1s, with advice from M2s–M4s.
- **Medical Student Grand Rounds:** Our second session of the year is this **Tuesday Sept 16th at 6 PM** (Auditorium G + Zoom). August's event had a strong turnout (40–50 in person + more online). Come support classmates presenting their work!

SOCIAL EVENTS: [Parker Scott](#) & [Charles Mazof](#)

- **White Coat & Gavel Games:** Coming up **September 20th in Burlington!** Great chance to meet students from UVM Larner College of Medicine and Vermont Law & Graduate School.
 - Morning events: soccer, pickleball, golf (tee times). Soccer teams will each play two games.
 - Afternoon events: ultimate (new this year!), tennis, ping pong, golf, 5K, tug-of-war, and awards ceremony.
 - Fun for non-competitors too: beach volleyball, hanging out at Ledge Park, food & games at *The Pop* (indoor venue with ping pong, foosball, cornhole).
- **Register HERE in a sport** so we can finalize brackets and team lists.
- **Join the Social Committee HERE** – Help pick themes, venues, and make the magic happen. Small group, free food, and a direct path to getting more involved in SG. Email [Parker Scott](#) & [Charles Mazof](#) if you have more questions!

WELLNESS: [Erin Kelly](#) & [Annie Cao](#)

- **Joe O'Donnell (JOD) Fund:** Excited to share that several new wellness events have been approved! Please [submit funding requests](#) well in advance so we can support you fully and connect you with other resources. [This resource](#) to help navigate the application process. Take photos at your events—we love to share them with the community and donors.
- **Spaces & Snacks:** Borwell and Remsen lounges are maintained by your peers — please keep them clean and be respectful. Also, the snacks for clinical students have been going quickly—please keep them in mind too.
- **Fall Wellness Walk:** Explore the trail at Gile! It's a Geisel must-do (especially for M1s)! It's an easy, beautiful way to enjoy peak foliage—plus, it pairs perfectly with a maple creamy afterward.
- **Mac's Maple Tour:** Join us **Tuesday, September 24th from 3–5 PM** They're opening the creamy window just for us. [RSVP Here!](#) Already 53 RSVPs—looking like a fantastic turnout!

COMMUNITY SERVICE: [Alex Walkon](#) and [Trey Rogers](#)

- **Community Service Lunch:** Coming up **Tuesday, Sept 24th, 12–1 PM.** Aimed at M1s to showcase opportunities and M2s to highlight what they're leading—but open to everyone. If you're a leader of a community service group, [FILL this form](#) to send us your group info if you haven't yet.
- **Shake & Rake:** Planning is underway with the Aging Resource Center. We'll confirm one day for leaf raking soon 🍂. Let us know if you have thoughts on the best timing.
- **Service Gala: First planning meeting** is Wednesday Sept 17 at 6 PM. Anyone interested can join—it's not just for community service reps! **Email Alex and Trey if interested in joining!** We'll be choosing this year's charity, and we'd love input. We're leaning toward supporting a local Upper Valley organization. Current ideas include Overcomers, Listen, Visions, Upper Valley Haven, United We Stand, Protective Orphan Rights in NH, Memory Café, David's House, Willing Hands, Wise, and High Horses. If you have another organization you're passionate about, please send it our way so we can add it to the list.

DICE: [Eric Wang](#) & [Mary Basilious](#)

- Huge shout-out to our M2 reps, Niko and Phoebe, for hosting a successful M1–M2 mixer! 🍷
- **Affinity Group Mentorship Program** pairings have gone out—if you signed up and haven't heard, please reach out to [Niko Hernandez](#) or [Phoebe Xu](#)
- Reminder: **Free Food Alert** App is live — use it to share or find extra food around campus and help address food insecurity.
- **Co-Designed Community-Based Internships Applications** were due Sept 15. Opportunities for domestic or international global health work.
- This month's events:
 - **Sept 10:** CaféCito (Latina & Caribbean Heritage Month) – 5:30 PM, DHMC Chilcot Atrium
 - **Sept 12:** Multicultural Night (with SNMA, APAMA, SAMS, LMSA)
 - **Sept 13:** Community Health & Wellness Fair – Portsmouth, NH, 11 AM–2 PM
 - **Sept 15:** DICE Welcome Back Social – 5 PM, Whaleback
- Save the date: **Surgeon General Roundtable – Oct 26–28**, featuring past Surgeon Generals on mental health & healthcare.

ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT: [Diva Mathur](#) and [Taylor Cooper](#)

- **Alumni Reunion Weekend (Sept 19–20)** is coming up! If you're not heading to White Coat & Gavel Games, we'd especially love your **help with medical school tours** on Saturday from 12–2pm
 - [Sign up here to volunteer](#) (or reach out to Taylor or me with questions). If you can't make that slot, there are other reunion events where you can volunteer too.
- The Alumni Office is also hosting **Geisel/Dartmouth Med alumni events at upcoming national conferences** (Denver, Chicago, and more). Great networking opportunities—see the [sign-up details](#).
- We'd love your **feedback** on the [Geisel Student Connect Portal](#) and any ideas for additions to the [Geisel Swag Storefront](#), so please reach out anytime with suggestions!

GEISEL ADMIN UPDATES

Office of DICE: [Dr. McBride](#)

- Excited to share that Dartmouth will be hosting the upcoming **United Nations World Mental Health Summit in October.** We will be working closely with our **Medical Health Reps** over the next couple of weeks to plan the **roundtable with U.S. Surgeon Generals** on mental health and healthcare.
- DICE is also supporting the **Jewish Medical Student Association** with events on **September 22** and **October 2** in recognition of **Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur**. These will be hosted in collaboration with student leaders, faculty, and staff.

Office of Student Life: [Dr. Cunningham](#)

- A big **shout-out to Mairiad** for her excellent work on the budget — she's helped us untangle a long-standing accounting issue and right-size our process with the finance office.
- We've had some challenges in the **Remsen Student Lounge**. Facilities flagged issues that were considered vandalism, but we've been working with student reps to find solutions. We're exploring adding quiet oscillating fans with heating elements to improve ventilation while protecting the space from damage.
- So **proud of our M4s as they enter residency application season.** Their accomplishments highlight the strength of our training, service, and community engagement. For those still working toward that stage, know you're on the right path.
- **Courtney Buzzell** is now on parental leave. In her absence, **Kate Adams will handle SG reimbursements.** Please be patient as our team covers a heavier workload — if you don't hear back within 48–72 hours, follow up by email or stop by our office.
- Friday, Sept 12 marked **Dean Compton's last day.** Please take a moment to share your well wishes with him. **Interim Dean Leach** officially began Monday, Sept 15 — we're in great hands as we move forward.

Q.I. AT GEISEL UPDATES

We want to **highlight ongoing continuous quality improvement work at Geisel!** so we can all see how the school is addressing areas of focus and building on student feedback. These updates matter because often improvements are happening behind the scenes, in different phases of the curriculum, and it's not always visible unless you're directly involved.

Career Advising Improvements

Career advising was an area flagged by LCME as needing stronger systems. Since then, big strides have been made:

- **New leadership:** Dr. Cunningham as Associate Dean for Student Life, and Amy Rose as Director of Career Advising — she's already making a huge impact.
- **Senior career advisors** (4 total) now work alongside **longitudinal clinical mentors** for consistent support.
- **Faculty development** and new **specialty advisor guides** are in place.
- Enhanced programming:
 - Specialty spotlights built into Phase 1 curriculum
 - Phase 3 planner guides
 - Self-guided career exploration modules in Canvas

Impact

- Data shows clear improvements year to year:
- Phase 1 advising helpfulness: **60% → 80%**
 - Phase 2 advising helpfulness: **53% → 74%**
 - Residency prep guidance improved dramatically thanks to senior advisors
 - Mock interviews: **93% approval**
 - Match selection guidance: **58% → 80%**
- Geisel has a continued focus on strengthening **career advising and research** support. **Student feedback is key** — please keep sharing ideas for further improvement!

GEISEL STUDENT GOVERNMENT

SERVICE NEWSLETTER - SEPT 2025

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

- 1. The Upper Valley Haven**
The Haven provides food, temporary shelter, supportive housing, children's after school and summer programs and community outreach. Volunteers primarily work at the food shelf. To complete an individual volunteer application, click [here](#). Click [here](#) to sign up to deliver a meal to a haven resident!
- 2. David's House at DH**
David's House provides housing and support to families with children receiving medical care at CHaD. Volunteers can cook meals for families, provide playroom support, and help with grounds upkeep. Click [here](#) for more information and to complete a volunteer application!
- 3. The Woodstock Community Food Shelf**
A completely volunteer run food pantry, the Woodstock Community Food Shelf is open Monday, Wednesday and Saturday to provide groceries. To volunteer, call (802) 457-1165.
- 4. Community Health Scholars Food Deliveries with The Haven**
Community Health Scholars partners with the Upper Valley Haven to perform weekly food deliveries for disabled individuals in the community. These deliveries happen weekly on Wednesdays and take about 60 to 90 minutes to complete. If you have any interest in helping out, please reach out to Elsa Elsa.Winslow.MED@dartmouth.edu
- 5. Memory Care Social Group**
The Memory Cafe is a social group for persons with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia and their families. This event happens once a month on Saturdays from 10am-12pm at the Howe Library. We will eat breakfast, enjoy a musical performance, engage in physical activity or game, and do an arts and craft project. This event will continue through the spring and summer. The next 6 Saturday sessions being 7/12, and 8/6. Please reach out to Elsa Winslow at Elsa.Winslow.MED@Dartmouth.edu

EDITOR'S NOTE

HAVE AN UPCOMING EVENT? WANT TO SHARE A SERVICE OPPORTUNITY?

Scan this QR code to let us know about your opportunity and have it advertised in next month's newsletter.

For other feedback, comments, questions or concerns: contact Madi or Alex! trey.c.rogers.med@dartmouth.edu | alexander.a.walkon.med@dartmouth.edu

Don't forget to fill out the Service Opportunities Interest form to tell us about the events you would like to see. [click here!](#)

See you next month!

GET INVOLVED!

- Join **Student Gov meetings every 2nd Tuesday** of the month at 6pm in Auditorium G at DHMC and on Zoom!
- **Apply for Student Government discretionary funding!** Have an event or program idea for Geisel students? Even if it's not tied to an interest group, you can [apply for discretionary funding](#) to support your initiative
- **Know a Community Service Opportunity that Geisel students would love?** [Fill this form](#) to have the community service opportunities included on the monthly community service newsletter!
- **All students** should explore the [Career Advising Resources SharePoint!](#)
- **Connect with Geisel Alumni** for mentorship, research opportunities, residency advice, specialty advice, and more!
- [Apply to present](#) at **Medical Student Grand Rounds (MSGR)**
- [Add yourself](#) to the **Geisel Student Contact List** and help us connect you with prospective students!
- Become a **LCME (Liaison Committee for Medical Education) Student Ambassador** → email Justin.Cameron
- Join **Learning Collaboratives planning committee** → email Amy.Rose
- Become a **Peer Tutor** ([reapply](#) every year) → email Courtney.Buzzell

[Joe O'Donnell Wellness Fund](#) | [Student Government Discretionary Fund](#) | [SG Reimbursements for approved activities](#)

[Conference Funding Resources](#) | | [Fran Field Community Service Fund](#)

