



Dartmouth
GEISEL SCHOOL OF
MEDICINE

Office of
MEDICAL STUDENT
RESEARCH

Weekly Newsletter

Mar 5, 2026

The Student Research Office is actively supporting medical students throughout their research journey, serving as a central resource to help navigate onboarding requirements and connect with opportunities across departments. The office regularly shares active research projects and offers guidance on how to get involved.

Students are strongly encouraged to visit the office at **Remsen 230** for any research-related information and to begin their research journey.

Contact: Medical.Student.Research@dartmouth.edu



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Upcoming event

Co-curricular interdisciplinary seminars : Grant Writing

When: Mar 4th, 2026 | 7:00 AM – 8:00 AM at Chilcott Auditorium

Topic – How to Write a Grant by Dr. Tim Gardner

M4 Geisel Medical Student Research Paper Competition & Award Event (2026)

When : May 7th, 2026 | 5:00–7:00 PM at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center (Auditorium A–H)

Geisel Medical Student Research Award 2026 M4 Student Research Award Event

Eligibility & Submission Requirements

Open to M4 students only

- Research must be conducted at Geisel School of Medicine or Dartmouth Health (DH)
- Each student may submit one full manuscript (published or unpublished) in PDF format by email to Medical.Student.Research@dartmouth.edu
- Submission Deadline: **March 15, 2026**
- Manuscripts will be reviewed by the Office of Medical Student Research Team and faculty reviewers, and selected finalists will be notified by email
- The top 3 papers will be selected to present at the Medical Student Research Award Dinner, and the final winners will be chosen by audience vote.

Awards

- 🥇 1st Prize: \$2,000
- 🥈 2nd Prize: \$1,000
- 🥉 3rd Prize: \$500

Semi-Finalist Award:

15 semi-finalists will be selected

Each semi-finalist who attends the award dinner will receive \$100

Date: May 7, 2026

Time: 5:00–7:00 PM

Location: DHMC (Auditorium A- H)

For additional information, please contact:
Medical.Student.Research@dartmouth.edu

Summer Medical Student Research Projects



Summer research projects for 2026 (M1)

Geisel and DH Summer Projects

Explore the **2026 Geisel/DHMC Summer Research Project Opportunities** here:

Updates: More projects have been added to the summer list.

<https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/student-research/2026-geisel-dhmc-summer-research-project-opportunities/>

2026 Summer Research Work Study Grants

If you are planning a summer project in the Upper Valley (whether that be at Geisel/DH/WRJVA/or other community practice) we encourage you to apply for federal work study grant funds. \$2500 will be provided per student for summer research.

The deadline to apply this year is April 17, 2026.

More information : <https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/student-research/2023-summer-research-work-study-grants/>

Dr. Lyons and the research team invite Class of 2027 and 2028 Geisel medical students to participate in a 15-minute virtual interview exploring student experiences with curricular threads, with a focus on Anatomy & Embryology. Participation is voluntary, confidential, requires no preparation, and includes entry into a gift card raffle.

Sign up here (please use the correct link for your class):

- Class of 2028 (M2s): <https://calendly.com/ian-r-beals-med-dartmouth/a-e-ct-interview?month=2026-02>
- Class of 2027 (M3s): <https://calendly.com/daniela-armella-tangarife-med-dartmouth/one-on-one-15-min-interview>
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Questions? Contact Daniela Armella Tangarife
daniela.armella.tangarife.med@dartmouth.edu

Ian R. Beals

Ian.R.Beals.MED@dartmouth.edu

Research Opportunity: Climate Research Showcase Registration

Join us for a campus-wide poster session on **April 23 from 2:00-4:00 pm in the ECSC atrium** showcasing the depth and diversity of climate research happening at Dartmouth. Everyone (undergrads, graduate & professional students, postdocs, staff, researches, and faculty) is encouraged to present a poster, project, or any other form of creative scholarship!

This event is part of the inaugural [Dartmouth Climate Week](#) sponsored by the Dartmouth Climate Collaborative and numerous campus partners. Light refreshments will be provided.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeH9QWgu8Dfh-g71ceh4A05PZdIGPyvIwf3il7mCgdnYjGXtg/viewform>

COME LEARN TO USE ULTRASOUND TO DETERMINE GESTATIONAL AGE IN A HANDS-ON TRAINING WORKSHOP

All M1s are eligible!

Ultrasound measurement of crown-rump length (CRL) in the first trimester is the most accurate method for determining gestational age. We are conducting a research study to examine the role of ultrasound simulation training using a pickle-in-a-balloon model in gestational age estimation.

You will:

- Receive ultrasound training (~20min) and apply your skills to estimating gestational age (~10min)
- Measure the pickle's CRL pre- and post-training

Participation takes 30 minutes to 1 hour.



Date: Wednesday, 3/25, 1-5 PM.

Sign up for a time slot below! First come first serve

Location: Geisel Anatomy Lab

To participate: 1) sign up below and 2) send signed consent form to Maggie after you sign up



<https://tinyurl.com/picklecrlstudy>



<https://tinyurl.com/picklecrlconsent>

Questions? Reach out to:

Dr. Nena Mason (Nena.Mason@dartmouth.edu) | Maggie Cheng (maggie.cheng.med@dartmouth.edu)



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DEPARTMENT of
MEDICAL EDUCATION

This study has been approved by
Dartmouth College Institutional Review
Board (STUDY00033611)

*This is not part of the curriculum. Participation is voluntary



**Research Opportunities *Radiation Oncology & Health Policy* |
*Dartmouth Cancer Center***

Katie E. Lichter, MD, MPH

Dr. Katie Lichter is offering several student research opportunities focused on cancer care delivery, climate resilience, and health system sustainability.

Projects include evaluating travel burden among rural cancer patients, assessing weather-related disruptions to oncology care, participating in Sustainability & Health Collaborative initiatives, and contributing to a radiation oncology energy audit manuscript for peer-reviewed publication.

These projects provide hands-on experience in health services research, geographic and data analysis, climate and health policy, and academic writing, with opportunities to produce abstracts, manuscripts, and decision-ready reports.

Students interested in cancer care equity, sustainability, and systems-level impact are encouraged to reach out for more information.

More info : <https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/student-research/active-medical-student-research-opportunities/>



Harvard Medical School Visiting Clerkship Scholars Program

Sponsored by the Office for Culture and Community Engagement (OCCE) at Harvard Medical School (HMS), the Visiting Clerkship Scholars Program (VCSP) provides an immersive experience for fourth-year and qualified third-year medical students who have demonstrated leadership, a commitment to service, and a passion for advancing equity in health care. Through immersive clinical experiences, mentorship, and programming focused on leadership development, community engagement, and career advancement, scholars will gain insights, needed tools and networks to help them thrive in academic medicine and become future leaders with a focus on health equity.

Benefits

- ◆ **Over 200 clerkship options** across the specialties, along with combined programs that provide students with experience at more than one Harvard-affiliate hospital during a single rotation
- ◆ **Mentorship and Networking** with faculty and residents across the Harvard-affiliate hospitals, including dinner with faculty, trainees and other VCSP scholars
- ◆ **Stipend** to support travel and housing
- ◆ **Lectures** focused on leadership skills, community engagement, careers in academic medicine, and advancing health equity.
- ◆ **Learning opportunities** about pursuing careers in academic medicine, research, advocacy and policy

Eligibility

- ◆ U.S. citizen or permanent resident.
- ◆ Full-time third- or fourth-year medical student in good standing at an LCME- or COCA- accredited medical school.
- ◆ Have completed all core clinical clerkships.
- ◆ Have passed USMLE Step 1 and either scheduled for or passed USMLE Step 2.
- ◆ Demonstrate a strong commitment to health equity, leadership, and service.

Application

- ◆ Complete the online VCSP application: bit.ly/3NpDzpi
- ◆ Upload your personal statement and CV
- ◆ Secure a letter of recommendation from a faculty member who can speak to your skills in a clinical setting, and your commitments to community and health equity
- ◆ Apply to your preferred clerkship through the VSLO application service. Elective courses are posted on the [HMS Registrar's Exchange Clerkship page](#) at bit.ly/3aGb83t
- ◆ **SUBMIT your completed application no later than March 15, 2026**

Important Notes

- ◆ While rotations are available year-round, the Visiting Clerkship Scholars Program is only offered June through October
- ◆ Carefully review the deadlines and notification dates for VSLO application. With the exception of candidates applying for the month of June, it will be the case that your application for the Scholars program will be due before the clerkship options for July – October are posted. If you are interested in the Scholars program, submit your application by the March 15 deadline and just note your clerkship area of interest. If selected as a Scholar, we will hold a place for you in the program until you find out if you have received a clerkship placement.
- ◆ Spots within the VCSP are limited and some applicants may be placed in a clerkship by the HMS registrar but not be accepted into the VCSP. In those cases, the applicant may still participate in their clerkship, but will not be able to participate in the VCSP program.

Participating Hospitals

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ◆ Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center | ◆ Dana Farber Cancer Institute | ◆ McLean Hospital |
| ◆ Boston Children's Hospital | ◆ Joslin Diabetes Center | ◆ Mt. Auburn Hospital |
| ◆ Brigham and Women's Hospital | ◆ Massachusetts Eye & Ear Infirmary | ◆ Spaulding Rehab Hospital |
| ◆ Cambridge Health Alliance | ◆ Massachusetts General Hospital | ◆ VA Medical Center |



American College of Physicians (ACP) Annual Meeting

Join ACP and your colleagues in San Francisco, CA, April 16-18, 2026, at the annual marquee educational event for internal medicine physicians and subspecialists around the globe.

Information and Special Sessions for Medical Students

<https://annualmeeting.acponline.org/educational-program/information-medical-students>



2026 American Heart Association Institutional Award for Undergraduate Student Training

This is an institutional award, made to qualified institutions that can offer a meaningful research experience that supports the mission of the American Heart Association to undergraduate college students.

<https://professional.heart.org/en/research-programs/aha-funding-opportunities/institutional-award-for-undergraduate-student-training>

Supporting Research in Sudden Cardiac Arrest

The AHA is committed to supporting new research projects on Sudden Cardiac Arrest across all scientific disciplines (basic, clinical, and population) within any current AHA programs. No additional pre-proposal or proposal materials are necessary outside of individual AHA program criteria; awardees will be designated from the existing applicant pool within each program.

<https://professional.heart.org/en/research-programs/aha-funding-opportunities/tips-for-new-research-proposals>

Swigart Ethics Fellowship Presentations on March 12th at Auditorium E at DHMC

Elena Gupta (26') and faculty mentor, Roshini Pinto-Powell MD

"Ethical Use of Social Media in Medical School Admissions: Navigating Implicit Bias, Information Overload, and the Weaponization of Professionalism"

Charlie Mazof (28'), Vishva Natarajan (28'') and faculty mentor, Murray Echt, MD

"Ethical Dilemmas in Elective Spine Surgery: Holistic Views of Clinical and Social Determinants"

Erikson Nichols (27') and faculty mentor, **Roshini Pinto-Powell, MD**
"Artificial Intelligence, Aristotle and Practical Wisdom in the Digital Age: An Exploration of Phronesis in Modern American Medical Education using Retrieval-Augmented"

Jeffrey Deng (28') and faculty mentor **Lisa Pastel, MD** *"Paternalism and Shared Decision Making: Ethical considerations and systemic challenges in Contemporary Medicine"*

We hope you will join us to celebrate and engage in thoughtful discussion.



The Office of Medical Student Research continuously supports students in exploring research opportunities. Students can access information on both internal and external grants to support their research projects.

Updated information on research grants and external funding opportunities has been added to the page. <https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/student-research/grant-funding/>

Looking for something else?

To learn about additional ongoing research projects, **visit our website** or **reach out to our office**. <https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/student-research>

We're here to help you find opportunities that match your interests and goals.

Upcoming Events

The Geisel School of Medicine Events Calendar

Students are encouraged to check the Events Calendar to stay updated on upcoming research talks and Grand Rounds sessions.

<https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/calendar/index.php?y=2026&m=1&v=m>

Student Spotlight



Frida Velcani , MD Class of 2026

Frida Velcani is a fourth-year MD-MBA student at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth, and a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Vassar College in Science, Technology & Society with a minor in Hispanic Studies. Before medical school, she worked at The diaTribe Foundation to advance diabetes care, later applying this experience at Geisel to expand diabetes education and vision screening for underserved populations. Frida has also interned at Fogarty Innovation in the Silicon Valley, co-led the Design for Health group, and organized

interdisciplinary teams to address clinical challenges. Additionally, she is active with the Center for Business, Government & Society at the Tuck School of Business and serves as a Nonprofit Board Fellow, reinforcing her commitment to mission-driven leadership which she looks forward to continuing during her time as an ophthalmology resident.

Frida has published several manuscripts during her time at Geisel, including her work with the Levy Healthcare Incubator Post-Acute COVID Syndrome (PACS) team. She authored a paper on a multi-drug-resistant *Pseudomonas* outbreak related to artificial tear use, which she later presented at a national conference. She has also led multiple case reports and conference posters, as well as a piece integrating her interests in business and medicine within the field of regenerative medicine. Frida has secured approval for several IRB applications and continues to lead ongoing research projects in ophthalmology.

Scholarly Manuscripts by Geisel Students

Geisel students continue to drive innovation through research, contributing to peer-reviewed publications across clinical medicine, global health, and more. Their scholarly work reflects a deep commitment to scientific inquiry and advancing patient care. Each year, our students co-author numerous manuscripts, showcasing their passion for discovery and academic excellence. <https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/student-research/research-papers-by-geisel-students/>

Students are requested to submit their published manuscripts to be archived in the Student Manuscript section of the website.

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Does Higher Intraoperative Fraction of Inspired Oxygen Improve Complication Rates Following Implant-Based Breast Reconstruction?

Mallory A. Rowley, BA^a; Kometh Thawanyarat, BA^a;
Jennifer K. Shah, BA, BS; Lawrence Cai, MD^a;
Elizabeth Turner, PA-C; Oscar J. Manrique, MD;
Brian Thornton, MD, PhD, MBA; and Rahim Nazerali, MD, MHS, FACS

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<https://doi.org/10.1093/asjof/ojac039>
www.asjopenforum.com

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Abstract

Background: The surgical literature debates about whether an average intraoperative fractional inspired level of oxygen (FiO₂) greater than 80% confers lower postsurgical complication rates. Although some evidence demonstrates minimal or no difference in short-term mortality or surgical site infections, few studies suggest negative long-term outcomes.

Objectives: To the best of our knowledge, this is the first study examining the relationship between intraoperative FiO₂ levels and postoperative outcomes in the setting of immediate prepectoral implant-based breast reconstruction.

Methods: The authors retrospectively reviewed the complication profiles of 309 patients who underwent prepectoral 2-stage breast reconstruction following mastectomy between 2018 and 2021 at a single institution. Two cohorts were created based on whether intraoperative FiO₂ was greater than 80% or less than or equal to 80%. Complication rates between the cohorts were analyzed using Chi-squared test, Fisher's exact test, and multivariable logistic regressions. Variables examined included demographic information; smoking history; preexisting comorbidities; history of chemotherapy, radiation, or axillary lymph node dissection; and perioperative information.

Results: Chi-squared and multivariable regression analysis demonstrated no significant difference between cohorts in complication rates other than reoperation. Reoperation rates were significantly increased in the FiO₂ greater than 80% cohort ($P = 0.018$). Multivariable logistic regression also demonstrated that the use of acellular dermal matrix was significantly associated with increased postoperative complications (odds ratio 11.985; $P = 0.034$).

Conclusions: Complication rates did not statistically differ in patients with varying intraoperative FiO₂ levels outside of reoperation rates. In the setting of implant-based prepectoral breast reconstruction, hyperoxygenation likely does not lead to improved postsurgical outcomes.

Ms Rowley is a medical student, Upstate Medical University, State University of New York, Syracuse, NY, USA. Mr Thawanyarat is a medical student, AU/UGA Medical Partnership, Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University, Athens, GA, USA. Ms Shah is an undergraduate student, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, USA. Dr Cai is a plastic surgery resident; and Dr Nazerali is a clinical associate professor, Division of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery, Stanford University School of Medicine, Palo Alto, CA, USA. Ms Turner is a plastic surgery physician

assistant; and Dr Thornton is a plastic surgeon in private practice, Louisville, KY, USA. Dr Manrique is a plastic surgeon, Division of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery, Strong Memorial Hospital, University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, NY, USA.

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GMSJ

GMSJ is a student-led publication dedicated to showcasing the research, insights, and perspectives of medical students. It offers a hands-on opportunity to gain experience in academic publishing, including research dissemination, peer review, and scholarly writing—valuable skills for future careers in academic medicine.

We look forward to reviewing your work and celebrating your contributions to scholarship at Dartmouth!

Read GMSJ's first editorial publication :

Designing and Launching a Student-Led Medical Journal: Structure and Early Implementation of the Graduate Medical Scholars Journal (GMSJ)

<https://gmscholars.com/index.php/gmsj/article/view/inauguralissueNo1>

The Geisel Medical Student Journal (GMSJ) is pleased to announce the publication of **Vol. 1, No. S1 (2025): Special Issue — 2025 Geisel Research**

Poster Night.

This special issue highlights outstanding student research presented at 2025 year's Poster Night, showcasing innovative projects, scholarly excellence, and the depth of scientific inquiry within our community.

https://gmscholars.com/index.php/gmsj/issue/view/1-s1_geisel-research-night-2025

 **Learn more and explore the journal:**

<https://gmscholars.com/index.php/gmsj/index>



Datasets for Research

Multiple datasets are available for use to perform clinical and population-based research. These datasets can be used by researchers to answer specific questions related to population.

<https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/student-research/datasets-for-research/>

Grant Funding for Research

GrantForward is a search engine that the Dartmouth College grants office has had a contract with for years.

Atom Grants is a grants database but uses DeepAI to auto-match grant opportunities to student/researcher interests and background.



DH Academic Scholar Year Opportunities

Some Geisel students choose to take an additional year to engage in scholarly work within a department or section at Dartmouth-Hitchcock (DH) or The Dartmouth Institute (TDI).

More information:

<https://geiselmed.dartmouth.edu/student-research/hospital-specialty-specific-research-opportunities/>



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