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## **Summer 2009 Intern Updates**

### **Aaron Thompson**

*“Almost three-quarters of a year after the 2009 internship at the Cleveland Clinic CRM I am busy studying for the MCAT and applying for medical school. This summer I will be engaging in research at the University of Iowa in the cellular and molecular biology program. Specifically, I will be studying the tumor suppressor gene superoxide dismutase 2 (SOD2). The knowledge I gained at the Cleveland Clinic in regards to reactive oxygen species will be extremely helpful for research this coming summer.”*

### **Aarti Gaglani**

*“I am currently finishing up my second year of medical school and preparing to take the USMLE Step 1 in June, after which I will begin my clinical clerkships. I am thinking about doing a residency in either Internal Medicine with a specialty in Endocrinology or Obstetrics and Gynecology and then specializing in Reproductive Endocrinology. The summer internship in the Center for Reproductive Medicine at the Cleveland Clinic impacted me in many ways. It helped me prioritize my daily activities, improve my time management skills, and it served to expand my knowledge on reproductive medicine. It wasn't until after the internship that I realized how interested I am in endocrinology. I hope to take a fourth year elective at the Cleveland Clinic. My experience during the internship and the two articles I will be published in will help me a lot when applying for residency, and I am very thankful for that!”*

### **Brandon Rein**

*“After completion of the internship, I have been continuing with my studies and clinical experiences as a second year medical student at Ohio University. Within these clinical experiences, I've had the ability to perfect some of the basic surgical techniques (i.e. suturing) that I had the chance to observe and learn during the past summer at the Clinic. I also participate heavily with the College of Medicine's Free Clinic and Education Center, either as a BLS Instructor or aiding with community glaucoma, cholesterol, and blood pressure screenings. I am also finishing one project with my mentors at the Center for Reproductive Medicine at the Clinic. My experience as a summer intern has greatly enhanced my medical knowledge and performance in terms of my second year OB/GYN and reproductive blocks. As I begin to prepare for third year*

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*clinical rotations and my future career path, I realize that the internship helped heighten my interest in urology, reproductive medicine, and clinical research immensely. The amazing research experiences, valuable medical lectures, and helpful staff have given me a great foundation to aide in my development as a future physician.”*

### **Christina Lee**

*“I am completing my Master's degree at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health this May and have couple of medical school interviews coming so I am both excited and anxious. The summer internship at Cleveland Clinic CRM was one of the best experiences in my pre-med career: It not only confirmed my passion in medicine but also gave me more things to talk about in my medical school essays and interviews i.e. writing my two first-authored papers. Most of all, I am now more confident (and less worried) when I have 50+ pages thesis to write to complete my Master's degree program.”*

### **Jamila Bahrainwala**

*"I am finishing up my junior year at Northwestern University and planning to apply to medical schools this upcoming summer. This summer I will also be studying abroad in Mexico City where I plan to conduct my own public health research at Universidad Panamericana medical school."*

### **Katie Coyne**

*“I am currently finishing up my senior year at the University of Notre Dame and will graduate in May. I volunteer as a medical assistant at a clinic in South Bend that serves those who cannot afford health insurance and do not qualify for Medicare or Medicaid. I plan to earn my masters in medical sciences degree next year and then subsequently apply for medical school. The internship at the Cleveland Clinic has further solidified my passion for medicine and my desire to become an obstetrician/gynecologist. The training and education received from this program has elevated my research and analytical skills and made me more prepared for the challenges of medical school and beyond.”*

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## **Kim Ly**

*“I continued to work for the Cleveland Clinic Center for Reproductive Medicine after completing the internship. Since then, I have finished the two articles I had begun during the program as well as an additional two that are currently under peer review. Moreover, my work on the topic Preimplantation Genetic Screening will persist in a book chapter to be completed by September 2010. The internship has helped to solidify my desire to become a physician. I am applying to medical school this year and these experiences will distinctively set me apart from my peers.”*

## **Mathew Wright**

*“I am currently a sophomore at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio majoring in Biology and Spanish and minoring in Chemistry. Training as a summer intern at the Center for Reproductive Medicine at the Cleveland Clinic has left a lasting impression on me. After having a summer filled with hard work and interesting lectures, I gained a greater appreciation for reproductive medicine and a better understanding of infertility. Due to such a thorough and unique exposure to the medical field, my internship solidified my interest in practicing medicine in the future. There are a lot of great opportunities that the internship offers and I will never forget my time there.”*

## **Rathna Shenoy**

*“Currently I am finishing up my second year of medical school and planning on beginning my third year clerkships in August 2010. I am hoping to pursue a residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology and then specialize in Maternal Fetal Medicine or Gynecologic Oncology. Two of the book chapters I worked on are currently in press, and I am planning on co-authoring an additional book chapter to be published in late 2010. The internship has been a great help in improving my time management skills and advancing my knowledge about evidence based medicine and its importance in medical practice. I hope to be able to do a fourth year elective at the Cleveland Clinic and the Center of Reproductive Medicine because it has had a tremendous impact on my life.”*

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### **Samer Susan**

*I am currently completing my sophomore year at Case Western Reserve University and am working on my major in biology and my minor in chemistry. This internship provided me with the opportunity to not only immerse myself in the academic writing process, but also gave me the privilege of working with mentors who are in the top of their fields. The experiences I gained from this internship are invaluable, and are contributing greatly to my academic success. Working at the Center for Reproductive Medicine (CRM) at the Cleveland Clinic has confirmed my initial interest in pursuing a career in medicine. I have many fond experiences of the internship program and am excited for those that will have the opportunity to work at the CRM this summer.*

### **Sarah Brickner**

*"Since I have finished my research experience at the Cleveland Clinic, I have been inspired to continue doing research on the expression of protocadherins in various developmental systems of embryonic zebrafish. I began this as a freshman and hope to complete a publication, and I look forward to a book chapter publication on oxidative stress and female reproduction through my summer internship. I am a sophomore at the University of Akron, and one of my major involvements is serving as VP of Finance for Phi Delta Epsilon medical fraternity. Since last summer, I have been to Greece, the Caribbean islands, and most recently Jamaica for a mission trip to empower the community. This summer I was selected to travel to Africa to participate in Ghana Health Education Initiative. There we will be developing a program to teach locals disease prevention techniques. I am extremely grateful for my experience at the Cleveland Clinic, as it not only taught me how to better deal with my various academic endeavors, but also allowed doors to open to other opportunities."*

### **Shiva Kothari**

*"I am currently completing my sophomore year in Duke University with a major in neuroscience and a minor in statistics and chemistry. I hope to apply to and attend medical school in the near future."*

### **Stephanie Cabler**

*"After participating in the Cleveland Clinic Center for Reproductive Medicine Summer Internship I can say I have gained invaluable knowledge not only about academic research but about all fields of medicine. I am currently working on articles I began*

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*researching and writing during the summer and plan to continue my work into medical school on the hot and upcoming topic of obesity and male fertility. Living and working in Cleveland was an unbelievable experience and encouraged me to apply to Case Western School of Medicine. I was accepted in October 2009 and will make my way back to Cleveland for medical school in July. I am still unsure of what field I would ultimately like to pursue, but I will forever have advice and guidance from my mentors at the Cleveland Clinic and look forward to working with them in the future.”*

### **Whitney Burns**

*“I will be graduating from Washington and Lee University in May with a Bachelor of Science in biology. Next fall, I will begin attending medical school. Currently, I have not made a decision on which school to attend, but I am very honored and happy to have choices available to me. While on the interview trail this past fall, I was often asked about my research at the Cleveland Clinic’s Center for Reproductive Medicine, and I am certain that this experience helped me gain entrance into some of the impressive institutions to which I have been admitted.”*

### **Willy Baw**

*“I am currently enjoying my final leg at Northwestern University. I will be entering an MD program in the fall of 2010. I know this internship has helped me tremendously. Standing on the shoulders of giants has been a really amazing experience. The support by giants at CRM enabled me to have a larger vision and deeper understanding of the field of reproductive medicine.”*

### **Ye Sul Kim**

*“After completing my internship, I have been involved in my research at the Surgical Department in the Rhode Island Hospital through Brown University as a research assistant. I am currently working on a project on how the expression of PD-1/PD-L1 contributes to the changes in macrophage migratory function seen during sepsis via cytoskeletal alterations. This upcoming summer I have received an Undergraduate Research Scholarship through Brown to continue with my research. The internship with the Cleveland Clinic opened my eyes to research and has only inspired me to further explore research in other areas of medicine.”*