



Education at URMIC – Student Perspectives



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Hometown: Coral Springs, FL

Undergraduate Degree: B.A. in Computation Biology & Asian Studies from Cornell University

Graduate Degree: M.D. from University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

Areas of Interest: Anesthesiology

Background Information

I was born in Long Branch, NJ, and moved to Coral Springs, FL, when I was three years old. I was raised and did all my schooling in South Florida, so I'm essentially a Floridian. I grew up watching Nickelodeon, listening to hip-hop music, and cheering on the Miami Heat. I've considered myself a student of South Asian culture since I was young. As a child, I learned to play the mridangam, a South Indian classical percussion instrument; I was a professional Bhangra dancer during college and medical school; and I love listening to Asian fusion music or a genre known as Asian Massive.

Why did you choose The University of Rochester Medical Center?

Moving to Rochester from Florida was initially a tough sell, both to my family and to myself. Obviously, the Department of Anesthesiology and URMC as a whole have a great reputation, and there are many well known and highly respected individuals on faculty. But there are a few specific factors that I recognized after my on-campus interview that really sold me.

During my interview, I had a chance to speak to a LOT of residents (which in and of itself was very meaningful - sometimes resident's are so busy, they can't even meet with interviewees), and they all seemed genuinely happy. Yes, they worked hard, but they had enough time outside the hospital to study, spend time with their families, and have a moderate social life without sacrificing their education (all of which I've found to be true as I've started my residency). I also really liked how invested the faculty were in being educators rather than solely being clinicians or researchers - they really want YOU to succeed. Finally, the perks that the department offered like the generous annual education allowance, free textbooks, journal subscriptions, etc. helped seal the deal.

Tell us about your program

I'm a resident in the Department of Anesthesiology's residency program. It's an ACGME-accredited three-year training program with a total of 16 residents per class. The program also offers a transitional year internship to 10 of the 16 incoming residents; I happen to be one of the remaining 6 residents who did an internship elsewhere. In addition to working in routine operating rooms, we get to rotate through different subspecialties of anesthesiology, including pain management, obstetrics, cardiothoracic, and pediatric anesthesiology.

What are your career aspirations?

I'd like to join a small to medium sized anesthesiology group which services a private hospital or surgical center. It would be nice to move back to Florida where my family is, but I am open to any good opportunity. If possible, I would also like to work part time for a consulting firm or venture capital firm as a medical advisor.

What are some of the things you have learned since you came to Rochester?

I've only been here a few months, but its been a pretty steep learning curve. So far, I've been focusing on the basic principles of anesthesiology, which include a lot of pharmacology and physiology. While some of it is a review from medical school, I'm learning it in a very different way by applying it practically. I've also learned a lot of really cool airway management techniques and picked up a lot of tips from senior residents on how to be efficient in an operating room.

Any Advice for perspective students?

Work hard, be prepared, and be proactive, and you will learn a lot. Also, being nice and friendly to people you work with, whether they are doctors or nurses, administrative or ancillary staff, can go a really long way.