

Yale Neurology Residency Program

Class of 2008

Gordon Buchanan, MD, PhD graduated with distinction with a B.S. in Biology and Chemistry in



1995 from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he then entered the M.D./Ph.D. program. Gordon completed his Ph.D. in Physiology in 2003, where he investigated modulation of the circadian clock by acetylcholine. He has been an author on numerous publications in journals including *Nature*, the *Proceedings of National Academy of Science*, and the *Journal of Neuroscience*. Gordon was selected to receive an Individual NRSA M.D./Ph.D. Predoctoral Fellowship from the NIH, and was named a predoctoral fellow on an NIH Systems and Integrative Biology

Training Grant. He received the Outstanding Contribution Award from the Department of Molecular and Integrative Physiology at the University of Illinois, where he completed his M.D. in 2004. He did his internship in the Primary Care program at YNHH.

Sarah Janicki, MD, MPH received her B.A. in Urban Health Care Policy from Princeton



University. While an undergraduate, she participated in research at the Centre Medicale de Forcilles in France studying the French national health insurance system. Sarah also did an internship with the Maternal and Child Health Coalition in Chicago. She then entered the M.D./M.P.H. program at Drexel University, and completed the M.P.H. in 2002. This resulted in numerous publications, and a national award from the American Public Health Association for an Outstanding Student Paper in Maternal and Child Health. While in medical school, Sarah was active in university and community service organizations, and received a summer medical scholarship at the Cleveland Clinic. Sarah completed

her M.D. from Drexel University in 2004. She did her internship in the Internal Medicine program at NYU Downtown Hospital.

Yamini Naidu, MD received her B.S. magna cum laude in Biology from Yale University in 2000,



where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. As an undergraduate, she was a student research assistant in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, and also worked as a summer intern in virology and immunology. She then matriculated at SUNY Syracuse for her M.D. While in medical school, she was a recipient of the American College of Rheumatology Medical Student Preceptorship. Yamini was involved with ASCEND, a student run organization whose activities are concerned with helping Alzheimer's patients through computer training, and was the vice president of the Humanistic Lecture Series. She is also an accomplished violin player. Yamini completed her M.D. from

SUNY Syracuse in 2004, and did her internship in the Primary Care program at YNHH.

Haakon Nygaard, MD completed his B.S. magna cum laude in Biology in 2000 from Creighton University, where he then entered medical school. During his M.D. training,



Haakon was awarded a grant for research studying the visual system in Alzheimer's Disease – a neuropathologic study with clinical correlation. He presented this work at the Annual Midwest Student Research Forum, where he was awarded first prize, followed by the National Student Research Forum, where he received the Research in Neuroscience Award. Haakon has also performed clinical, neuroimaging, and neuropathological studies on fronto-temporal dementia. He was the president of the Student Interest Group in

Neurology at Creighton. Prior to college, Haakon grew up in Norway. He spent one year as a professional tennis player on the ATP tour prior to immigrating to the U.S. He was the #1 ranked tennis player at Creighton for all four years of college. Haakon completed his M.D. from Creighton in 2004, and did his internship in the Primary Care program at YNHH.

Michael Phipps, MD graduated with a B.A. in Biology and Psychology in 1997 from the



University of California at Berkeley. He held a position as a research assistant in the Cognitive Neuropharmacology Unit at the NIH for three years, where he was responsible for conducting clinical drug trials and neuropsychological research. He participated in several publications related to this work. Michael then matriculated at the Medical College of Virginia for his M.D. While in medical school, Michael volunteered at the Crossover and Fan Free clinics and at Habitat for Humanity. He also served as the leader and organizer of a medical relief trip to Brazil, and worked to develop technology to provide

health care programs to remote regions of South America. He was vice president of his class, and co-president of the local AMSA chapter. Michael completed his M.D. from MCV in 2004, and did his internship in the Primary Care program at YNHH.

Esther Rawner, MD received her B.A. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from Mills College



in 1998. During college, she worked as a research assistant in cardiovascular medicine and was on the Dean's List. Esther received the Excellence in Teaching Award from the Organic Chemistry Department. After college, she was a Research Associate in the Energy Dept of the Lawrence Berkeley National Labs for two years. She then entered the M.D. program at New York Medical College. During her preclinical years she worked extensively as a part-time research assistant in the Dept of Neurology, and performed a retrospective review of the side-effects of anti-convulsant medications in a developmentally

disabled patient population. She has been active in many university and community service organizations, such as the Respite Care program, and Habitat for Humanity. She was a Student Senator at NYMC, and AMA Student Delegate to the House of Representatives. Esther completed her M.D. from NYMC in 2004, and her internship in the Internal Medicine program at Tulane in New Orleans.

Jason Sico graduated cum laude with B.S. degrees in Biology and Neuroscience and a B.A. in Philosophy in 1999 from the University of Scranton, where he



was a member of the Pre-Medical, Chemistry, and Jesuit Honor Societies. Further, he was a teaching assistant for the behavioral neurology lecture and laboratory. Jason also performed research on pain pathways of *Helix aspersa*. Jason then matriculated into Temple University for his M.D. While in medical school, Jason has been a research assistant examining the genetic differences in *AIF-1* mutants and their role in coronary artery canalization secondary to transplant rejection. Jason was the vice president of his medical school class, was a student council delegate, and was active in the International Health Interest Group. He completed his M.D. in 2003, and his internship in the Primary Care program at YNHH.