

## Scripps Mercy Internal Medicine Residency Resident Highlights



### **Brandon Williams, MD, Class of 2021**

I am a categorical resident in internal medicine, planning for a career as a hospitalist. I completed medical school at UCSD. Outside of medicine, I am married with five children (1 year, 4 years, and 3 foster teens). I support my wife in operating our three businesses. Prior to my medical career, I worked in biotech investment analysis and marketing. I use my free time to enjoy the great San Diego outdoors with my family year-round (hiking, biking, volleyball and archery). I love cooking and am developing an array of tasty, healthy, easy recipes that can be made with minimal time and budget. My dream is to create a “doctor’s cookbook” with easy recipes we can prescribe to patients. When I get the chance, I escape to Park City or Tahoe for skiing.”

I originally chose Scripps Mercy because I was struck by how truly happy all the residents seemed. Now, I have many more reasons that confirm I made the right choice. Most importantly, I have seen on multiple occasions that the administrators care about each one of us residents as though we are family. They have worked hard to create a schedule that allows time for me to enjoy my life outside the hospital, even when I’m on wards or ICU. They are quick to implement changes for any issues that arise. From an academic standpoint, working in one of the two main San Diego hospitals means that I quickly became comfortable caring for patients with incredibly complex medical problems. As a border town, San Diego has a wide diversity of patients who often have no prior medical care. This means we commonly see rare conditions that other residents only read about. For example, I have seen patients with disseminated cocci, tuberculosis, neurosyphilis, end-stage calciphylaxis, undiagnosed late-stage cancers, disseminated Kaposi sarcoma and undiagnosed AIDS. Lastly, let’s not forget that living in San Diego makes it possible to go hiking in the middle of winter.



### **Rakesh Popli, MD, Class of 2019**

The main reason I chose Scripps Mercy was that the program felt like a family. From the residents to the attendings, to the staff, GME, to the cafeteria — everyone was always willing to help. After having been here for some time, I have learned to appreciate the variety of patients we see here, including some

pretty rare and interesting cases. I have also enjoyed the amount of autonomy we have, and I feel we are always thinking about what is best for the patient.

Overall, I feel very fortunate to have come here for residency and am grateful for all of the great people I have met.



**Christina Bohr, DO, Class of 2021**

Hello! I'm Christina, first-year categorical resident. I'm originally from Maryland and went to University of Maryland at College Park for undergrad. I took a few years between college and medical school to travel and work, living abroad in Denmark for the first year, then moved to the Bay Area for the rest of the time. After falling in love with California, I decided to stay here for medical school, attending Western University of Health Sciences in Pomona.

I chose Scripps Mercy because of the rigorous medical education. We see a diverse patient population and are exposed to a wide range of pathology. Moreover, I needed a structured lecture curriculum to help me stay on top of my studies, which is a focus of the program. I was especially excited about our CLUE program, which has given more depth to my education. Lastly, but certainly not least, San Diego is a fantastic place to live. My co-residents and I enjoy exploring the area, whether it be hiking, trying new restaurants or just spending time at the beach.



**Tina Nikoomanesh, DO, Class of 2021**

I did a Sub-I here and was very impressed by the residents I worked with. After seeing their excellent foundation of knowledge and confidence managing complex cases, I knew this program would prepare me for anything in internal medicine. Additionally, the faculty and residents were extremely warm and approachable.