

# DAANA-DAA NEWS BULLETIN

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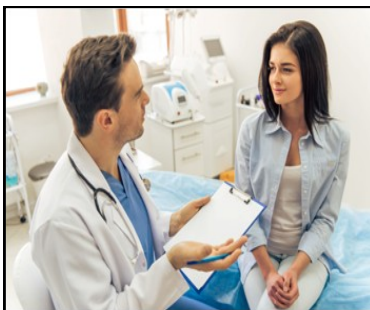
Alumni spotlight

Resources

Creating a culture and community to be proud of!



Career: Pathways: Mentors : To Be or Not to Be



*Leap*

*Forward*

## CLINICAL PATHWAY

Since August of 2016, under the auspices of Mentorship Committee, alumni received guidance and help in reviewing residency applications, personal statements, interview guidance and career counseling.

### Programs offered

- Clinical Observership/ Externship Program
- Scholarship Grant Program
- HOST (Help our Alumni Students Travel) Program



“pay it forward mission”

## Clinical Mentorship Committee

### Meet the stewards

DAANA Mentors are accomplished in their respective specialties and many have an academic background. Our mentorship committee is under the stewardship of **Dr Mohammed Moizuddin** (BOD '88) and Chair-Elects: **Dr Sameer Mohammed** '90 (2016-17), **Dr Baseer Qazi** BOD '96 (2017-18) and **Dr Fawad Khan** '98 (2018-19) and are ably helped by more than 30 active mentors from different medical and surgical sub-specialties. All incoming alumni applications are reviewed and volunteer mentors are matched to the candidates, who then guide and follow them closely during the application and residency match cycle. The mentors report back to the committee on regular basis to receive any additional feedback and assistance as required for the candidates.

Dr Moizuddin updates the DAANA Board of Directors during their scheduled teleconferences and follows up their recommendations.

### Clinical Observership/ Externship Program

- For alumni who are looking for US based clinical experience and holding ECFMG certification or those who will receive the same within 4-8 weeks.
- Currently active in Virginia, Chicago, Dallas, LA, Urbana Champaign.
- Offering clinical experience in General Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, Geriatrics, Cardiology, Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine, Sleep Medicine, Nephrology.
- DAANA has also partnered with AICG (American International Clinical Group) Chicago, IL for medical clerkship rotations in United States at discounted prices.
- Expansion plan : five more centers being explored.

### Scholarship Grant Program

- Launched in academic year 2017-2018.
- Grant Review Committee (GRC) : Chair: Dr Farha Ikramuddin '85 ; Seven committee members.
- Set criteria in place to screen deserving applications and provide them with required financial assistance for applicant's ERAS and interview travel related costs.
- Scholarships granted to 4 deserving candidates to date.

### HOST Program

- Initiated during the 2017-2018.
- Of particular value to those whom GRC was unable to offer financial assistance initially.
- Mentors may financially support local lodging, meals and transportation needs of our alumni applicants during their interview visit to your city.
- Applicant Alumni in need should email their interview schedule to facilitate this process in a timely manner.

## Mentorship Council

DAANA Mentorship Council is a new sub-committee. Formed with intention to integrate all alumni from different stages of life: Medical student, PG residents and Mentors. This core team consists of 3 current Medical Students, 3 US PG Residents, along with select current mentors. Their goals: Professional and personal success in US. We also intend to coordinate with Alternate Career Pathway Committee and provide all available options for successful career here.

**“Inaugural International teleconference end of March”**

## Alumni Spotlight: Dr. Mohammed Moizuddin

### **Please share your journey, and what challenges did you face along the way?**

A 1988 alumni, with a dream of post-graduate education in United States. I always felt like a fish out of water! It was tough time for medical graduates to get obtain a student or visit visa during my time. India didn't have an examination center, which means travel to Far-East for USMLE exams, an added expense, middle class students couldn't afford. We didn't have access to exam material, but were lucky to find a place to study, Princess Durreshahwar Hospital Library. I was lucky to get into DNB General Medicine in Hyderabad and then traveled to Saudi Arabia to earn money and appear exams from Riyadh. It would take another 3 years before I landed in NYC and was successful in obtaining a prematch H1B Internal Medicine Residency position. Subsequently did my Pulmonary, Critical Care Medicine Fellowship from University of South Carolina and Sleep Medicine Fellowship from Medical College of Wisconsin. I am currently working in Dallas, TX married to an alumni who is a Rheumatologist and blessed to have 3 children: Noor, Mudassir and Muzammil.

### **Did you have any support system? Were they helpful?**

Biggest support system besides my family came in the form of my medical batch-mates who made it to US before me. They never left me behind in the true sense! **The foundation of DAANA Mentorship was laid during my initial struggle here**, Touheed'88 paid my Step 2 fee (Scholarship Program), Altaf'90, Sameer'90 and Suhail'88 opened their homes for stay and helped me with travel (HOST program), Muqem'88 polished my interview skills (Mentorship Program). I am thankful to many other extended family members & friends without whose help my success today would not have been possible.

### **What part of support was most crucial ?**

Financial, moral support along with a motivated and positive frame of mind is extremely vital before you walk your first step towards your journey.

### **Do you feel a mentor is a value add for our future alumni?**

Absolutely necessary to achieve success in this very competitive environment here. I have over 14 years of GME teaching and training experience, including 3 years of being a Key Faculty in an Internal medicine residency program which has taught me many things here. But without the guidance of mentors in my early phase, this would have been difficult. Our Mentors help set your goals, teach you from our failures, inspire and motivate and be your trusted advisers.

### **One piece of advice for future alumni embarking on their clinical journey:**

Start planning early and set your goals in a phased manner. Have a **'I can do it attitude'**. I was just like you with this dream few years ago: **Now it's your time!**

AAPKA TIME AAYEGA

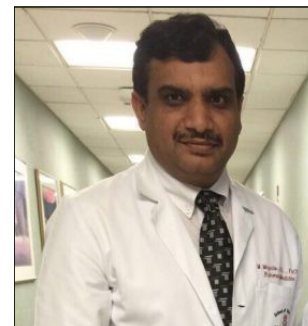
Register at

[www.daanadcms.org](http://www.daanadcms.org)

email requests and current curriculum vitae to

[dcmmentors@gmail.com](mailto:dcmmentors@gmail.com).

DAANA mentorship committee has prepared general guidelines, application forms and framework for evaluation and issuance of letters of recommendations for candidates who successfully complete our program



*“Start planning early and set your goals in a phased manner”*

*“Have a 'I can do it attitude'. I was just like you with this dream few years ago: Now it's your time!”*

## CAREER ALTERNATIVES



Our Mission is to  
“GUIDE”

G– Give

U– Utmost

I– Intellectual advice

D– to Determine

E– an Effective career choice

To date ~ 10 alumni have been catered to with regards to CV development, prepping for informational and actual interviews

## Mentorship Committee

The desire to achieve and be successful doesn't stop with the practice of medicine. The hypocritical oath is really not hypocritical as the passion to serve leads one to think beyond one's comfort zone. Hence came the genesis of a vision to serve our global Alumni Community who are seeking alternate careers by facilitating resources and tools to enable a best career choice and professional development

The committee is served by mentors who have made great strides and achievements in alternate professional careers and are well equipped to carry forth the vision. Additionally, having practicing alumni within the committee allows for guiding every alumni very early on as they make their professional choices post graduation. Under the stewardship of BOD'90 Dr. Taruj Ali, mentors Dr. Nusrath Sultana, Dr. Khaudeja Bano, Dr. Farheena Azam, Dr. Fatima Zaidi, Dr. Ilyas Khan, Dr. Mubasir Osmani, Dr. Nasim Majid and Dr. Arif Mohammed are identifying mechanisms for awareness and guidance. A repository of mentors will be established to allow for appropriate pairing with requesting alumni candidates. The committee was initiated in 2019.

Dr. Taruj updates the DAANA Board of Directors during their scheduled teleconferences and follows up their recommendations.

## Launch of webinar series

Series of webinar will be launched **effective March 25, 2019**. Intended to be an awareness campaign of career alternatives that may be opted for and requirements or skills required for the same.

Register now for the first webinar on March 25, 2019: **A peek into the future: Introduction to Career Alternatives**

Featured Speakers: Dr. Khaudeja Bano and Dr. Nusrath Sultana

*Please REGISTER if you haven't done so already!!!*

## Webpage Live :

<https://daanadcms.org/alternate-career-pathway/>

- **Blog**
- **Resources**
- **Recorded Webinars and much more**

**Alumni interested in becoming a mentor or have general queries, please contact us at : [dcmsacpmentors@gmail.com](mailto:dcmsacpmentors@gmail.com)**

## Alumni Spotlight: Dr.Mubasir Osmani

### Please share your journey, and what challenges did you face along the way?

I am from 1991batch, completed graduation and with a dream of pursuing and advancing my career abroad came to the US. Knew nothing different except with the goal of completing my Residency and clinical practice. Started preparing for my Steps, and felt challenged right away. The ‘what, when and how’ of clinical pathway was murky but I pursued towards preparing for Step 1 with as much information as I could gather. This journey was very tough esp. combined with the usual hurdles of being home sick, understanding a new culture, little to no family support and most importantly lack of any peer support.

### How did you navigate the tracks? Clinical and Alternate? What was your thought process and approach?

As previously eluded to, I was approaching my career goals sequentially, and was persistent in my clinical pathway. As expected, family needs required me to pursue parallel jobs that came my way with no vision regarding alternate pathways. After 5 years of persistence, reality set in and once again I was at crucial crossroads of decision making. After careful consideration and discussions with my wife, with a heavy heart abandoned the idea of clinical pathway.

A different set of challenges hit me – now it was no longer an unknown country, culture was well understood , established some friend network, but Alternate Career !Did not know what that meant.

### Did someone guide/support you in this next chapter?

No. One consistent challenge that remained was lack of guidance in this space yet again! Once a clinician always a clinician at heart. So, I randomly began exploring job options which had some connection to patients and luckily was hired as a medical lab tech. Very quickly into the job, I realized, despite having a medical degree I still fell short in educational requirements if I had to advance my career. So, in parallel, I took classes and did 1 year certification in Ultrasound diagnostics and moved within the same organization as an Ultrasonographer, which grew into a management role.

### What advice would you give to our future alumni?

Don't isolate yourself! As this is a natural phenomenon one goes through should they not pursue a clinical track. Moreover, our culture is non forgiving, hence it is natural to go into a shell. Establish a network, extend yourself and don't be afraid. Many inputs will be received, some negative some positive, don't be disheartened with the negatives and use them to push forward and strengthen the positives. Start early, and don't take a sequential approach to your career. Focus is important, but possibilities are endless. Engage the mentorship services now made available to you. VERY IMPORTANT TO HAVE A MENTOR! And listen to their experience and guidance. Be persistent, passionate and resilient.

*“Success is how high you bounce when you hit bottom”-George S Patton*



*“Alternate Career! Did not know what that meant”*

*“Establish a network, extend yourself and don't be afraid”*

*“Be persistent, passionate and resilient”*



### Acknowledgements:

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