**Chat with Alumni**

**WORK/LIFE BALANCE**

Sreenidhi Nair is a first-year osteopathic medical student at the Campbell University School of Osteopathic Medicine. She completed her Bachelor of Science degree in Molecular and Cell Biology at UConn in 2022. While at UConn, Sreenidhi was involved in the Undergraduate Student Government as a member of the Scholastic Standards Committee. She was also a part of UConn Empower, and UConn Asha, serving as their President and Vice President. Sreenidhi is interested in improving the standard of public health education and information in her professional career. In her free time, she loves hiking, baking, and exploring different restaurants. She is also happy to provide more insight on the DO path to medicine.

Zane Cooke is a second-year student at Dell Medical School in Austin, TX, currently in his Internal Medicine clinical rotation. He completed Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in Biomedical Engineering at UConn before taking a break from academia to work as a medical product engineer for Cardinal Health and later Medtronic. During this time, he also worked as an EMT in Boston, beginning with the COVID pandemic in February 2020. Zane is leaning towards specialization in either Emergency Medicine or Orthopedic Surgery, and most likely Pediatrics within either field. He has a particular interest in the intersection of clinical care and health technology, with a specific focus on preventative medicine and lifestyle interventions.
Ritika Lahoty is a current 1st year dental student at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine. She completed her undergraduate from UCONN in 2016 with a degree in Physiology/Neurobiology. During her time at UCONN, she was involved in cognitive childhood psychology research in the HuskyPup Lab, was President of Husky Hungama (a Bollywood fusion acappella team), an active community service member and a Resident Assistant for three years. In 2017, she pursued an accelerated dental hygiene degree at MCPHS Forsyth School and graduated in 2018. Ritika then started working in her own dental company providing mobile oral care in low income schools of the Boston area as a dental hygienist. She also attained her MBA in Healthcare Management from MCPHS University in 2021, to further pursue her passion in the diverse field of healthcare. Lastly, prior to starting at Tufts Dental, she received her Masters’ in Oral Health Sciences at Boston University. She is excited to establish her career as a future dentist and practice owner with an interest in implants and cosmetic dentistry at Tufts Dental for the next 4 years!

Katya Skaritanov is a third-year student at UMass Chan Medical School in Worcester, Massachusetts on her Internal Medicine clinical rotation. She completed her Bachelor’s degree in Physiology and Neurobiology at UConn and graduated as an Honors Scholar and University Scholar in May 2020 and went straight into medical school.

During her time at UConn, she was part of various extracurricular activities including undergraduate research in Dr. Jianjun Sun’s lab (for which she received the Beckman Scholar award in 2019) and the Kidney Disease Screening and Awareness Program. She will be applying into a combined Internal Medicine/Pediatrics residency program and is hoping to combine her passion for caring for both children and adults into a career focused on taking care young adults with chronic illnesses from childhood.