University of Pittsburgh | Office of the Learning Environment School of Medicine

PITT MED PROFESSIONALISM ACCOLADES

Cultivating a Positive Learning Environment



ZACHARY SPEARS

MS2 Student

"Zach played a huge role in helping me get organized and find structure in the lab. He has a real talent for presentation, and he taught me how to discuss research clearly and how to communicate with senior physicians and attendings in a way I hadn't learned before. Watching how he ran the lab showed me what strong leadership looks like day to day, and it was clear he cared about making the environment better for the people junior to him, not just about his own work. Beyond the lab, he gave me a valuable perspective on medical school itself, helping me think through the direction I should take to reach my academic and research goals. His guidance was steady and genuinely practical, and I'm grateful for everything he taught me about doing good work and carrying myself well in a research environment."

Submitted by a Medical Student (DSRP)

UPMC Eye and Ear – 3D Printing/Ghodadra Lab, Spring 2026

Submit #PittMedAccolades via PAIR at ole.pitt.edu/PAIR