

## FACULTY EXCEPTIONAL MOMENTS IN TEACHING



**Alex Helkin, MD**, an assistant professor of Surgery at the Norton College of Medicine at Upstate Medical University, is the **October 2024** recipient of the **Exceptional Moments in Teaching** recognition.

### COMMENTS FROM DR. HELKIN'S STUDENTS:

*“Wonderful teacher and surgeon. Truly takes the time to make students feel seen, included, and part of the team. His patience, especially in the OR, allows students to feel calm while practicing new skills while also gaining invaluable experience for the future. Dr. Helkin also deeply cares for his patients, going above and beyond to make sure they get the best possible care. Amazing example for future physicians and future surgeons!”*

*“Dr. Helkin was a pleasure to work with and learn from. He took time throughout the day, while rounding and in the OR, to teach and ensure my understanding. He provided helpful feedback and was very communicative with all members of the team. Dr. Helkin exhibits excellent bedside manner, as he takes time to explain important things to patients and their loved ones, and he treats everyone with utmost kindness and respect. This was an especially busy two weeks of service, and I found it to be rewarding, both academically and personally.”*

*“Dr. Helkin was kind, respectful, knowledgeable, and inclusive of the medical students on service. I learned a lot about our patients and their disease processes from him, and he served as a role model for me, solidifying my desire to pursue a career in surgery. Overall, he made the experience incredibly worthwhile and exciting.”*

The Norton College of Medicine recognizes exceptional teachers with the monthly “Exceptional Moments in Teaching” program. Honorees are selected via student assessments from courses and clerkships. Recognized teachers—including medical faculty, residents, nurses and other educators—are those who challenge students and provide an exceptional learning experience.