

SEPTEMBER 2025 | ISSUE 1

MPS NEWSLETTER



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WELCOME MPS CLASS OF 2026 & 2027

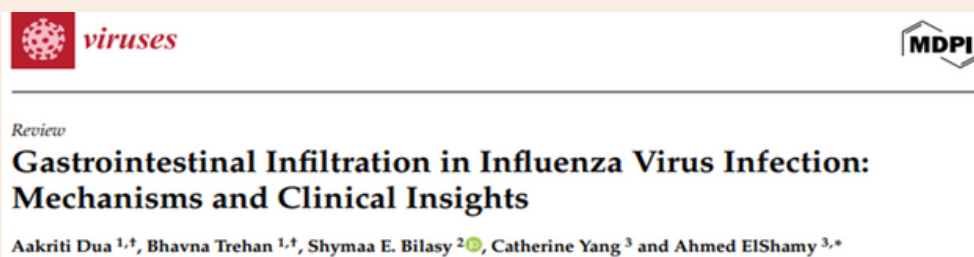
As the new academic year begins, the CNUMPS community is pleased to welcome a fresh cohort of students embarking on their educational journey. The New Student Orientation Day always brings energy and anticipation to campus, as students from diverse backgrounds come together with shared goals of growth, discovery, and achievement. The beginning of the year marks not only a transition into higher learning but also the start of new connections and lasting experiences.

This year's incoming cohort is made up of students enrolled in three academic tracks, the Master of Pharmaceutical Sciences (Capstone/ Thesis) Track, the MPS-to-MD Pathway and the newly established MPS Oral Health to Dental Medicine Pathway. These programs offer specialized curriculum and learning experiences designed to challenge and inspire students, while providing a strong foundation for their academic success. With dedicated faculty and a wide range of resources, the university ensures that each student, regardless of track, is supported and encouraged throughout their studies.

The CNUMPS community extends a warm and enthusiastic welcome to all new students, recognizing the excitement and uncertainty that often accompany such a pivotal transition. As they settle into campus life, students are invited to engage fully in the university's vibrant academic and social environment. The entire community looks forward to the perspectives, energy, and contributions this new cohort will bring in the year ahead.

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHT

Under supervision of Dr. Ashraf Mohieldin, Riley Danna (COM2) received outstanding recognition in the 2025 AMA Research Challenge. Her abstract on the Pgrmc2 project has advanced to the semifinal stage and was ranked in the top 3% of all submissions. The same project was awarded the CVI travel grant this year. Congratulations to Riley and Dr. Ashraf Mohieldin. The AMA Research Challenge is the largest national, multi-specialty medical research conference for medical students, residents and international medical graduates to showcase and present research. The virtual poster symposium and semifinals will take place Oct. 22-23, 2025.



New publication in the Viruses journal by Dr. Catherine Yang and Dr. Ahmed El-Shamy, titled “Gastrointestinal Infiltration in Influenza Virus Infection: Mechanisms and Clinical Insights”



This year's Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine has been awarded to three scientists for disentangling how the immune system distinguishes friend from foe.

Shimon Sakaguchi of the University of Osaka, Mary Brunkow of the Institute for Systems Biology in Seattle, and Fred Ramsdell of San Francisco-based Sonoma Biotherapeutics revealed some of the mechanisms that prevent accidental attacks by the immune system against

the body's own cells and how autoimmune diseases arise when that process goes awry. The work has already led to the development of experimental medical treatments for cancer and autoimmune disease. (**[read more: https://www.science.org/content/article/medicine-nobel-researchers-who-studied-how-body-polices-immune-system](https://www.science.org/content/article/medicine-nobel-researchers-who-studied-how-body-polices-immune-system)**)



MPS BOARD 2025-2026

After an exciting week of campaign and student engagement, we had five candidates running for the Class President position. We are proud of our five MPS students (Alfred, Celine, Monica, Joshua and Kevin) for their interest and dedicated efforts towards the program. Congratulations to our newly elected class president Joshua Segales, we are excited to see his leadership in action and support his vision.

The MPS Class President, Joshua Segales brings together a group of passionate and dedicated students ready to represent their peers and make a difference in the MPS community.



Elected Members:

- MPS Co-President: Monica Morales
- VP of Operations: Catherine Kim
- VP of Community Engagement: Gabriela Perez
- VP of Student Support: Simirthi Singh

The MPS board also had the opportunity this month to be invited to the CNU student leadership retreat kicking off the fall semester with enthusiasm and collaboration. During the leadership retreat, our student leaders from all the colleges brainstormed a variety of creative initiatives aimed at boosting school spirit and community involvement. The retreat helped participants understand how the university is organized, learn the foundational skills in leadership, reflecting on one's leadership style, networking with other student leaders from other colleges and creating a action plan for your own college.

The OSAA leaders discussed on the importance of inclusivity, fun, and making sure every student has a chance to participate in and benefit from the activities they plan to organize throughout the year.

