



Montefiore

From the OFFICE OF THE DEAN



Dear Einstein Community:

With Election Day behind us but the outcome far from settled, we find ourselves adjusting, once again, to uncertainty on an issue with major implications for our country and the world. It is an apt, if unwelcome, turn of events for this tumultuous year.

At Einstein, we have faced tremendous upheaval and loss during 2020—but also have been inspired by powerful notes of hope and resilience. Along those lines, we have had some good news on both the research and education fronts that I want to share with you.

Record-Setting Year for NIH Funding

While we still have several weeks to go before we can turn the page on 2020, September 30 marked the end of the federal fiscal year, so we can report on our funding from the National Institutes of Health. Continuing a streak started in 2016, the College of Medicine had another record-breaking year: Einstein received more than \$197 million in grants from the NIH in 2020. A proportion of those grants were for COVID-19 research (nearly \$10 million in both direct awards and subcontracts), but the increase reflects real and remarkable growth for our research enterprise.

Adding in other contracts, as well as Montefiore's \$23.7 million, our combined NIH research dollars reached \$223.6 million for the year—another record. This is a clear reflection of the quality, and remarkable productivity, of our research faculty as well as our training, mentoring, and scientific resources, which provide such critical support. I heartily congratulate you all.

New Leader of Development

As our research enterprise grows, we will continue to seek new ways to invest in infrastructure, license new discoveries, and support innovative research, including

for COVID-19. I am happy to note that our new senior vice president for development and chief philanthropy officer, Kathy Kearns, will start on Monday to help us with those efforts. Coming from the New York Genome Center and with experience at Mount Sinai and Continuum Health, she will be able to hit the ground running and help us further expand and enhance our enterprise.

M.D. Admissions Milestone & Education Support

On the medical education side of the house, our program is on track to break its own record. To date, Einstein has received nearly 9,800 applicants for the class of 2025—a 21% jump from last year. Our increase is reflective of a national uptick in medical school applicants, which is a touching and hopeful response to the heroic work of doctors, nurses, and all healthcare workers that has been on display during the pandemic. But it also serves as a testament to Einstein and Montefiore that so many have chosen us for their medical education and training.

For both our future and current students, the good news is that we are well positioned to continue the excellence of their educational experience despite the pandemic. Test scores for a range of exams given this year—from our in-house assessments to the National Board of Medical Examiner Subject Examinations—were the same as those for 2019. This is an important proof point that all of our recent modifications to the curriculum, including streamlining and consolidating some clerkships and transitioning to virtual or hybrid courses, have been successful. It also demonstrates the strength of our educational leadership and all of our teaching faculty, who have embraced these necessary changes.

Supporting this transition to more online learning is the rollout of upgraded wireless in all student areas. The bulk of educational locations—including the library, Education Center, and Riklis Auditorium—went live last month, and the remaining location upgrades are in progress.

Moving Forward

I hope this good news shines a light on the real progress we are making at Einstein during these unprecedented times. Each of you has contributed to making our campus and community a better place now than it was a year ago, despite the restrictions and adjustments we've had to make. We will continue moving forward, as we always have, together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Tomaselli', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Gordon F. Tomaselli, M.D.

The Marilyn and Stanley M. Katz Dean

Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Executive Vice President and Chief Academic Officer

Montefiore Medicine