



Dear Einstein Community:

While yesterday I sent you a holiday message, today I want to celebrate the end of the year by sharing some of the tremendous accomplishments we made during 2020—a year we will not soon forget.

As a community, we have been challenged in unimaginable ways this year. Under such unprecedented circumstances, we could reasonably have sought to maintain the status quo. Instead, our community rose to the challenge and achieved remarkable new heights.

I am exceptionally proud and inspired by our successes this year, all of which took place while fully engaging in the fight against COVID-19. We all can be especially proud of these achievements, some of which are noted below.

COVID-19

- We formed the Collaboratories to pivot researchers to COVID-19 research and foster collaboration
- Developed an Einstein serology test to combat the virus
- Launched the first NIH-funded randomized control trial for convalescent plasma
- Participated in clinical trials for the drug remdesivir, now approved by the FDA to treat COVID-19
- Developed potent human neutralizing antibodies to treat SARS-CoV-2 infection
- Partnered with NYC to help produce COVID-19 test kits, contributing 1.1 million vials of viral transport media from June to October, in addition to 400,000 vials provided to Montefiore
- 100 of our medical students chose to graduate early, one-third to work at Montefiore to assist in combatting the COVID-19 pandemic

- Einstein medical and graduate students performed (and are still engaged in) tens of thousands of hours of volunteer service. As a result, Einstein students were recognized at the Subway Summit for “In service with our community: Before and after COVID-19”

Recruitment/Faculty Promotions

- Edward Chu, M.D., was recruited to serve as the director of the Albert Einstein Cancer Center and to unify cancer research and clinical care across Einstein and Montefiore
- 10 faculty members were awarded tenure

NIH Funding/Clinical Research

- Einstein received nearly \$200M in NIH funding in 2020, a record amount. Grants included:
 - \$16M to investigate the role of autophagy in Alzheimer’s disease
 - \$9.5M for the Diabetes Research Center
 - \$5M to study HIV- and HPV-related cancers in Africa
- Incorporating NIH funding to Montefiore—including a 5-year, \$111M grant to study HIV-associated cancer—our total research enterprise received \$223M in federal funding this year.
- Additionally, attesting to the strength of our research enterprise, our IRB approved 902 clinical research studies during 2020.

Other Funding

- We received \$32M in Einstein-specific philanthropy
- Earned \$9.5M from licensed Einstein intellectual property (IP)
- Produced income totaling \$6.9M from Einstein equity in biotech
- Made \$56M in investments supporting new companies formed from Einstein IP
- Garnered \$3.4M in industry-sponsored research funding

Education & Training

- Einstein was the only medical school in NYC to bring *all* medical and graduate students to campus and deliver in-person, small group activities during the current academic year
- We also rapidly deployed new technologies and provided faculty development programs to enable the effective virtual delivery of outstanding educational content and assessments

- Second-year graduate students and third-year MSTP students completed their qualifying exams on time and we've had 21 successful virtual thesis defenses since March
- Three postdoctoral fellows were awarded the Dennis Shields Prize for excellence in published research and presented their work in a virtual awards ceremony

Diversity & Inclusion

- Einstein expanded the office of diversity & inclusion
- Opened a diversity lounge for Einstein students
- Established an anti-bias curriculum review committee and a D&I faculty senate committee
- Hosted a series of six Town Halls for faculty, students, and employees in response to nationwide demonstrations against systemic racism
- Created "Faces of Einstein" to highlight the accomplishments of students and faculty from underrepresented backgrounds
- Held the first biennial "Use Your Voice" event to educate the Einstein community about Bronx advocacy efforts

Campus Improvements

- Einstein modernized digital technology in lecture halls, auditoria, and the Education Center
- Upgraded facilities, including labs, offices, elevators, chillers, housing, and freezer monitoring
- Improved animal facilities
- And began construction on a new BSL3 facility in Chanin

While this has certainly been a tumultuous year, we remain committed to investing in the College of Medicine to ensure that Einstein continues to prosper and grow.

I want to thank everyone for their tremendous work and dedication to our core values of discovery and training the next generation of physicians and scientists in

a socially responsible manner. I think this dedication, along with our commitment to others in our community, explains why Einstein was named a top employer in New York State this year by *Forbes*—#7 among education institutions and #20 among all those headquartered in New York City—a designation of which we should all be proud.

With the many accomplishments registered this year, I look forward—with great optimism—to what we can all achieve, working together, in 2021.

As I contemplate our future, I also want to extend best wishes to you and to your families for peace, joy, and health during this holiday season.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Tomaselli', with a stylized, flowing script.

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