



Montefiore

From the OFFICE OF THE DEAN



Dear Einstein Community:

This weekend, we welcome the arrival of spring. This season of renewal often offers hope of new beginnings and that is certainly true this year as we gradually emerge from the worst of the COVID-pandemic—a time that has tested us all to the limit.

Match Day & Graduate Student Honors

Fortunately, spring's formal arrival on Sunday brings with it much good news at Einstein, reflecting the excellence of our medical and graduate students. Today, [for example, we celebrate the Match Day success](#) of the Class of 2021. At noon, our fourth-year M.D. students took part in our school's version of March Madness, when they hurriedly (and somewhat nervously) opened letters stating where they will spend the next three to seven years for their residencies. Speaking from personal experience, it's both a nail-biting and thrilling moment, [as our students learn what their futures](#) hold. While, once again, COVID-19 altered the way in which we celebrate this milestone, it couldn't dampen our enthusiasm for the outcome.

This year, 168 students, or 98%, matched to a residency—an excellent percentage. Thirty-four matched to positions in the Montefiore Health System. The most popular residency match was internal medicine, with 45 students going into the field. Rounding out the top five specialties were: pediatrics (18), radiology (14), emergency medicine (13), and psychiatry (12).

Be sure to read the [news release](#) on our website for more details and stay tuned for our ever-popular video capturing the day.

On Friday, March 26, at 1:30 p.m., I'll be hosting my next "Ask the Dean" chat, when I'll interview several of the graduating medical students during a panel discussion about their experiences with the match, their time at Einstein, where they're headed, what discipline they'll be pursuing, and how Einstein and Montefiore prepared them for this next leg of their professional journey.

In another display of student achievement, on Monday, March 22, our graduate program will host its **25th annual Julius Marmur Awards**, given to three graduate students in recognition of their excellence in research. This year's winners are Helen Belalcazar, Marta Gronska-Peski, and Josh Weinreb. Later that afternoon, to mark the award's silver anniversary, they also will host a special panel discussion featuring former recipients of the award.

Middle States Visit

Additionally, I want to thank everyone who participated in the recent Middle States visit. It was highly successful, both in our view and to those who were part of the Middle States site visit team. In a preliminary, oral report delivered this past Wednesday at the conclusion of the visit, it was noted that Einstein is fulfilling its mission as a top educational and biomedical research institution. The number of recommendations that were offered roughly matched the number of commendations, which lauded the College of Medicine for its outstanding performance.

In June, we expect to receive the final decision of whether the Middle States Commission, based on the findings from this recent visit, will grant Einstein full accreditation. If approved, we will then change our web URL and email addresses from einsteinmed.org to einsteinmed.edu. That would represent a major accomplishment in Einstein's distinguished history.

Town Hall to Address Anti-Asian Bias

As you know, COVID-19 hasn't only taken the lives of nearly 540,000 Americans; it also has led to unwarranted and absolutely unacceptable hateful acts committed against Asian Americans and others of Asian descent. Yesterday afternoon, Dr. Nerys Benfield, senior associate dean for diversity and inclusion, led a town hall to discuss the continuing acts of racism experienced by our own community members who identify as Asian. Those in attendance were encouraged to share incidents that have occurred on or near campus and near their homes. Participants listened and offered suggestions on how we can support our colleagues, classmates, and friends.

First and foremost, I'd like to thank the brave individuals who spoke up to relate some of the heart-breaking inhumanity they have suffered. And I want to thank Nerys for guiding the conversation, as well as those who listened and offered constructive suggestions on the next steps we might take.

To conclude, all these activities represent an incredible way to begin the spring season. While we will continue to face challenges, there is much more positive news to come between now and commencement, which represents the ultimate celebration for our graduating students.

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