Dear Einstein Community:

Yesterday we were blessed with a beautiful day for our commencement ceremony celebrating the Class of 2021. Many of you tuned in to the livestream and sent messages to our graduates to help make this hybrid event—partially live, partially virtual—extra special. Thank you for that. Your presence and support were deeply appreciated by the students.

Those on campus witnessed the magical setting created on the lawn of our Price Center/Block Research Pavilion so that we could offer a live venue for the ceremony, as well as a livestream that played on all campus monitors and on larger screens set up for family and loved ones gathered under a tent in our central courtyard. What they didn’t see was the dozens of workers who toiled tirelessly before and during the event to make sure everything ran smoothly and seamlessly.

I’d like to thank Jessica Lucas, Sheila Abreu-Nunez, and Heather Valentin in student activities for their Herculean effort and tremendous leadership in pulling off the wonderful ceremony. They organized all of us (students, faculty, board members, alumni, and administrators) so we would be in the right places at the appropriate times. They also coordinated with numerous departments on campus—from housekeeping, grounds, facilities and engineering, and dietary personnel to creative services, security, IT, communications and public affairs, development and alumni relations, and our education programs—to make sure every detail was covered.

Many thanks also to all of you whose endeavors on behalf of our 2021 commencement made it a truly memorable occasion. You’ve made this important milestone a high point for our graduating students, their loved ones, and our campus community.
In closing, if you were not able to attend or view the ceremony, you still can. Video of the event is accessible on our homepage, along with video from the Ph.D. convocation held for our graduate students on May 25. Please take a moment to watch and enjoy all the many elements of commencement. And, of course, have a wonderful Memorial Day holiday.

With respect and gratitude,

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