



Montefiore



From the OFFICE OF THE DEAN

Dear Einstein Community:

The 2021 calendar is nearing its end and the time seemed to fly by at a particularly rapid pace this year. Even so, we can take pride in many fine accomplishments, detailed in our [annual report](#), which I invite you to read. During my final [“Ask the Dean” chat](#) of the year yesterday, I also highlighted some of our many accomplishments in 2021—and touched upon some of our challenges.

Continuing to Confront COVID-19

One ongoing challenge is the COVID-19 pandemic. The new Omicron variant is proving to be highly contagious, with cases rising in our area and throughout the world, so we must remain vigilant. An e-blast earlier in the week detailed steps we are taking to ensure our campus remains safe and productive. That included the requirement to get a booster by January 3, 2022, if you are eligible, and reducing the density of personnel on campus for the immediate future. I appreciate all the efforts you are taking to protect your health and the health of your colleagues.

Observing a New Einstein Holiday

Earlier this month, human resources shared our new holiday calendar for 2022, which includes both federal and Jewish holidays. You may have noticed the new entry among those we will mark: Juneteenth.

It is both fitting and important that we commemorate what Juneteenth represents with regard to our nation’s history. Facing difficult or uncomfortable realities of our country’s racial struggles is important if we are to grow as individuals and as a nation. In celebrating freedom for Black Americans and highlighting Black excellence, Juneteenth reinforces the ongoing need to confront racism and address societal inequities and injustice.

Leadership Announcement

I'm also pleased to share a new senior appointment.

Our office of medical education (OME) has hired our inaugural assistant dean for integrated medical education. This new role will be filled by Janice Thomas John, D.O., M.P.H., a pediatrician who has practiced both pediatric hospital medicine (previously at Stony Brook Children's Hospital) and outpatient general pediatrics (currently at the Dolan Family Health Center in the Northwell Health System).

Dr. John will join Einstein in January 2022 following seven years at the Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell. There she has co-led a four-year longitudinal clinical skills course and leads the health equity thread in the Patient, Physician, and Society course. She also has taught extensively in Zucker's unique case-based learning curriculum, where integration of basic sciences, health systems sciences, and clinical care is a major priority.

You can learn more about Dr. John and her role at Einstein by reading the [news item](#) that was recently posted to our website's homepage.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. John as she takes on this critical leadership role.

In closing, I hope you all are able to celebrate what remains of the current holiday season with friends and family—and to do so as safely as possible. I also want to thank everyone sincerely for their hard work, support, and dedication to one another throughout the year.

Wishing you all a healthy and joyful new year.

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