



**Dear Einstein Community:**

In October, I discussed the proposal for reorganizing our basic science departments with the overarching goal of enhancing the excellence of our research enterprise, promoting collaboration, and providing avenues for improved integration of research programs within the health system.

We have now moved into the implementation phase, with faculty from our physiology & biophysics and anatomy and structural biology departments welcomed as members of other departments based on their respective areas of research. Their appointments to these departments—which include biochemistry, cell biology, developmental and molecular biology, genetics, microbiology & immunology, molecular pharmacology, neuroscience, and pathology—became effective on January 1, 2022. As part of this process, our research finance office has worked diligently to transfer grants to the appropriate departments.

**Reorganization Rationale**

As I noted in October these changes allow us to:

- Unify scientific missions previously dispersed across departments.
- Enhance the exchange of ideas afforded by departmental works-in-progress meetings and expand opportunities for collaboration.
- Preserve key disciplines while adapting disciplinary boundaries that place us in line with those making major advances in 21st-century science.
- Improve opportunities for mentorship, for advising students, and to receive interim support.
- Optimize administrative operations.

The principal goal is to allow us to make the most efficient investments in

research and continue to advance Einstein's position as a leading research-intensive medical school.

### **Team Effort**

I'd like to thank all those who worked tirelessly to ensure that all faculty, staff, postdocs, and graduate students who transitioned to new departments were able to do so while having their needs and concerns addressed. That includes our heartfelt thanks to former chairs Denis Rousseau, Ph.D., (physiology & biophysics), and John Condeelis, Ph.D., and Robert Singer, Ph.D., (anatomy and structural biology) for their decades of leadership and superb scientific investigation. It also includes the chairs and administrators of departments welcoming new faculty and staff, along with members of our finance and research finance offices, the dean's office, facilities and engineering, housekeeping, human resources, and members at all levels of the departments involved in these transitions. The hard work and collaborative spirit for which Einstein is well known enhanced a cooperative effort that involved a lot of moving parts (and people).

As I previously noted, I am confident that, as we adjust to these changes, we will tap into the excellence that has made our research enterprise so successful throughout our history. We also will learn and grow from the experience as we identify meaningful ways to diversify our capabilities and demonstrate our capacity to build on the strengths of our talented and dedicated investigators.

### **Remembering an Einstein Giant**

I want to take to take this opportunity to remember Albert Kuperman, Ph.D., the former associate dean for educational affairs, who served our institution for 40 years and helped to shape many aspects of our medical education. Dr. Kuperman died on December 21, 2021 at the age of 90. His legacy includes our global health program; the social medicine course that he supported our medical students in establishing; and our art and literary magazine *Ad Libitum*, which he championed as an important creative outlet for all members of our campus community. I invite you to view the [in memoriam](#) on our intranet and/or to [leave a remembrance](#).

### **MLK Service Challenge**

Finally, I want to thank all members of our community who signed on to take part in our second annual MLK Service Challenge. Volunteer opportunities began over

the holiday weekend and continued throughout this week. Some of your efforts will offer assistance to those devastated by the recent Twin Parks North West fire, and provide helpful services to those in need. Your participation is a reminder of Einstein's heart and desire to offer support and compassion.

**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*