



Montefiore



From the OFFICE OF THE DEAN

Dear Einstein Community:

At our most recent board meeting, I was pleased to recommend, and have the Einstein Board approve, that Jonathan Lai, Ph.D., be appointed as the new holder of the **Dan Danciger Professorship of Biochemistry**, previously held by John Blanchard, Ph.D., who passed away last year. This honor reflects Jon's many contributions to our understanding and treatment of COVID-19, as well as a variety of other infectious viruses, including Ebola.

I also recommended the appointment of Kartik Chandran, Ph.D., as the **Gertrude and David Feinson Chair in Medicine**. This honor, also approved by the Board, is fitting with Kartik's efforts to identify appropriate treatments for deadly viruses, most notably COVID-19 and hantaviruses.

I'd also like to take this time to remind everyone that on April 26, we will hold our **Staff Recognition Ceremony**, where we recognize members of our staff who have milestone employment anniversaries at Einstein of between 5 and 40 years, along with recipients of our recognition awards. While we must limit who can attend in person, there will be a livestream of the festivities; be sure to [view the e-blast](#) about this truly special event, which was sent out yesterday morning.

Additionally, on May 25, our class of 2022 will cross the Perelman Stage at Carnegie Hall to receive their hard-earned diplomas. Since returning to Einstein, conferring degrees to our graduates has been a cherished privilege and honor for me. I hope you'll join me in congratulating our future doctors and scientists on this most meaningful achievement. More information on commencement will be provided soon.

Finally, this time of year is particularly hopeful, reflected in the many spiritual and religious holidays that occur during spring—Holi, Ramadan, Passover, and Easter—which focus on love, reflection, freedom, and rebirth, respectively. While

the Hindu celebration of Holi took place in late March, the observations of Ramadan (for Muslims), Passover (for Jews), and Easter (for Christians) coincided this past weekend, with Orthodox Easter this coming Sunday. Passover continues through Saturday and Ramadan into early May.

It is my hope that you each enjoy your respective holiday celebrations, taking inspiration from the lessons they impart to us all.

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