



Montefiore



From the OFFICE OF THE DEAN

Dear Einstein Community:

Today, I would like to add my voice to the many who are welcoming our incoming medical students to the College of Medicine this week. I'd also like to welcome our incoming Ph.D. students, who arrived last week, as well as those in our Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP, receiving both an M.D. and Ph.D.), who have been on campus since mid-June.

It is among the most important times in their lives, one I vividly recall from when I first arrived at Einstein as an incoming medical student four decades ago. While there have been many changes to Einstein since then, what hasn't changed is the high quality of our students and the outstanding education and training they will receive during their time here.

When I look back on my own career, I recognize that my time as a student at Einstein was transformative, having a major, positive influence on every aspect of my professional life—and I suspect it will be the same for our newest students.

They are a remarkable group and I marvel at both who they are and all they have already accomplished in their young lives. Earlier today, admissions dean Noreen Kerrigan, shared some interesting statistics with the class of 2026 at their orientation that underscore this point and bear repeating. Of the 183 new medical students arriving today, 63% are women, the highest percentage in our history; 14% were born outside the United States, reflecting the global nature of our community; and 16% identify as belonging to groups traditionally underrepresented in medicine, which speaks to Einstein's diversity. They come from 26 different states in our nation and represent 84 different colleges and universities.

Our 31 new Ph.D. candidates and 14 MSTP students are equally impressive and inspiring. Among the Ph.D. students, 39% are female and 16% identify as belonging to groups traditionally underrepresented in the sciences. What's more, 44% have published a scientific paper in a peer-reviewed journal, 42% have presented at or attended a scientific meeting, and 45% have spent a summer in a research program. They come from 12 different states, 7 different countries, and represent 31 colleges and universities. Of our MSTP students, 36% are women and 43% belong to groups traditionally underrepresented in science and medicine.

As Einstein considers itself a family in many ways, I also found it interesting that almost a quarter of our incoming students were inspired to go into medicine because of their physician-parents. Another 20% were influenced by parents involved in health professions, protective services, and/or research. As a group, virtually all in the class of 2026 have also engaged in extensive volunteer work, which reveals their deep commitment to service and community.

Because of the high quality of our students and their commitment to training in and serving our diverse Bronx community, a documentary is being filmed on our campus this academic year. It is being funded by some of the biggest names in science and medicine—including the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and the Sloan Foundation—and will record some of our students' many educational experiences. Therefore, you may occasionally see a film crew on campus. It's one of many ways that we seek to tell the College of Medicine's remarkable story.

So, again, my congratulations to all our new students. They are about to undergo a profound experience that will stay with them for the rest of their lives. Please join me in wishing them much success.

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