

EINSTEIN GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN THE BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES BELFER INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED BIOMEDICAL STUDIES

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2023

DAVID GEFFEN HALL, LINCOLN CENTER

NEW YORK, NY



ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

OPENING OF SIXTY-FIFTH COMMENCEMENT PROCEEDINGS

Dr. Amanda C. Raff '98 Grand Marshal

NATIONAL ANTHEM

INVOCATION

Rabbi Shimmy Steinmetz Albert Einstein Synagogue

OPENING ADDRESS

Dr. Philip O. OzuahPresident and Chief Executive Officer
Montefiore Medicine

WELCOME REMARKS

Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman President Yeshiva University

GREETINGS FROM THE CLASS OF '73

Dr. Neal Flomenbaum

WELCOME AND PRESENTATION OF ALUMNI AWARDS

Dr. Gordon F. Tomaselli '82The Marilyn & Stanley M. Katz Dean Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Dominick P. Purpura Distinguished Alumna Award

Dr. Elizabeth M. McNally '90

Distinguished Ph.D. Alumnus Award
Dr. John J. Foxe '99

Distinguished Alumna / Clinical Practitioner Award

Dr. Theresa M. Maresca '84

Lifetime Achievement Award
Dr. David Siegel '73

Dr. Yvette H. Calderon '90

Lifetime Service Award

Dr. Marjorie Werner Stein '85

Einstein Honorary Alumna Award Ms. Nilda I. Soto

Rising Star—Clinical Practitioner Award
Dr. Cdr. Jennifer Eng-Kulawy '10

Rising Star—Scientific Investigator Award
Dr. Evanthia Roussos Torres '12

INTRODUCTION OF KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. Gordon F. Tomaselli '82 The Marilyn & Stanley M. Katz Dean Albert Einstein College of Medicine

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Dr. Robert Marion '79
Distinguished University
Professor Emeritus
Albert Einstein College of Medicine

PRESENTATION OF FACULTY AWARDS

Dr. Joshua D. NosanchukSenior Associate Dean
for Medical Education
Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Samuel M. Rosen Award for Outstanding Teaching (Clinical) Dr. Noé D. Romo '08

Samuel M. Rosen Award for Outstanding Teaching (Pre-Clerkship) Dr. Angela Cheng-Lai

Harry Eagle Award for Outstanding Pre-Clerkship Teaching Dr. Adi Pinkas

Harry H. Gordon Award for Outstanding Clinical Teaching Dr. Staci E. Pollack

Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Teaching
Dr. Jay B. Dobkin '79

LaDonne H. Schulman Award for Excellence in Teaching Dr. Robert A. Coleman

Saul R. Korey Award in Translational Science and Medicine Dr. Kartik Chandran

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY CANDIDATES OF THE EINSTEIN GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN THE BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

Dr. Gordon F. Tomaselli '82 The Marilyn & Stanley M. Katz Dean Albert Einstein College of Medicine

OATH OF SCIENTISTS

Dr. Joan W. BermanIrving D. Karpas Chair in Medicine
Senior Academic Advisor to the Graduate Division

PRESENTATION OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY CANDIDATES

Dr. Victoria H. FreedmanAssociate Dean for Graduate Programs in Biomedical Sciences

DECLARATION OF GENEVA

Dr. Amanda C. Raff '98 Grand Marshal

INTRODUCTION OF DOCTOR OF MEDICINE CANDIDATES

Dr. Joshua D. Nosanchuk Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education Albert Einstein College of Medicine

PRESENTATION OF DOCTOR OF MEDICINE CANDIDATES

Dr. Allison B. Ludwig '04Associate Dean for Student Affairs

Dr. Stephen G. BaumSenior Advisor for Student Affairs

Dr. Mimoza MeholliAssistant Dean for Student Affairs

CLOSING OF SIXTY-FIFTH COMMENCEMENT PROCEEDINGS

Dr. Amanda C. Raff '98 Grand Marshal

EINSTEIN GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN THE BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

Doctor of Philosophy as of September 30, 2022

Kiersten Patrice Carter

B.A., CUNY-Lehman College M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine Dissection of the EGF/EGFR Pathway in Tumor Cell Tunneling Nanotubes

Vanessa J. Chilunda

B.S., St. Lawrence University M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine Mechanisms of Methamphetamine Mediated HIV Neuropathogenesis

Mu Feng

B.S., Oregon State University
M.S., Albert Einstein College
of Medicine
Therapeutic Applications of
5'-Methylthioadenosine Phosphorylase
and 5'-Methylthioadenosine
Nucleosidase Transition State
Analogue Inhibitors

Phillip Michael Galbo Jr.

B.S., Niagara University
M.S., Albert Einstein College
of Medicine
Cancer Associated Fibroblasts:
Functional Diversity Across Cancer
Types and Roles in Glioblastoma

George I. Georgiev

M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine Structure-Guided Protein Engineering of Flavivirus Immunotherapeutics

B.S., M.S., University of Arizona

Lindsay Meg Gurska

M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Targeting Oncogenic Signaling

B.S., Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Targeting Oncogenic Signaling Pathways in Myeloproliferative Neoplasms and Acute Myeloid Leukemia

Zhixin Jing

B.A., Sichuan University (China)
M.S., Albert Einstein College
of Medicine
Long-Lived Plasma Cell Fate Decision:
From Germinal Cancer Selection to
Bone Marrow Survival Niche

Emilio Merheb

B.S., M.S., Lebanese American University (Lebanon) M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine Understanding the Pathogenesis of Pol III-Related Leukodystrophy

Aniella Jean Murphy

B.S., Florida Atlantic University M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine Buprenorphine as a Therapy for Cognitive Impairment for People with HIV

Cara Anne Reynolds

B.A., Rutgers University
M.S., Albert Einstein College
of Medicine
Loss of Chaperone Mediated
Autophagy with Age Contributes to
T Cell Immunosenescence

Yingjiao Xue

B.S., Dalian University of Technology (China)
M.S., SUNY–Stony Brook
M.S., Albert Einstein College
of Medicine
Cks1N45R KI Blocks Mouse
Rb1/Trp53-Deficient Prostate Cancer
Development and Reveals the
p27-Dependent Skp2 Degradation

Doctor of Philosophy as of January 31, 2023

Jenna Barnes

B.S., University of Iowa
M.S., Albert Einstein College
of Medicine
The Role of the ESCRT Apparatus
in Alphaherpesvirus Envelopment,
and Its Use as a Tool to Study Viral
Envelopment and Anterograde
Trafficking in Neurons

Jesse Barnes

B.S., University of Iowa M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine Characterizing the Function of Neuronal Cells Derived from Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells Made from Patients with Lowe Syndrome

Yacoba V. T. Minnow

B.S., University of Ghana (Ghana)
M.S., Montclair State University
M.S., Albert Einstein College
of Medicine
Purine Metabolism in Plasmodium
falciparum as a Drug Target for Malaria

Doctor of Philosophy as of May 24, 2023

B.S., University of Rochester

Robert Harry Bortz III+

M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine Antiviral Therapeutics Exploit Entry-Related Structural Changes in the Ebola Virus Glycoprotein

Nadege Gitego

B.S., Spelman College M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine Modulation of Cytosolic Autoinhibited BAX Dimer as a Novel Strategy to Potentiate Apoptosis in Cancer

Natalia Guadalupe Herrera

B.S., University of California–Santa Cruz M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Development of Antigen-Selective Immunotherapeutic Approaches and Discovery of Novel Immune Pathways

Xiaotong Jia

B.S., China Agricultural University (China)

M.S., New York University M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Bridging the Gap Between Apoptosis and Necrosis in MI/R—Understanding Procaspase-9 and Bak-mediated Necrosis in Myocardial Ischemia Reperfusion Injury

Katherine Emily Kaugars+

B.S., College of William and Mary M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Using a Herpes Simplex Viral Vector to Generate Protective Vaccines Against Viral Pathogens

Huizhi Liang

B.S., George Mason University M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine TCF1 Orchestrates the Partial EMT Program in Basal-like Breast Cancer via a FOXC2-p63 Axis Leading to Stemness and Metastasis

Yanyan Liu

B.S., Sichuan University (China)
M.S., University of Connecticut
M.S., Albert Einstein College
of Medicine
Features and Protective Efficacy
of Human Monoclonal Antibodies
Targeting Mycobacterium tuberculosis
Arabinomannan

Aakash Mahant Mahant

B.S., Universitat Rovira i Virgili (Spain)
M.S., Universidad Francisco de Vitoria
(Spain)
M.S., Albert Einstein College
of Medicine
Humoral Immune Responses to HSV
Infections and Placental Transfer of
Protective Antibodies; Implications

for HSV Vaccine and Monoclonal

Ryan John Malonis+

Antibody Development

B.S., Boston College M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine Characterization of Antibody Responses to Emerging Alphaviruses and Flaviviruses

Maxim Isaac Maron+

B.S., Loyola University M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine Transcriptomic and Proteomic Regulation by Protein Arginine Methyltransferases

Alexandra Quezada

B.A., New College of Florida M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine An In Vivo Platform for Rebuilding Functional Neocortical Tissue

Karishma Lees Smart

B.A., Cornell University
M.S., Boston University School
of Medicine
M.S., Albert Einstein College
of Medicine
Fidgetin-Like 2: Cutting Back on Cell
Migration

Hansoo Song

B.S., New York University
M.S., Albert Einstein College
of Medicine
The Early Shared Functions of Tbx2
and Tbx3 in Murine Inner Ear and
Craniofacial Development

ALBERT EINSTEIN COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

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B.S., Florida International University

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Jeeva Venkataraman

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Jeffrey Wu

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Joseph Keunhong Yi

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Nick Changhao Yu

B.S., Boston College

Dong Jun Yun

B.S., SUNY-Buffalo

Samir Zaman

B.A., University of Pennsylvania

Jessica Zhang

B.A., University of Virginia

Xueting Zhang

B.A., Vanderbilt University

Nina Wu Zhu

B.S., Cornell University-Endowed

Colleges

Master of Science in Clinical Research Methods (CRTP)

as of May 30, 2023

Francesco Castagna

M.D., Università degli Studi di Milano Bicocca Facoltà di Medicina e Chirurgia, Milan, Italy Predicting Hemodynamic Changes during Intra-Aortic Balloon Pump Support with a Longitudinal Evaluation

Jennifer Ciuchta

D.O., Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine, Blacksburg, VA Children with Acute, Uncomplicated Appendicitis from Lower Opportunity Neighborhoods Are More Likely to Have Prolonged Hospitalizations and Increased Healthcare Utilization

Meghan Davitt

M.D., Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University, Philadelphia, PA Impact of Race/Ethnicity and Language Preferences on Pediatric ALL Survival Outcomes

Chanelle Diaz

M.D., University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Miami, FL From Invisibility to Insight: Measuring the Impact of Anti-Immigrant Policies on Primary-Care Utilization by Undocumented Immigrants

Bianca Hall

D.O., Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine, Stratford, NJ Perceived Healthcare Quality and Contraception Utilization among Persons Recently Incarcerated

Stella Kilduff

D.O., San Juan Bautista School of Medicine, Caguas, PR Metabolic Acidosis in Pediatric Kidney-Transplant Recipients

Jimin Lee

M.D., School of Medicine, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario The Association between Discharge Time of Day and Discharge Outcomes at an Academic Children's Hospital

Kerry Morrone

M.D., Albert Einstein College of Medicine Prevent Acute Chest Syndrome Checklist–(PACScheck): QI Initiative to Reduce Acute Chest Syndrome

Caroline Mullis

M.D., New York Medical College, Valhalla, NY Clinical Presentations and Treatment Outcomes of Mycoplasma genitalium Infections at a Large New York City Healthcare System

Sumeet Singh-Tan

D.O., A. T. Still University School of Osteopathic Medicine, Mesa, AZ Addiction Consult Service and Inpatient Outcomes among Patients with Alcohol-Use Disorder

Mengyang Sun

M.D., Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO Modified Early Obstetric Warning System–A Validation and Optimization Study

Juan Vazquez

M.D./M.S. Track, Albert Einstein College of Medicine Imaging Markers of Cerebral Small-Vessel Disease Are Associated with Slow Gait and Cognitive Complaints in Older Adults

Fei Wang

M.D./M.S. Track, Albert Einstein College of Medicine Rectus Plication Does Not Increase Risk of Thromboembolic Events Following Abdominal Body Contouring: A Matched Case-Control Analysis

Christina Yang

M.D., Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL Implementation and Comparison of Tracheostomy Care Curricula for Pediatric Residents

Master of Science in Bioethics as of April 5, 2023

Sweta Chekuri

Compensation for Organ Donation

Matilda Garrido

Is Medical Nudging Ethical?

Jessica A. Rosh, J.D.

Medicine and Law: Partners in Crimes against Humanity—Bioethics, Law, and the Holocaust

Genna Schlicht

Applying Principles of Justice to AI in Healthcare

Iris Wertheim

Perceptions of Medical Ethics at a Community Hospital

BELFER INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED BIOMEDICAL STUDIES

Kristina Ames, Ph.D.

Research Fellow
Department of Cell Biology

Ayana K. April-Sanders, Ph.D. Research Fellow

Department of Medicine/Cardiology

Asma Beiraghi Salek, Ph.D.

Research Fellow

Dominick P. Purpura Department of Neuroscience

Airton Da Cunha Martins Jr., Ph.D.

Research Fellow

Department of Molecular

Pharmacology

Christopher De Bono, Ph.D.

Research Fellow

Department of Genetics

Claudia De Sanctis, Ph.D.

Research Fellow

Dominick P. Purpura Department

of Neuroscience

Drishya Diwaker, Ph.D.

Research Fellow

Department of Developmental and

Molecular Biology

Mohammad Reza Jabal-Ameli Forooshani, Ph.D.

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Department of Genetics

Elena Guevara Talarico, Ph.D.

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Luong Do Huynh, Ph.D.

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Huihui Li, Ph.D.

Research Fellow

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Adrian Martin Segura, Ph.D.

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Department of Pathology

Francisco Juan Martinez

Navarro, Ph.D.

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Yuta Matsuno, Ph.D.

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Marcos Schaan Profes, Ph.D.

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Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman

President

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Dominick P. Purpura Distinguished Alumna Award Elizabeth M. McNally, M.D., Ph.D. '90

Dr. Elizabeth McNally is the director of the Center for Genetic Medicine, the Elizabeth J. Ward Professor of Genetic Medicine, and a professor of medicine and of biochemistry and molecular genetics at the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University, where she leads the Center for Genetic Medicine. A board-certified cardiologist, she heads the cardiovascular genetics program at the Bluhm Cardiovascular Institute. Her work focuses on the genetic mechanisms responsible for inherited human diseases such as heart failure, cardiomyopathy, muscular dystrophy, arrhythmias, and aortic aneurysms. She has discovered genes and genetic variants that cause such diseases and has worked to implement genetic analysis into clinical practice. She also advises on the development of new genetic-correction therapies. Dr. McNally is a member of the National Academy of Medicine and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and was named a Distinguished Scientist by the American Heart Association. She has served as president of the American Society of Clinical Investigation and of the Association of American Physicians, and is the first woman to serve as editor in chief of the Journal of Clinical Investigation. Dr. McNally earned her bachelor's degree at Barnard College of Columbia University and her M.D. and Ph.D. degrees at Einstein. She did postgraduate training at Brigham and Women's Hospital in internal medicine and cardiovascular medicine, and she was a postdoctoral fellow in genetics at Children's Hospital, Boston.

Distinguished Ph.D. Alumnus Award John J. Foxe, M.S. '96, Ph.D. '99

Dr. John Foxe is a professor of neuroscience and psychiatry at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, where he holds the Kilian J. and Caroline F. Schmitt Chair in Neuroscience and serves as chair of the department of neuroscience. He is also the director of the Ernest J. Del Monte Institute for Neuroscience, director of the University of Rochester Institute for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research, and director of the University of Rochester Center for Advanced Brain Imaging and Neurophysiology. Formerly professor of pediatrics and in the Dominick P. Purpura Department of Neuroscience and research director of the Children's Evaluation and Rehabilitation Center at Einstein, he is now an adjunct professor at Einstein and a number of other institutions. At the Frederick J. and Marion A. Schindler Cognitive Neurophysiology Laboratory, he employs an integrated, multimethodological approach to investigate the neural bases of sensory-perceptual and cognitive functions, specializing in autism and schizophrenia. Dr. Foxe received the Distinguished Investigator Award from Neuroscience

Ireland and was a McDonnell-Pew Research Fellow at the Oxford University Centre for Cognitive Neuroscience. He also competed internationally for Ireland in track. Dr. Foxe is editor in chief of the *European Journal of Neuroscience* and chair of the Neuroscience Peer Review Consortium. He received his bachelor's degree from Iona College and his M.S. and Ph.D. from Einstein.

Distinguished Alumna / Clinical Practitioner Award Theresa M. Maresca, M.D. '84

Dr. Theresa (Terry) Maresca is a clinical professor of family medicine at the University of Washington School of Medicine in Seattle. Her clinical practice focuses on American Indian / Alaska native healthcare at urban Indian, tribally run, and federal Indian Health Service sites. She works to reduce health disparities by integrating Indigenous cultural safety practices into Western healthcare. One of only 30 doctors of American Indian / Alaska native descent in the nation to have achieved the rank of professor, she has received numerous awards, including recognition for educational excellence from the University of Washington School of Medicine and being named American Indian Physician of the Year. She also received the Adeline Garcia Award from the Seattle Indian Health Board for career community service and earned a faculty development fellowship from the University of Washington School of Medicine. A former president of the Association of American Indian Physicians, she is on the executive committee of the Pacific Region Indigenous Doctors' Congress. For the Einstein Alumni Association, Dr. Maresca has mentored students from groups traditionally underrepresented in medicine and sponsored a student stethoscope gift. Dr. Maresca earned her bachelor's degree at Vassar College. Following graduation from Einstein, she completed her internship and residency in family medicine at the Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound, a University of Washington affiliate.

Lifetime Achievement Award David Siegel, M.D. '73, M.P.H.

Dr. David Siegel is a professor emeritus and former vice chair of medicine at the University of California (UC) Davis School of Medicine. He was also chief of medicine at the VA Northern California Health Care System; a professor of medicine and of epidemiology and biostatistics at UC San Francisco (UCSF), where he received the National Institutes of Health's Preventive Cardiology Academic Award; and the founder and director of the Preventive Cardiology Clinic at San Francisco General Hospital. Dr. Siegel's research focused on infectious-disease epidemiology and cardiovascular-disease prevention; he has more than 100 publications in peer-reviewed journals, including three first-author publications in *JAMA*. In the

1980s, Dr. Siegel was a visiting professor at the Autonomous Nicaraguan School of Medicine and investigated Geneva Convention violations of medical neutrality during the war in Nicaragua. He worked for the World Health Organization's Global Program on AIDS in Tanzania and developed an AIDS-prevention program for the Oakland public schools. He is a fellow of the American College of Physicians and the American Heart Association. Dr. Siegel received a B.A. with high honors from Wesleyan University, where he later served on the board of trustees, and a master's degree from UC Berkeley. After graduating from Einstein, he did his residency at Harvard Medical School, an infectious-disease fellowship at Mount Sinai, and an Andrew W. Mellon clinical-epidemiology fellowship at UCSF. He's been on the board of governors of the Einstein Alumni Association since 2013. Currently, Dr. Siegel is a commissioner of Recreation and Parks in Davis, CA, and is on the board of directors of UC Davis Hillel.

Lifetime Achievement Award Yvette H. Calderon, M.D. '90

Dr. Yvette Calderon is a professor of emergency medicine and the dean and vice president for equity in clinical care at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and the Mount Sinai Health System, and chair of the David B. Kriser Department of Emergency Medicine at Mount Sinai Beth Israel. Her clinical research focuses on major health disparities in the treatment of patients with HIV and hepatitis C. She developed the first multimedia-based HIV testing and counseling program, and her work has received funding from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. She is a member of the National Academy of Medicine and on the board of the American Board of Emergency Medicine. She also is a member of the board of Mentoring in Medicine. Dr. Calderon has served as the director of the Urgent Care Clinic at Jacobi Medical Center, as chief of emergency services and the interim chief medical officer at North Central Bronx Hospital, and as Einstein's associate dean of diversity enhancement. She received her bachelor's degree in neuroscience from Brown University and her M.D. and an M.S. in clinical research methods from Einstein. Dr. Calderon completed her internship at Beth Israel Medical Center and a residency in emergency medicine at Jacobi Medical Center, where she served as chief resident.

Lifetime Service Award Marjorie Werner Stein, M.D. '85

Dr. Marjorie Stein is a professor of clinical radiology at Einstein and an attending radiologist at Montefiore. She became the first radiology clerkship director at Einstein and its affiliate hospitals. In her work at Montefiore, she specializes in body

imaging with a clinical focus on ultrasound of the abdomen and pelvis, including in patients with renal and liver transplants. She interprets sonograms of adults from the emergency room as well as inpatients and outpatients as part of an academic radiology practice in an urban setting. She is also active in the education and mentoring of medical students, radiology residents, and ultrasound technologists. The radiology curriculum she developed incorporates didactic lectures, state-of-the-art interactive teaching methods, and hands-on learning. She is committed to promotion of the radiology department as a vital part of all physicians' clinical armamentarium for diagnosis and treatment. Dr. Stein has published 37 articles in peer-reviewed journals and has given 55 presentations at major radiologic meetings. She is a fellow of the American College of Radiology and of the Society of Abdominal Radiology. In recognition of her excellence in the teaching of medical students, Dr. Stein was elected to the Leo M. Davidoff Society in 2007. She earned her bachelor's degree at Cornell University and her M.D. at Einstein. She did a radiology residency at Montefiore and a fellowship at Northwell.

Einstein Honorary Alumna Award Nilda I. Soto, M.S.Ed.

Nilda I. Soto retired as assistant dean of diversity enhancement in September 2022. She has continued to offer assistance parttime during the search for, and in welcoming, her successor. Her legacy of leadership inspired the establishment of the Nilda I. Soto Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Scholarship. Throughout 33 years at Einstein, Ms. Soto oversaw outreach to and recruitment, retention, and mentoring of students from groups traditionally underrepresented in medicine. She directed the Einstein Enrichment Program offered to Bronx high school students aspiring to careers in the health professions and successfully secured funding for it from New York State for more than 30 years. She directed the Diversity Student Summer Research Opportunity Program, coordinated Einstein's Project 3000 by 2000 initiative for the Association of American Medical Colleges, and was an integral member of Einstein's Hispanic Center of Excellence. Ms. Soto was the chair of the New York State Department of Health's Minority Health Advisory Council—a role appointed by the governor—and the Minority Affairs Advisory Board of the Associated Medical Schools of New York. Her numerous awards include acknowledgment from the Association for Program Administrators of CSTEP and STEP for work with those seeking careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, and from the National Association of Medical Minority Educators. She also served as vice president of the Association of Hispanic Healthcare Executives. Ms. Soto earned her B.A. and her M.S. in education from Fordham University.

Rising Star / Clinical Practitioner Award

Cdr. Jennifer K. Eng-Kulawy, M.D. '10

Dr. Jennifer Eng-Kulawy is a commander in the United States Navy and the pediatric consultant to the Navy's surgeon general. She is an assistant professor of pediatrics at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences and heads the Directorate of Education, Training, and Research at Fort Belvoir Community Hospital. Her clinical practice focuses on hospital medicine, leadership, and advocacy for pediatricians in Navy medicine and throughout the Department of Defense. She presented her paper "Improving Care for Individuals with Down Syndrome in the Military Health System" at multiple research symposiums and at the American Academy of Pediatrics National Conference. She served as a general pediatrician on two navy hospital ships, the USNS Mercy and the USNS Comfort, in support of humanitarian missions in Central and South America and the Indo-Pacific region. Dr. Eng-Kulawy received the Meritorious Service Medal for Navy-wide contributions to the Navy Medical Corps. She was named to the list of "Top 40 under 40" by the Stony Brook Alumni Association and was chosen as the Navy Uniformed Services West chapter's "Pediatrician of the Year." Dr. Eng-Kulawy has volunteered as a mentor for the Einstein Alumni Association. She received her B.S. in biochemistry from Stony Brook University, her M.D. from Einstein, and a graduate certificate in global health from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.

Rising Star / Scientific Investigator Award Evanthia T. Roussos Torres, M.D., Ph.D. '12

A graduate of Einstein's Medical Scientist Training Program, Dr. Evanthia Roussos Torres is an assistant professor of medicine (oncology) at the University of Southern California's Keck School of Medicine. She is also an adjunct assistant professor of oncology at Johns Hopkins University. She investigates the translation of breast-tumor immunology from lab to clinic. Her bench research uses mouse models of primary and metastatic breast cancer to understand how immunesuppressive components of the tumor microenvironment influence response to immune-checkpoint inhibition. Through her translational research, Dr. Roussos Torres seeks to identify therapies that could improve patients' survival. She also studies how race affects levels of immune suppression and responses to new immunotherapies. As a Ph.D. student at Einstein in the laboratory of Dr. John Condeelis, she worked on identification of biomarkers of intravasation in breast cancer; her work illuminated the tumor microenvironment for the metastasis "doorway," associated with an increased risk of distant metastasis, which provided the foundation for development of a novel magnetic resonance imaging methodology, now approaching clinical trials. Since graduating, she has reconnected with the team to further develop this technology. Dr. Roussos Torres has published 24 papers in peer-reviewed journals. She earned her B.S. and B.A. from the University of California at Los Angeles and her M.D./Ph.D. from Einstein. She completed her residency at the University of Pennsylvania and a fellowship in hematology/oncology at Johns Hopkins University.

Samuel M. Rosen Award for Outstanding Teaching (Clinical)

Selected by the students in the College of Medicine Noé D. Romo, M.D. '08, M.Sc.

Dr. Noé Romo is an assistant professor of pediatrics at Einstein and the medical director of the pediatrics inpatient service at NYC Health + Hospitals / Jacobi. As site leader of the pediatrics acting internship for Einstein medical students, Dr. Romo has made providing competent and compassionate pediatric patient care in the public-hospital system the core of his teaching. His focus on understanding morbidity and mortality from pediatric injury related to violent trauma led to the creation of innovative hospital-based violence-prevention programs, including Stand Up to Violence (SUV) at Jacobi and the NYC Health + Hospitals Violence Intervention Program; Dr. Romo serves as medical director of both. These initiatives have improved both patient and community outcomes related to gun violence. He is widely published and gives frequent academic and public presentations on violence prevention in academic, community, and media settings and was featured in GSW (short for "gunshot wound"), a documentary about gun violence. In 2008 he received the Dr. Isadore Rossman Memorial Award for Commitment to Community Health Care. In 2022, he was awarded a congressional proclamation recognizing his contributions to combating gun violence. That year he was inducted into the Leo M. Davidoff Society, which recognizes excellence in the teaching of medical students. Dr. Romo earned his undergraduate degree at the University of California, Riverside, and his medical degree at Einstein. He completed a pediatrics residency at NYC Health + Hospitals / Jacobi, a primary-care research fellowship in community health at Columbia University, and an M.Sc. in epidemiology at Columbia's Joseph L. Mailman School of Public Health.

Samuel M. Rosen Award for Outstanding Teaching (Pre-Clerkship)

Selected by the students in the College of Medicine Angela Cheng-Lai, Pharm.D.

Dr. Angela Cheng-Lai is an associate professor of medicine in the division of cardiology. She joined the Einstein faculty in 1999 and is the first pharmacist to have been promoted to senior rank at Einstein. She also serves as a clinical pharmacy manager for cardiology and as a co-chair of the Cardiometabolic Council at

Montefiore. In 2019, Dr. Cheng-Lai's excellent contributions to teaching in Einstein's pre-clerkship curriculum resulted in her election to the Leo M. Davidoff Society. She also was the recipient of the prestigious President's Award from Montefiore in 2018 and was awarded fellowship in the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists in 2023. A prolific author of over 60 book chapters, research papers, and review articles, Dr. Cheng-Lai is a co-editor of Current Cardiovascular Drugs, third and fourth editions, a contributing author of the textbook Cardiovascular Pharmacotherapeutics, and a pharmacology section editor for the journal Cardiology in Review. Currently she serves as president of the New York State Council of Health-System Pharmacists. Dr. Cheng-Lai is a graduate of New York University and earned her B.S. in pharmacy at the Arnold and Marie Schwartz College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences of Long Island University. After completing a pharmacy practice residency at Montefiore, she received her doctorate in pharmacy from the University at Buffalo School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences in 1995.

Harry Eagle Award for Outstanding Pre-Clerkship Teaching Adi Pinkas, Ph.D.

Dr. Adi Pinkas, assistant professor of pathology, joined the Einstein faculty in 2018; he now serves as co-director of the Clinical and Developmental Anatomy course for first-year medical students as well as co-director of the Nervous System and Human Behavior course for second-year students. Together with his colleagues, he has made significant revisions to both courses and currently serves as a foundational block leader for the new medical-education curriculum launched recently at Einstein. Students have described him as "a phenomenal course director and lecturer" and his lectures as "engaging" and "highly informative," earning him excellent evaluation scores, two Teaching Star commendation letters, the Samuel M. Rosen Award in 2022, and election to the Leo M. Davidoff Society that year. Dr. Pinkas's enthusiasm for teaching was already evident during his postdoctoral studies at Einstein. From 2016 to 2018, he served as a lab instructor for students in the Anatomy course, presented cadaver-based workshops for Einstein's Summer Undergraduate Mentorship Program, and taught in the Montefiore Health Opportunities Program, designed for students from backgrounds underrepresented in medicine who are interested in pursuing health careers. Dr. Pinkas is a graduate of Israel's Haifa University, and earned his M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in neurobiology at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He completed postdoctoral studies at Hebrew University in 2015 and in the department of molecular pharmacology at Einstein in 2018.

Harry H. Gordon Award for Outstanding Clinical Teaching Staci E. Pollack, M.D., M.S.

Dr. Staci Pollack is a professor of obstetrics & gynecology and women's health in the division of reproductive endocrinology and infertility and is the department's director of undergraduate medical education. She joined the Einstein faculty in 1998, and has served as a clerkship director and subinternship director since 2014 and the director of the Reproductive Systems course since 2011. Dr. Pollack has been the president of the Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology Special Interest Group of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM), the president of its Menopause and Ovarian Insufficiency Special Interest Group, and a co-chair of the annual-meeting program committee for the North American Society for Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology. A national oral board examiner for the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology, she also served on its Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology Focused-Practice Committee Board. Dr. Pollack presents frequently on topics in her field and on medical student education. In 2010, she was named the Gold Humanism Honor Society faculty advisor; in 2017 she received the ASRM Service Award, and is also a member of Einstein's Leo M. Davidoff Society. A Cornell University graduate, Dr. Pollack earned an M.S. at the State University of New York at Buffalo and her M.D. at the State University of New York at Brooklyn. She completed ob/gyn residency training at Yale-New Haven Hospital and a fellowship in reproductive endocrinology and infertility at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Teaching Jay B. Dobkin, M.D. '79

Currently an associate professor of medicine in the division of pulmonology, Dr. Jay Dobkin has spent the better part of his medical career at Einstein. After joining the faculty in 1985, he became a site co-director of Montefiore's intensive care unit at the Jack D. Weiler Hospital a year later, a position he held until 2001. His clinical interests include general pulmonary medicine with a focus on interstitial lung disease, chronic lung infections, and pulmonary-function testing, and he now directs the pulmonary-function laboratories of the pulmonary division and is the site director for pulmonary medicine at Weiler. A consummate educator, Dr. Dobkin served as faculty for Einstein's second-year course in respiratory physiology from 1984 to 1998 and has been a site director for the medicine acting internship at the Weiler Division since 2001. He cites as his proudest accomplishment "the students whom I have had the privilege to teach." Long a member of the Leo M. Davidoff Society, which recognizes excellence in the teaching of medical students, he was named Outstanding Attending for

1998–99 at Jacobi Medical Center's internal medicine residency program and was honored with the department of medicine's Distinguished Clinician Award in 2022. Dr. Dobkin received his B.A. summa cum laude from Yeshiva College and his M.D. from Einstein in 1979. He completed his residency in medicine and a fellowship in pulmonary medicine, both at the Bronx Municipal Hospital Center.

LaDonne H. Schulman Award for Excellence in Teaching Robert A. Coleman, Ph.D.

Dr. Robert Coleman is an associate professor of cell biology and has been a member of the Einstein faculty since 2010. His research involves using cutting-edge live-cell, single-molecule imaging and structural determination of proteins involved in gene regulation and chromatin biology to study tumor suppression and development. He has published nearly two dozen papers in peer-reviewed journals, including numerous articles in Science, Science Translational Medicine, Molecular Cell, Genes & Development, and Cell Reports. Dr. Coleman worked on a team at the University of California, Berkeley, with Robert Tjian, president of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, and Nobel laureate Steven Chu to establish the first in vitro, singlemolecule imaging system to study eukaryotic transcription. He has developed single-molecule microscopes and systems that probe how transcription factors, tumor suppressors, and oncogenes dynamically seek out target genes and regulate transcription in vitro, in live cells, and in tissues. His lab is currently using this information to identify novel therapeutics targeting cancer. Dr. Coleman received his B.S. degree in biochemistry and Ph.D. in biochemistry and molecular biology from the Pennsylvania State University. He did postgraduate work at ETH Zürich in Switzerland and at the University of California, Berkeley, studying the structural biology and biophysics of the factors involved in gene regulation.

Saul R. Korey Award in Translational Science and Medicine Kartik Chandran, Ph.D.

Dr. Kartik Chandran is a professor of microbiology & immunology, the Gertrude and David Feinson Chair in Medicine, and the Harold and Muriel Block Faculty Scholar in Virology at Einstein. His lab focuses on identifying and understanding the molecular warfare between viruses and cells to help develop antiviral treatments. A goal of the lab's work is to enhance preparedness for pandemics involving threats such as the Ebola virus, the Sin Nombre virus, SARS-CoV-2, and other viruses that may cause future outbreaks. Working collaboratively with partners on three continents, Dr. Chandran and his colleagues have helped uncover critical host factors required for viral infection. They are also doing translational studies to develop small-molecule- and antibody-based therapeutics. Dr. Chandran has 154 peer-reviewed publications, including three book chapters. He helped create and leads the Prometheus Center of Excellence in Translational Research, an international consortium funded by the National Institutes of Health that has spearheaded development of a pan-ebolavirus antibody cocktail, for which a human phase 1 clinical trial was recently completed. Prometheus is also developing human antibodybased therapeutics against lethal emerging bunyaviruses, a family of viruses often transmitted by arthropods, including ticks and mosquitoes, that cause serious human disease. Dr. Chandran earned his B.S. at Lafayette College and his Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He did research fellowships in microbiology and molecular genetics at Harvard Medical School and in medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

2023 GRADUATION AWARDS

2023 GRADUATION AWARDS

ALPHA OMEGA ALPHA

Student Inductees Class of 2023

Michael Baron Michael Bergamini Caroline Boyle Arjun Byju Molly Charney Tiffany Cheng Junwen Deng Daniela Feingold Ariel Felman Giuseppe Fiorica Valerie Fong James Gary Rachel Gozland James Hammock III Rohan Kankaria Daniel Klyde Yana Kost Victoria Kusztos Ryan Linzer Robert Lis Eric Macdonald Maxim Maron Cynthia Matsumura Daniel Mitchell Matthew Muller Ishan Naidu

Ashley Radparvar Kathryn Segal Benjamin Shtaynberger Miriam Stock Devin Videlefsky

Hadley Pfalzgraf

Benjamin Wajsberg Fei Wang Jeffrey Wu Joseph Yi Lily Young Jessica Zhang Xueting Zhang

GOLD HUMANISM HONOR SOCIETY

Student Inductees Class of 2023

Joseph Abraham
Moshe Beiser
Molly Charney
Samantha DiSalvo
Julia Holber
Tina Jing
Sharon Lam
Alexander Levine
Zaki Masoud
Jessica Mayer
Raphael Miller
Anvit Rai

Benjamin Shtaynberger Deepthisri Suresh Hajar Traiba Benjamin Wajsberg

Fei Wang Yedidyah Weiss Kimberly Whitney Michael Yang Lily Young Jessica Zhang

STUDENT AWARDS

Dean's Recognition Award Class of 2023

Tori Aspir Mia Bates Hayley Berg Jordan Berka Jessie Birnbaum **Emily Chen** Alexandria Debasitis Samantha DiSalvo Elizabeth Elkins Abigail Funari Sara Glickman Alexandra Gordon Benjamin Green Aryeh Gurvich John Christian Hein Sarah Hill Julia Holber

Tina Jing Thomas Kennedy Jacqueline Labins Sharon Lam Benjamin Levy Noah Markewitz Jessica Mayer Carolyn Miller Ahava Muskat Bryan Musmacker Ankita Naraparaju Alison Neely Tova Niderberg Avigdor Nosrati Mariel Rubin-Norowitz Yonatan Schwartz Rie Seu Faraz Sewani Michelle Shi Nupur Shridhar **Grant Sprow** Jesse Suben Jill Taylor Hajar Traiba Michael Yang Samir Zaman

MEDICAL STUDENT AWARDS

Class of 2023

Tamara L. Bolin, M.D., Memorial Award for Medical Excellence Le'Shauna Phinazee

Jean L. Cook, M.D., Memorial Award for Medical Excellence Errol Hunte

Medical Society of the State of New York Community Service Award Eric Acosta

Andrew Doyle Award for Excellence in Neurology Benjamin Jadow

American Academy of Neurology Student Prize for Excellence in Neurology Molly Charney

2023 GRADUATION AWARDS

American Medical Women's Association Glasgow–Rubin Achievement Citation Ankita Naraparaju

Ralph Ger Award in Clinical Anatomy Zaki Masoud Nupur Shridhar

Jesse Suben

Maurice Greenhill Memorial Award in Psychiatry Jayabhargav Annam

Albert S. Kuperman Award for Field Work in Global Health Sarah Hill

Excellence in Obstetrics and Gynecology & Women's Health Award Hadley Pfalzgraf

Dr. Leonard J. Mogilner Memorial Award for Excellence in Pediatrics and Community Service Valerie Fong

Dr. Edward Padow Award for Excellence in Pediatrics and Community Service Mia Bates

Dr. Isadore Rossman Memorial Award for Commitment to Community Health Care Alexandria Debasitis Lily Young

Social Justice Award Alexander Levine

Society for Academic Emergency Medicine Award for Excellence in Emergency Medicine Michael Bergamini Gary Lombardi Excellence in Emergency Medicine Award Abel Infante

The Harold and Muriel Block Institute for Clinical and Translational Research Award for Excellence Molly Charney

Clinical Research
 Gabriel Marx

- Translational Research

Dr. Evelyne Schwaber Award for Excellence in Communication Skills Samantha DiSalvo

The Gertie Marx, M.D., Prize for Most Outstanding Student in Anesthesiology Xueting Zhang

Dr. James and Ruth Scheuer Award for Outstanding M.D./ Ph.D. Student Who Will Continue in Internal Medicine Maxim Maron

The Einstein Innovation and Citizenship Award Arianna Caradonna Rohan Kankaria

Ruth L. Gottesman Award for Excellence in Medical Education Abigail Funari

GRADUATION WITH DISTINCTION IN RESEARCH

Arshia Aalami Harandi Jayabhargav Annam Tori Aspir Michael Baron Mia Bates Kevin Batti Moshe Beiser Jessie Birnbaum Caroline Boyle Brandon Bui Arjun Byju Arianna Caradonna Molly Charney Emily Chen Tiffany Cheng Chloe Citron Alexandria Debasitis Junwen Deng Hannah Epstein Daniela Feingold Giuseppe Fiorica Ashley Force Abigail Funari Benjamin Green Vivian Hawn John Hein Sarah Hill Sophey Ho Julia Holber Benjamin Jadow Seth Jeong Tina Jing Rohan Kankaria Atsumi Kimura Yana Kost Victoria Kusztos Jacqueline Labins Sharon Lam Bryce Liu Vivian Lu Eric Macdonald Avinash Malaviya Gabriel Marx Cynthia Matsumura Jessica Mayer

Anna Miller

Carolyn Miller Raphael Miller Rakin Muhtadi Ahava Muskat Ishan Naidu Ankita Naraparaju Avigdor Nosrati Jessinta Oseni Soaptarshi Paul Alexandra Perez Hadley Pfalzgraf Vindhya Rao Alma Rechnitzer Mariel Rubin-Norowitz Donald Salisbury III Yonatan Schwartz Christine Seaton Kathryn Segal Rie Seu Faraz Sewani Christina Shin Nupur Shridhar Benjamin Shtaynberger **Grant Sprow** Miriam Stock Deepthisri Suresh Anna Tarasova Hajar Traiba Juan Vazquez Mitchell Veith John Venticinque Devin Videlefsky Aria Vitale Benjamin Wajsberg Fei Wang Sarah Wang Kimberly Whitney Joseph Yi Lily Young Nick Yu Samir Zaman Jessica Zhang Nina Zhu

DECLARATION OF GENEVA

AS A MEMBER OF THE MEDICAL PROFESSION:

I SOLEMNLY PLEDGE to dedicate my life to the service of humanity;

THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF MY PATIENT will be my first consideration;

I WILL RESPECT the autonomy and dignity of my patient;

I WILL MAINTAIN the utmost respect for human life;

I WILL NOT PERMIT considerations of age, disease or disability, creed, ethnic origin, gender, nationality, political affiliation, race, sexual orientation, social standing, or any other factor to intervene between my duty and my patient;

I WILL RESPECT the secrets that are confided in me, even after the patient has died;

I WILL PRACTICE my profession with conscience and dignity and in accordance with good medical practice;

I WILL FOSTER the honor and noble traditions of the medical profession;

I WILL GIVE to my teachers, colleagues, and students the respect and gratitude that is their due;

I WILL SHARE my medical knowledge for the benefit of the patient and the advancement of healthcare;

I WILL ATTEND TO my own health, well-being, and abilities in order to provide care of the highest standard;

I WILL NOT USE my medical knowledge to violate human rights and civil liberties, even under threat;

I MAKE THESE PROMISES solemnly, freely, and upon my honor.

OATH OF SCIENTISTS

As I embark on my career as a biomedical scientist, I will strive to incorporate into my research and professional life the goals and moral principles required for the behavior of a true scientist.

I therefore pledge

To recognize and respect without bias the contributions of scientists who preceded me, and of fellow scientists and students;

To be open to new ideas regardless of my perspective;

To commit to work with the highest standards of academic honesty, scientific integrity, and ethical practice;

To use my training and creativity to seek and disseminate truth, and to use my knowledge to assist others, thereby advancing the progress of biomedical science, to benefit all humanity.





ONLY A LIFE LIVED FOR OTHERS IS A LIFE WORTHWHILE.

Albert Einstein

Affiliated with:







