

Spring 2021

## Spring 2021 SOM Alumni Connections

New York Medical College

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## SOM ALUMNI CONNECTIONS

Spring 2021



### NYMC Honors Leonard J. Newman, M.D. '70, with Golf Outing at Saint Andrew's Golf Club

NYMC hosted the 2021 Golf Tournament and Reception on Monday, June 28, at Saint Andrew's Golf Club in Hastings-on-Hudson, New York, to honor Leonard J. Newman, M.D. '70, professor and chair of the Department of Pediatrics. [Find More details here.](#)

### NYMC's Days of Giving Raises Nearly \$345,000 to Support Student Scholarships

The New York Medical College (NYMC) community raised \$344,613 for student scholarships during the two-day Days of Giving campaign on May 4 and 5. The generosity of more than 300 donors-a Days of Giving record-made the fourth annual event a success. Donations from Days of Giving enable students from the Graduate School of Basic Medical Sciences (GSBMS), the School of Health Sciences and Practice (SHSP) and the School of Medicine (SOM), to pursue their education based on their passion, not economic background. [Read the full article on Days of Giving.](#)



### NYMC Students Honor First Patients at 33rd Annual Convocation of Thanks

Students from NYMC SOM Class of 2024 and the SHSP Speech-Language Pathology Class of 2022 invoked an emotional virtual ceremony for the 33rd annual Convocation of Thanks, where students find creative ways to show gratitude to the families of loved ones whose bodies were graciously donated for medical research. Whether it was through song, speeches or poems, students virtually expressed their appreciation to their "first patients," referring to the anatomical donors. [Read the full article on the Convocation of Thanks.](#)



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## NYMC Hosts Successful MSCHE Virtual Site Visit

The NYMC community welcomed the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) Accreditation Team of Peer evaluators for a four-day virtual visit April 11-14. During the visit, they met with Self-Study working groups comprised of students, faculty, staff and senior leadership. At the conclusion of the visit, Chair of the MSCHE Visitor Team, Bruce Jarrell, M.D., FACS, president of the University of Maryland, Baltimore, gave a preliminary oral report that was livestreamed to the NYMC community. [Read the full article on the MSCHE virtual site visit.](#)



## NYMC Observes Yom Hashoah, Remembering Those Lost During the Holocaust

Members of the NYMC and Touro College and University System (TCUS) community came together to observe Yom Hashoah virtually this year on April 7 with a powerful presentation led by **Tessa Chelouche, M.D.**, a family physician in Israel and scholar of medical history. Dr. Chelouche's presentation, "Hitler and Hippocrates: Medicine during the Third Reich," delved into the role Nazi physicians and the medical community abroad played in the killing of millions of Jews in the Holocaust. [Read the full article and view the video.](#)

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## NYMC and TCUS Host 11th COVID-19 Symposium

NYMC and TCUS continued the series on COVID-19 with its 11th symposium via a webinar on April 8. Nearly 500 participants registered to learn about the latest updates on COVID-19 including the progress made and the latest concerns. Edward C. Halperin, M.D., M.A., chancellor and chief executive officer of NYMC and provost for biomedical affairs at TCUS, moderated the program and reflected on the first symposium in January 2020. [Read the full article and view the video.](#)





**School of Medicine Class of 2021 Celebrates Match Day**  
Members of the NYMC SOM Class of 2021 celebrated the next step on their path to becoming physicians on March 19, as they learned where they were matched to medical residency programs and will continue their training for the next several years in their chosen specialty. Although it was not the traditional in-person envelope opening ceremony, students learned where they matched online and a live stream of the event as well as interactive chat rooms allowed the students to celebrate together virtually with family and friends joining in the celebration. Within moments of learning of their match results, students shared their excitement and posted photos across social media. [Read the full article on the Class of 2021 Match Day.](#)

### **NYMC Receives \$2.2 Million HECap Award**

NYMC is one of 35 colleges and universities across New York State to receive funding from the Higher Education Capital (HECap) Matching Grant Program which supports infrastructure improvements at New York's private, not-for-profit colleges and universities. The latest round of funding in the amount of \$2,219,031 will be used for creating open concept laboratory space capable of housing multidisciplinary research teams and shared instrumentation at NYMC, which will complement the renovations already being planned as part of NYMC's energy performance project. [Read the full article on the HECap award.](#)



### **NYMC Presents Black History Month Lecture and Unveils Notable Alumni Exhibit**

Celebrating the achievements and contributions of African Americans and NYMC's proud history of diversity and inclusion, the annual Black History Month lecture on February 17, highlighted the remarkable story of the role of NYMC in the education of black physicians as well as Myra Adele Logan, M.D., Class of 1933, and Walter Gray Crump, M.D., Class of 1895, and their roles as leaders in surgery and medical education in early and mid-20th century in Harlem. This year's virtual event was sponsored by the Health Sciences Library and the NYMC Chapter of the Student National Medical Association (SNMA) and was moderated by **Mill Etienne, M.D. '02, M.P.H. FAAN, FAES**, vice chancellor for diversity and inclusion, associate dean of student affairs and associate professor of neurology and of medicine in the SOM. [Read the full article on the Black History Month event and view the video.](#)

### **Medical Students Present Research on Wide Range of Topics During 25th Annual Medical Student Research Forum**

More than 70 SOM students had the opportunity to present their research to the NYMC community during the 25th Annual Medical Student Research Forum (MSRF). Topics presented during the forum, which is planned entirely by students on the Medical Student Research Committee, ranged from heart disease treatment, barriers to breast cancer screening and poor sleep health during COVID-19 lockdowns to gender differences in the writing of recommendation letters for residency applicants. [Read the full article on the 25th Annual Medical Student Research Forum.](#)



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### **SOM Faculty Recognized for Excellence with Inaugural Dean's Faculty Awards**

SOM faculty were honored for excellence in teaching, mentoring, research and in promoting equity, diversity and inclusion, during the inaugural SOM Dean's Faculty Awards Ceremony. "Tonight, we honor and celebrate the excellence and dedication of our faculty who do such amazing things here at NYMC," said Jerry L. Nadler, M.D., SOM dean and professor of medicine and pharmacology, during the virtual event. "Particularly after this challenging year, it is important to recognize the positives in our lives. As dean, it is a joy to work with such dedicated faculty, outstanding educators, mentors and researchers." [Read the full article on the Dean's Faculty Awards.](#)

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### **Humayun Islam, M.D., Ph.D., Appointed Chair to Lead Newly Combined Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology Departments**

**Humayun Islam, M.D., Ph.D.**, has been appointed chair of the newly combined Departments of Pathology and of Microbiology and Immunology. Dr. Islam has served as interim chair of the Department of Pathology since 2019. He joined NYMC in 2002 and currently holds a faculty appointment in the SOM as clinical professor of pathology and clinical associate professor of medicine. Dr. Islam is also a member of the faculty of the GSBMS. He serves as vice director of pathology, chief of anatomic pathology, director of hematopathology and director of the pathology residency program at Westchester Medical Center (WMC), one of NYMC's major clinical affiliated sites. [Read the full article on Dr. Islam.](#)



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### **Bench-to-Bedside Seminar Series Focuses on Data, Personalization and Digital Health**

Salomon Amar, D.D.S., Ph.D., vice president for research at NYMC and senior vice president for research affairs at TCUS, welcomed **Susan A. Murphy, Ph.D.**, as the keynote speaker of the virtual Bench-to-Bedside Seminar Series lecture on December 21. Dr. Murphy, the Radcliffe Alumnae Professor at the Radcliffe Institute and professor of statistics and computer science at the Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, presented "Data, Personalization and Digital Health." Dr. Murphy's lab develops data analysis methods and experimental designs to improve

real-time sequential decision-making in digital health. [Read the full article on the Bench-to-Bedside lecture and view the video.](#)



## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

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**Ronald J. Pion, M.D. '56**, used his Doctor of Medicine from NYMC to become a successful obstetrician and gynecologist. From there, he was on the frontier of the new wave of telemedicine in the late 1970s and early 1980s. [Read the full article on Dr. Pion.](#)

## UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

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### **162nd NYMC and 2nd TCDM Commencement Ceremonies**

**Wednesday, May 26, 2021 \* 7:00 p.m.**

This year's Commencement will include four individual online events for the School of Medicine, Graduate School of Basic Medical Sciences, School of Health Sciences and Practice and TCDM.

Commencement speaker, Catherine D. DeAngelis, M.D. M.P.H., University Distinguished Service Professor Emerita, professor emerita of pediatrics at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and professor of health policy and management at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and a leader in academic medicine will address the Class of 2021.



### **NYMC Golf Tournament and Reception**

**Monday, June 28, 2021 \* 11:30 a.m.**

10 Old Jackson Avenue, Hastings-on-Hudson, New York

Honoree: Leonard J. Newman, M.D. '70, professor and chair of the Department of Pediatrics



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