

Touro Scholar

School of Health Sciences and Practice

Alumni Connections

Fall 2018

Fall 2018 SHSP Alumni Connections

New York Medical College

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Dean's Message



Dear School of Health Sciences and Practice (SHSP) Alumni,

This has been a great year for SHSP. We expanded to larger teaching space and upgraded classrooms with state-of-the-art educational technology. We introduced two new advanced certificate programs in health care administration and in management of pediatric dysphagia (a debilitating and sometimes life-threatening swallowing disorder).

Our Children's Environmental Health Center has helped launch a statewide network of clinical centers that evaluate medical conditions, like asthma, that are triggered by environmental pollutants. Our

Center for Disaster Medicine is now a state-designated facility that educates and trains emergency personnel in hospitals and health systems throughout the Hudson Valley. BioInc@NYMC, our biotechnology incubator, is at capacity with ten client-firms, and is preparing for the next capital expansion phase.

These and all of the great things happening at SHSP (many of which are shared in this issue of *Alumni Connections*) are a source of pride for me, as I hope they are for you, too. Please remember to share your professional news with us [via class notes](#) - your achievements inspire us all.

Many thanks,

Robert W. Amler M.D.

Robert W. Amler, M.D., M.B.A.
Dean

ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT SURVEY



How would you rate Alumni Engagement and Opportunities? Let us know your feedback through our [Alumni Engagement Survey](#).

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



[Koua Her, M.P.H. '18](#)

Knowledge is power and given the tools, everyone has the potential to succeed

College Supporters Gather for a Festive Evening at the Founder's Dinner



More than 300 supporters of New York Medical College (NYMC) gathered for an evening of celebration at the 2018 Founder's Dinner on October 14 at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Tarrytown, N.Y. The fundraising gala benefits student scholarships and important initiatives at NYMC. Guests celebrated the spirit of NYMC and paid tribute to the three distinguished honorees of the evening. [View the 2018 Founder's Dinner photo gallery and read the full article.](#)

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

NYMC Welcomes Bess J. Chazhur, M.S., as Chief Development Officer and Executive Director of Alumni Relations

Bess J. Chazhur, M.S., has been named chief development officer and executive director of alumni relations, bringing extensive development and leadership experience that will drive forward New York Medical College's (NYMC) fundraising initiatives and alumni engagement. Prior to joining the NYMC community in October, Ms. Chazhur was the senior director of development at Montefiore Medical Center. [Read the full article on Ms. Chazhur](#).



Erin Ricciardi
SLP Class of 2020

Found her ideal fit in the Speech Language Pathology program, that perfectly blends her love of science with her passion for teaching and mentoring

20 Years of Racing for A Good Cause



On October 7, 150 seasoned athletes, weekend warriors, Achilles International athletes and guides from around the tri-state area descended on the Valhalla campus and laced up their sneakers and readied their handcycles for the 20th Annual Race for Rehab. Hosted by Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.) students in the School of Health Sciences and Practice, the race supports [Achilles International](#), a not-for-profit organization which provides athletes with disabilities with a community of support, using sports as a tool to bring hope, inspiration and the joys of achievement to people with disabilities. [View the Race for Rehab photo gallery and read the full article](#).

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



Padmini Murthy, M.D., M.P.H., M.S., M.Phil, CHES, FRSPH

Professor and Global Health Director in the Department of Public Health

Leader at the forefront of human rights and health literacy

Michelle Novotny, M.A., Is Named Associate Dean for Admissions and Enrollment Management in the School of Health Sciences and Practice

Michelle Novotny, M.A., has joined the New York Medical College (NYMC) community in the role of associate dean for admissions and enrollment management in the School of Health Sciences and Practice. She brings more than 20 years of experience in college and university enrollment with expertise in project management, event planning, marketing and communications, and she has worked extensively with adult learners and international students. She comes to NYMC from the College of New Rochelle, where she served as associate vice president for enrollment management, responsible for developing and coordinating school-wide enrollment management processes that addressed the recruitment and enrollment of students for each the college's four schools and five campuses. [Read the full article on Michelle Novotny, M.A.](#)



CALL FOR ALUMNI MILESTONES

We would love to share your most recent news and accomplishments in our next issue of the [Chironian](#).



Toddlerpalooza Teaches Valuable Lessons in Interprofessional Education

It looked like all fun and games when Toddlerpalooza took over the School of Health Sciences and Practice on July 2. In reality, it was an interprofessional education laboratory experience for second-year speech-language pathology (SLP) students and third-year physical therapy (PT)



students, who were tasked with evaluating a group of infants, toddlers and school-aged children who came to visit for the day. They collaborated to evaluate the gross motor, speech and language/cognitive abilities and developmental stages of the children and recommend appropriate activities and exercises for speech-language and gross motor goals for parents and caregivers to perform at home. [View the Toddlerpalooza photo gallery and read the full article.](#)

If you have any accomplishments or developments, published a book, or have any family news to share we would love to hear from you. Please [share your updates](#) with us to be included in our class notes.

GRANT NEWS



NYMC faculty members engage in sponsored research and other programs spanning a wide range of biomedical topics. Read about the latest [NYMC grant news](#).

IN THE NEWS



As leaders in a variety of specialties and fields, New York Medical College's faculty have been called upon by media outlets to serve as experts on cutting edge topics, events and news stories. Read the latest offerings of [NYMC in the news](#).

D.P.T. Class of 2019 Benefits from Hands-On Experience While Providing Aid in Haiti

Based on the understanding that international service trips provide invaluable academic and hands-on opportunities, students and faculty under the direction of Gale Lavinder, P.T. Ed.D, G.C.S., assistant professor of physical therapy and director of clinical education, began making an annual trip to Haiti in 2014. This past March-following in the footsteps of NYMC students who came before them-seven members of the D.P.T. Class of 2019 were thrilled to embark on a service learning trip to Haiti to aid the underserved population, gaining hands-on experience while bettering the community. [Read the full article on the D.P.T. trip to Haiti.](#)



Center of Excellence In Precision Responses to Bioterrorism and Disasters is Awarded \$750,000 by New York State

New York Medical College administration and staff, local law enforcement and elected officials gathered for a press conference on July 10 to announce \$750,000 in funding for the Center of Excellence in Precision Responses to Bioterrorism and Disasters from New York State. The funding will allow the Center to expand training programs for hospitals, health systems and first responders to improve responses to disasters and acts of terrorism throughout New York State. [View the Press Conference photo gallery and read the full article.](#)



PHOTO GALLERY

Two SHSP Students Win Prestigious Healthcare Leaders Awards

It was a proud evening for the School of Health Sciences and Practice (SHSP) when two of its exceptional students received two of only three prestigious Healthcare Leaders of New York (HLNY) Achievement Award of Distinction Scholarships. **Edgewood R. Warner II**, right, M.D., M.P.H. candidate Class of 2019, and **Jinhee Lee**, an M.P.H. student in the online program, were awarded the prestigious awards and accompanying \$1,500 scholarships on, June 5, at the HLNY Gala at the Glen Island Harbour Club in New Rochelle, N.Y. [Read the full article on the two](#)

[SHSP winners.](#)

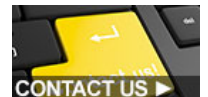
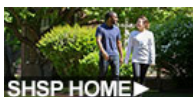


View photos from the [SHSP DPT BBQ.](#)

ALUMNI ONLINE COMMUNITY



Register for the [Alumni Online Community](#) to connect with fellow alumni, increase your network and stay up to date on Alumni news and events.



For more information and [ways to give](#), please contact the Office of Development and Alumni Relations at (914) 594-2720 or development@nymc.edu.

Alumni Connections is New York Medical College's e-newsletter distributed to all alumni, published quarterly by the Office of Public Relations. Suggestions for story ideas are always welcome. Please call or email with your comments and inquiries at (914) 594-4536 or public_relations@nymc.edu.

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