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# InTouch

*a publication for the New York Medical College community*

Week of February 7, 2022



## NEWS



**Chioma M. Okeoma, Ph.D.,  
Named Vice Chair of  
Research in the Department  
of Pathology, Microbiology  
and Immunology**

Chioma M. Okeoma, Ph.D., was named vice chair of research in the Department of Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology, bringing years of experience as an award-winning interdisciplinary scientist to NYMC's research program. [Read the full article on Dr. Okeoma.](#)

## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

**The Best of Both Worlds:**

**Chandra Shekhar Bakshi,  
DVM, Ph.D., Lives His  
Passion for Research and  
Teaching**

**Chandra Shekhar Bakshi, DVM, Ph.D.**, associate professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology, began his career studying veterinary medicine because of his love of animals but soon became involved in bacteriology research, developing a passion for it. The only thing that rivals his interest in those two subject matters is being able to spread his knowledge and experience to students. [Read the full article on Dr. Bakshi.](#)



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



**Keerthana Jayaseelan,  
SOM Class of 2023, Hopes  
to One Day Give Back to  
Her Hometown in India**

Born in the rural Indian town of Theni, **Keerthana Jayaseelan**, SOM Class of 2023, and her family did not have much access to quality medical care. After her family emigrated to the United States for an opportunity of better education, Ms. Jayaseelan has made it her mission to become a physician and eventually give back to her hometown. [Read the full article on Ms. Jayaseelan.](#)

## NEW HIRES JANUARY 2022

Join us in welcoming our new employees at NYMC:

- **Dana M. Cardile**, Medical Assistant, Department of Family and Community Medicine
- **Tanzina Chowdhury, Ph.D.**, Research Assistant, Department of Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology
- **Emily A. Cohen, M.S.**, Administrative Assistant, Office of Student Academic Support
- **Anthony Nuccio**, Public Safety Officer, Office of Public Safety
- **Katharine Tepper, MLIS**, User Services Librarian, Health Sciences Library
- **Visar Zeka**, Housing Superintendent, Student Housing

*From the Office of Human Resources, February 1, 2022*

## DID YOU KNOW

Speech-language pathology alumnus **Jenn Sparano, M.S. '16**, was the winning contestant on “Wheel of Fortune” on January 31.



## EVENTS ON THE NYMC CALENDAR

DATE	TIME	EVENT
<b>Wednesday, February 9</b>	8:00 a.m.	Department of Pediatrics Grand Rounds
	8:30 a.m.	Department of Surgery Grand Rounds
<b>Thursday, February 10</b>	All Day	Blood Drive
<b>Friday, February 11</b>	1:15 p.m.	Department of Cell Biology and Anatomy Research Seminar
<b>Tuesday, February 15</b>	5:00 p.m.	Undergraduate Medical Education Grand Rounds
<b>Wednesday, February 16</b>	8:30 a.m.	Department of Surgery Grand Rounds
	2:00 p.m.	2022 HeLa Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Conference

<b>Monday, February 21</b>	All Day	NYMC Closed: President's Day
<b>Wednesday, February 23</b>	6:45 a.m.	Department of Anesthesiology Grand Rounds
	5:30 p.m.	Office of Student Mental Health and Wellness Webinar

Add an event to the NYMC calendar here.

[Visit nymc.edu/calendar](https://www.nymc.edu/calendar) to view all events.

## HIGHLIGHTS



### 2022 HeLa Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Conference

Wednesday, February 16, 2022 • 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. EST

Keynote: **Ashanda Saint Jean, M.D. '98, FACOG**  
 Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, HealthAlliance of the Hudson Valley; and Medical Director, Advanced OB-GYN Associates, WMCHHealth-

CME credit is available. [Full program and to register, click here.](#)



### 75th Anniversary of the Nuremberg Doctors' Trial: Yom Hashoah Symposium

Thursday, April 28, 2022 • 3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
 Nevins Auditorium, MEC

Online and in-person. [Register here.](#)



### COVID-19 Vaccines for Children Ages 5-11, Boosters and Flu Vaccines, are Available at the NYMC Family Health Center

Contact the Family Health Center at (914) 828-0435 to make an appointment, although walk-ins are welcome.



### **NYMC Free Community Food Pantry.**

Located outside of the Alumni House at 20 Sunshine Cottage Road, the pantry is stocked with non-perishable food items and other items donated by the NYMC community.



### **Yoga Class for Faculty and Staff**

Virtual yoga class led by certified yoga instructor Mary Butler-Fink.

**Mondays • 5:30 p.m. • [Zoom](#)**

Meeting ID: 489 054 8060; Password: YOGA

One tap mobile +19292056099 (for dial in)

## **IN THE NEWS**

### **Faculty News**

#### **[Public Health America with Dr. William Latimer: Dr. Padmini Murthy](#)**

BronxNet - 2/1/2022

Padmini Murthy, M.D., M.P.H., M.S., M.Phil., CHES, professor of public health and global health director

#### **[Digital Platforms are Changing The Future of Black Maternal Health](#)**

Healthline - 1/28/2022

Padmini Murthy, M.D., M.P.H., M.S., M.Phil., CHES, professor of public health and global health director

#### **[New Research Says These 4 Factors Might Mean You're More Likely to Get Long COVID](#)**

Parade - 2/1/2022

Dana G. Mordue, Ph.D., vice chancellor for Middle States Accreditation and associate professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology

#### **[Survey Reveals Risks, Rewards of Cannabis Use](#)**

Parkinson's News Today - 1/28/2022

Katherine Amodeo, M.D., assistant professor of neurology

#### **[Medicare Doesn't Cover At-Home COVID Tests. Where Can You Get One for Free?](#)**

Verywell Health - 2/1/2022

Adam E. Block, Ph.D., assistant professor of public health in the Division of Health Policy and Management

#### **[The Real Reason You Don't Have To Think About Breathing](#)**

Health Digest - 2/1/2022

Patricia L. Gerbarg, M.D., clinical assistant professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences

### **Student News**

#### **[Why I Chose a Career in Medicine: Moshe](#)**

[Bulmash Seeks to Make a Difference and Help People Live Healthier Lives](#)

ColLive - 1/20/2022

Moshe Bulmash, SOM Class of 2025

**Affiliate News**

[County releases video to promote safe sleeping for infants](#)

The Rye City Review - 1/25/2022

Sherlita Amler, M.D., M.S., clinical associate professor of pediatrics, adjunct professor of public health and senior fellow in the Center for Disaster Medicine  
Westchester Institute for Human Development

**General Information**

[8 Black Pioneers in Medicine and Healthcare You Should Know](#)

American College of Healthcare Executives - February 2022

Jane Cooke Wright, M.D. '45, served as associate dean at NYMC from 1967 to 1975.

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InTouch is New York Medical College's e-newsletter distributed to all students, faculty and staff, published during the academic year by the Office of Public Relations. Suggestions for story ideas are always welcome. Please email your comments and inquiries to Public Information Editor Lori-Ann Perrault at [lori\\_perrault@nymc.edu](mailto:lori_perrault@nymc.edu).

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