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# SOM ALUMNI CONNECTIONS

Winter 2017





Call for School of Medicine Alumni Milestones

We would love to share your most recent news and accomplishments in our next issue of the Chironian.

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 <u>share your updates</u> with us to be included in our class notes.

## SOM Launches Bench-to-Bedside Seminar Series



The New York Medical College (NYMC) School of Medicine, in conjunction with Westchester Medical Center, has launched a Bench-to-Bedside Seminar Series to address issues in translational medicine. The first seminar in the series, "Transplantation Tolerance," was presented on November 29 at Westchester Medical Center. Salomon Amar, D.D.S., Ph.D., left, provost for biomedical research and chief biomedical research officer, Touro College and University System, director of the Office of Research Administration and professor of pharmacology and microbiology and immunology at NYMC, and professor of dental medicine, Touro College of Dental Medicine at NYMC, welcomed quest speaker David H. Sachs, M.D., professor of surgery, Columbia University Medical Center, and professor of surgery emeritus, Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital. Dr.

Sachs discussed the need for transplantation tolerance, examined animal models of tolerance through hematopoietic chimerism and assessed the current status of clinical trials and tolerance.

#### School of Medicine Alumni Celebrate at Reunion Weekend

Old friends and classmates were reunited for a fun and festive weekend on November 18 and 19. The School of Medicine Alumni Reunion celebrated graduates from the Classes of 1952 to 2012 at an evening banquet at the Double Tree Hilton in Tarrytown, N.Y. More than 200 alumni and guests gathered to reminisce while learning about the College's growth since their medical school days. Guests delighted in watching a <u>slide show of yearbook memories</u> while making new memories of their own that evening. View the <u>Reunion Weekend photo galleries</u>.

Special recognition was given to the Class of 1967 as they were presented with gold diplomas honoring their 50th anniversary of graduating from medical school. Stuart Green, M.D. '67, was

#### **ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**



John Stuart Marr, M.D. <u>'67, M.P.H.</u> Epidemiologist and accomplished writer of medical fiction.

Investigated a number of infectious disease outbreaks, including Legionnaires' disease, typhoid fever, botulism amebiasis.

**GRANT NEWS** 



honored with the School of Medicine Alumni Association Medal of Honor for his leadership and extraordinary contributions to medicine. <u>Read the full</u> article...



Gladys M. Ayala, M.D., M.P.H., is Named Interim Vice Dean for the School of Medicine



**Gladys M. Ayala, M.D., M.P.H.**, has been named interim vice dean of the School of Medicine, responsible for the day-to-day operations of the medical school, working with Edward C. Halperin, M.D., M.A., chancellor and chief executive officer and interim dean of the School of Medicine. She will oversee admissions, diversity, faculty affairs, student affairs and undergraduate medical education, in addition to keeping abreast of the academic, extracurricular, personal and professional developments of the medical student body. She is also associate professor of clinical medicine. <u>Read the full article...</u>

School of Medicine Class of 2021 Officially Dons White Coats for the First Time

They processed in as medical students but the School of Medicine Class of 2021 recessed out vested as members of the medical community proudly wearing their new white coats and shouldering the responsibilities of medicine. The White Coat Ceremony held at the Performing Arts Center in Purchase, N.Y., on October 22, was the symbolic beginning of the four-year journey of medical school and entry into the medical profession. More than 1,000 guests witnessed the rite of passage as 216 members of the Class of 2021 were cloaked in their new white coats by "investors," respected faculty leaders who represent the value system of medicine and NYMC and believe in the students' ability to carry on the noble tradition of the practice of medicine and took an oath that the class collaboratively wrote. View the White Coat



Ceremony photo gallery and the White Coat event video. Read the full article...

Department of Pediatrics and the Children's Health and Research Foundation Hosts Seventh Annual Assistant Professor Pediatric Research Symposium NYMC faculty members engage in sponsored research and other programs spanning a wide range of biomedical topics. Read about the latest <u>NYMC grant news</u>.

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 <u>NYMC in the</u> <u>news.</u>

PHOTO GALLERY



View photos from the <u>NYMC Faculty Author</u> <u>Recognition event</u>, held on October 24, 2017.



The Seventh Annual Assistant Professor Pediatric Research Symposium, hosted by the Department of Pediatrics and the Children's Health and Research Foundation, Inc., was held on November 22 at Westchester Medical Center. The symposium featured abstracts in an oral platform session in basic, clinical, quality and translational research areas in the field of pediatrics, followed by a general poster session. Mitchell S. Cairo, M.D., far left, professor of pediatrics, medicine, pathology, microbiology and immunology, and cell biology and anatomy, and event chair, Michael H. Gewitz, M.D., second from right, professor of pediatrics and vice chairman of the Department of Pediatrics, and Leonard J. Newman, M.D. '70, far right, professor and chairman of the Department of Pediatrics, joined the winners, from left: Patricia A. Patrick, M.P.H. '03, Dr.P.H. '10, assistant professor, Center on

Disability and Health and adjunct assistant professor of epidemiology and community health (quality research); **Yaya Chu, Ph.D.**, clinical assistant professor of pediatrics (translational research); **Yanling Liao, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of pediatrics (basic research); and **Jessica C. Hochberg, M.D.**, assistant professor of pediatrics (clinical research).

#### The Music of Mozart Comes Alive at Met

Melodies and tunes rang out at NYC Health + Hospitals/Metropolitan in the form of a string guartet from the Manhattan School of Music at the Music and Medicine: The Genius of Mozart event on November 14. The musical gift of the prolific and influential composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 - 1791) was celebrated with a lecture by Stephen E. Moshman, M.D., third from left, professor of medicine, who is also the conductor and music director of the Albert Einstein Symphony Orchestra. The lecture was interspersed with musical selections performed by the string guartet from the Manhattan School of Music, demonstrating the talent, genius and prodigy of Mozart. The string quartet, from left, Su Jin Oh, violin, Joshua Gomberoff, viola, Shinyeong Kim, cello, and Gi Hwan Kim, violin, was joined by Alina Moran, M.P.A., chief executive officer, NYC Health +



Hospitals/Metropolitan, and **Edward C. Halperin, M.D., M.A.**, chancellor and chief executive officer, New York Medical College. View the <u>Music and Medicine photo gallery</u> and <u>Music and Medicine video</u>.

#### NYMC Pride Shines at Founder's Dinner



The NYMC community and friends assembled on the lovely evening of September 17 to celebrate at the annual Founder's Dinner held at the DoubleTree Hilton in Tarrytown, N.Y. The fundraising gala drew nearly 350 guests including faculty, hospital affiliates, alumni, students, friends, vendors, members of the business community and local government officials. The evening also paid tribute to steadfast supporters of the College for their commitment to NYMC and the larger community. Back from left, Alan Kadish, M.D., president, and Edward C. Halperin, M.D., M.A., chancellor and chief executive officer, expressed gratitude and congratulated the honorees, front from left: Dr. Mark Hasten, who received the Alfred B. DelBello Distinguished Service Award; Ira Schwartz, Ph.D., who was presented with the Jackson E. Spears Service Award; and Robert G. Lerner, M.D., who was honored with the Golden

Faculty Service Award. Not pictured: Robert J. Lifton, M.D. '48, who was the recipient of the William Cullen Bryant Award. Amid the dining and awards presentations, guests feverishly tried to outbid each other in the silent auction that included sporting event tickets, celebrity memorabilia, jewelry, artwork and more.

"We are very grateful for the generous support of our sponsors and donors including trustees, faculty, alumni, hospital affiliates, vendors and generous friends who helped make the evening a memorable one," said Amy S. Kahn, vice president of Development and Alumni Relations. "It was a great opportunity to connect with each other and reflect on the proud history and promising future of New York Medical College.

View the 2017 Founder's Dinner photo gallery. Read the full article...

#### NYMC Receives \$150,000 Grant from Hyundai Hope On Wheels

The Huvndai Hope on Wheels nationwide campaign made a stop in Valhalla on September 26 at the Maria Fareri Children's Hospital (MFCH) at Westchester Medical Center, to present NYMC with a \$150,000 check and hold its signature handprint ceremony. NYMC was one of 40 recipients of the 2017 Hyundai Hope On Wheels Grants, which fund research projects with the greatest potential to improve the lives of children battling cancer. The Hyundai Young Investigator Award is for the work of Allyson M. Flower, M.D., far left, assistant professor of pediatrics and a fellow in the Division of Pediatric Hematology, Oncology, and Stem Cell Transplantation, on neuroblastoma, one of the most common causes of cancer in childhood and one of the leading causes of cancer related deaths. Dr. Flower's study, "Overcoming Natural Killer (NK) Cell Resistance in Poor Risk Neuroblastoma (NB)," aims



to develop immunotherapeutic agents to overcome resistance pathways to eradicate neuroblastoma. View the <u>Hyundai Hope on Wheels Ceremony photo gallery</u>. <u>Read the full</u> article...

## Symposium Focuses on Tick-Borne Disease



Experts from across the country and as far as Slovenia gathered at NYMC on October 18 for "Bridging Clinical and Basic Science Research on Tick-Borne Infections Symposium: A Tribute to Ira Schwartz, Ph.D." The event honored Ira Schwartz, Ph.D., professor of microbiology and immunology, medicine and biochemistry and molecular biology, who is stepping down from his role as chairman of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology. Topics ranged from "Spirochets Do It Differently: Covalently Crosslinking of the Flagellar Hook" to "Understanding Borrelia Miyamotoi" to "Metabolomics to Diagnose and Understand the Pathogenesis of Tick-Borne Diseases." Dr. Schwartz recalled the serendipitous path he took to working with Lyme disease and the groundbreaking research that followed at NYMC. "We were really at ground zero in terms of Lyme disease, both clinically and in

research," Dr. Schwartz said. View the <u>Bridging Clinical and Basic Science Research</u> <u>Symposium photo gallery</u>.

# Alumni Community Website to Launch January 2018

Coming this January, a new interactive alumni website! All on a secure online space  $\ensuremath{\text{exclusive}}$  for NYMC alumni .

· Reconnect and reminisce with fellow alumni

- Share experiences with new graduates
- Be a mentor to current students
- Increase your individual and professional network



## **Upcoming Events**



#### Save-the-Date

New York City Alumni Reception March 2018 - details to come National Arts Club, New York

Florida Alumni Reception Sunday, February 25, 2018 Palm Beach Gardens, Florida



Match Day Friday, March 16, 2018 11:30 a.m. Medical Education Center

Every year, moments before noon on Match Day, the New York Medical College campus is packed with a boisterous crowd eagerly waiting to find out where the next graduating class of the NYMC School of Medicine will continue their medical training.





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 <u>public relations@nymc.edu</u>.

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