

# Touro Scholar

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Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

Alumni Connections

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Winter 2017

## Winter 2017 GSBMS Alumni Connections

New York Medical College

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## Dean's Message



Dear NYMC GSBMS Alumni,

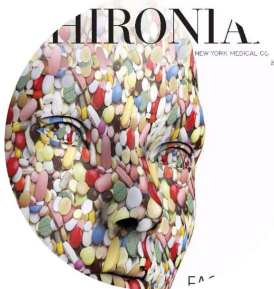
Welcome to Alumni Connections! This is NYMC's new e-newsletter to share news about the Graduate School of Basic Medical Sciences as well updates about our constantly expanding community of GSBMS alumni. But we need your input, and hope you will tell us the kind of news you would like to see in Alumni Connections and connect with us via [email](#).

All the best from the Graduate School of Basic Medical Sciences.

Sincerely,

Francis L. Belloni, Ph.D.  
Dean, Graduate School of Basic Medical Sciences

## The Latest Issue of Chironian Magazine is Now Online



The 2017 issue of [Chironian](#) is now available online. Be sure to read the latest on how NYMC is battling the opioid epidemic and fighting the Zika virus; how NYMC students are helping in Honduras, the latest on alumni highlights and more.

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



**Anand Lakhkar, M.S. '10, Ph.D. '16** and **Dhara Patel-Lakhkar, Ph.D. '13** are husband and wife who met during their studies at New York Medical College. Read more about [Dr. Anand Lakhkar](#), and [Dr. Dhara Patel-Lakhkar](#).

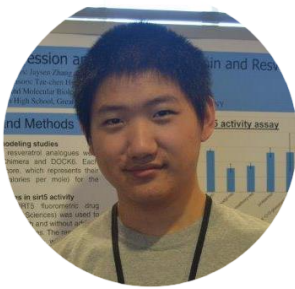
## Department of Microbiology and Immunology Hosts Research Forum



Ten students presented their research projects at the Department of Microbiology and Immunology's Graduate Student Research Forum on February 8. **Raj K. Tiwari, Ph.D.**, standing far right, professor and graduate program director in the department, **Ira Schwartz, Ph.D.**, seated far left, professor and department chairman, joined the panel of judges, seated from left: **Abraham Mittelman, M.D.**, clinical associate professor of medicine and sponsor of the forum, **Alberto Nasjletti, M.D.**, professor and director of the Ph.D. program in pharmacology; **Jana Veliskova, M.D., Ph.D.**, professor of cell biology and anatomy, and obstetrics and gynecology. [Read more about research forum.](#)

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

## STAR Alumnus Keeps Up the Good Work



**Jaysen Zhang**, an alumnus of the Summer Trainees in Academic Research (STAR) Program in the Graduate School of Basic Medical Sciences, has been named a Regeneron Science Talent Search 2017 Scholar. The 17-year-old was recognized for his work, "A Cell Culture Model of Glutamine Addiction in Cancer via the c-Myc-Sirt5-Glutaminase Axis." The Regeneron Science Talent Search, a program of the Society for Science & the Public, recognizes and empowers the most promising young scientists in the U.S. who are creating ideas and solutions that solve the most urgent challenges. It is considered the nation's most prestigious pre-college science competition. As a STAR participant, Mr. Zhang worked with Joseph M. Wu, Ph.D., professor, vice chairman and

M.S. program director in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and Tze-chen Hsieh, research associate professor of biochemistry and molecular biology on a project, "Resveratrol Derivatives as Novel Activators and Inhibitors of Sirtuin 5 (Sirt5)," earning him a slot as a 2015 semi-finalist in the Siemens Competition for Math, Science & Technology. Jaysen attends William A. Shine Great Neck South High School in Great Neck, N.Y.



**Joseph McCafferty**, M.S. Candidate, GSBMS. A graduate student who thrives on challenge and making a difference. [Read more about Joseph McCafferty.](#)

## Upcoming Events



### Women's Heart Health

Monday, March 20, 2017; 5:30 p.m.  
7 Dana Road, Classrooms 217/218

**Moderator:** D. Douglas Miller, M.D., C.M., M.B.A., dean of the School of Medicine; **Keynote:** Tanya Dutta, M.D., assistant professor of medicine; and **Presenter:** Patrick W. Thomas, M.D., M.B.A., FAAC, board president of Putnam County Heart Association. [Click here](#) for more information.



### 29th Annual Graduate Student Research Forum Hepatitis C: From Discovery to Cure

Wednesday, March 22, 2017; 3 :45 p.m.  
Medical Education Center, Nevins Auditorium

Keynote **Charles Rice, Ph.D.**, director, Laboratory of Virology and Infectious Disease, Rockefeller University. Dr. Rice was awarded the 2016 Lasker-DeBakey Clinical Medical Research Award, given to honor outstanding work for the understanding, diagnosis, prevention, treatment, and cure of disease and considered the most coveted American prize in medical science. [Click here](#) for more information.

### A cappella Invitational

Wednesday, March 29, 2017; 6:30 p.m.  
Basic Sciences Building, Cooke Auditorium

Join us for a night of musical performances hosted by the Arrhythmias, the Chromatic Scalars and the Borborygmi Bells.

[Click here](#) for more information.



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

## IN THE NEWS



As leaders in a variety of specialties and fields, NYMC's faculty are called upon by media outlets to serve as experts on cutting edge topics, events and news stories. [Click here](#) to see the latest offerings of NYMC in the news.

## PHOTO GALLERY

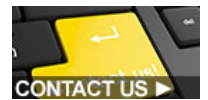


[View photos](#) from Alumni Event, Boca Raton, Fla., February 2017.

#### DID YOU KNOW?



Former Adjunct Professor **William Campbell, Ph.D.**, received the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. Click [here](#) to learn more.



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](mailto:public_relations@nymc.edu).