



# CMS NEWS

## The Chicago Medical School Newsletter

FALL 2022 | ISSUE 26



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**Cover Image:** The CMS Internal Medicine residency program at Northwestern Medicine McHenry held a picnic at Moraine Hills State Park to welcome new residents.

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# Dean's Message

Greetings from the Dean's Office!



Our first- and second-year students have just returned from their Fall break and are already busy with Winter term classes while students in their third and fourth years continue with rotations and electives. The campus is truly bustling with energy these past months with activities resuming their pre-pandemic pace. In addition to the routine of classes and labs, many of the student groups are working on stewardship projects benefiting our local communities. From

winter clothing collection bins to requests to donate food pantry items, there is truly a spirit of service to the community. In the spirit of serving our community, CMS staff and faculty will spend an afternoon in early December volunteering at Bernie's Book Bank in Lake Bluff. In case you're not familiar with the Book Bank, it is a wonderful organization that has as its goal to make books accessible to all children by committing to increasing book ownership and improving literacy growth, especially to under-served children in the Chicagoland area.

Since I last wrote to you, we have welcomed **Jessica Lewis**, PhD, to CMS in the newly created role of Assistant Dean for CMS Student Affairs. Dr. Lewis joined us on October 3 and is leading the house and learning communities' program and the academic support program for CMS. She brings over 15 years of experience in higher education developing programs to promote student growth and academic achievement. Dr. Lewis comes to CMS from Florida International University Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine where she served as Associate Director of Medical Student Learning Communities. In that role, she contributed to the development of the learning communities' program from the ground up, coordinating and evaluating non-curricular activities to support the educational, social, cultural, and recreational needs of medical students. Dr. Lewis has hit the ground running and we are delighted to have her as part of the CMS family!

One of the highlights of the Fall quarter was the gathering of CMS faculty and friends to celebrate and recognize our faculty and affiliate partners for their contributions and dedication to CMS and our students. The gala event was held in mid-October and provided a wonderful opportunity for everyone to re-connect with old friends and meet new ones. In addition to great conversation, about 100 guests also enjoyed hearing from our keynote speaker, **Dr. Frank Opelka**, CMS '81, a colon and rectal surgeon and Medical Director, Quality and Health Policy at the American College of Surgeons

(ACS) Division of Advocacy and Health Policy in Washington, DC. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the inaugural CMS Honor Medallion bestowed upon a faculty, staff member, learner, or alumnus by Chicago Medical School for novel and/or extraordinary accomplishments that have brought honor and prestige to the school or university through the delivery of novel health care methods, health care education, leadership, groundbreaking research and/or exceptional acts of humanitarianism. I am delighted to share with you that **Mildred M.G. Olivier**, MD '88, was this year's inaugural recipient! Throughout the evening there were many other awards presented including the recognition of two longstanding CMS affiliate partners — Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center and Advocate Lutheran General Hospital for their ongoing unwavering commitment to educating our students. This year's Clinical Preceptor Awards were presented to **Katherine Riff**, MD, and **Rosaura Licea**, MD, for their outstanding dedication to our students. I am also pleased to share that **Charles Barsano**, MD, PhD, and **Janice Urban**, PhD, each received the CMS Distinguished Faculty Award, the highest honor that CMS bestows upon its faculty. This award is given to a faculty member who brings honor and prestige to CMS through their outstanding commitment to the school and sustained contribution to teaching, service, research, and/or patient care. Finally, but certainly not least, several faculty members received the Dean's Recognition Award for excellence in their work: **Carl Lawson**, PhD and **David Everly**, PhD, as well as the members of the Faculty Performance Review Task Force which included **Lise Eliot**, PhD, **Nutan Vaidya**, MD, **Ronald Kaplan**, PhD, **Stuart Kiken**, MD, **Kaiwen Kam**, PhD, **Janice Urban**, PhD and **Jeanette Morrison**, MD. I hope you will join me in congratulating all of these deserving recipients.

As many of you know, scholarships for our students remain an important and ongoing priority and focus area for me. I am pleased to share with you that we have several new or additional scholarship commitments. In addition to our generous alumni, we also have friends of the medical school who have stepped up with scholarship gifts. The new or additional scholarship

commitments include the Dean Emeritus Theodore Booden, PhD Endowed Opportunity Scholarship, the Sheldon H. Berger, MD Memorial Temporarily Restricted Scholarship, the Dr. Rajashree Sen Honorary Endowed Scholarship, and a scholarship match that was offered at a recent CMS Los Angeles alumni gathering and donated by **Alfred Bloch**, MD, PhD '60, who matched scholarship donations made by the event attendees. There has also been continued reinvestment in established endowments for the CMS Class of 1967 and the Agnes Lattimer, MD '54 Memorial Endowed Scholarships. My deepest gratitude to our alumni and friends of the medical school who have been so generous with their gifts. If you would like more information about any of these scholarships, please contact Student Financial Services at **financial.aid@rosalindfranklin.edu**.

In honor of the recent Thanksgiving holiday, I encourage us all to reflect on everything we are grateful for. I hope you know that we celebrate and appreciate each and everyone's contribution and dedication to our school and its mission.

I wish you all a healthy, safe, and joyful holiday season!

Sincerely,



Archana Chatterjee, MD, PhD  
Dean, Chicago Medical School  
Vice President for Medical Affairs, RFUMS





# *Celebrating 75 Years with Sinai Chicago*

This fall marks the 75th anniversary of Chicago Medical School's clinical affiliation with Sinai Chicago! CMS first entered into a formal agreement with Mount Sinai Hospital on September 7, 1947.

The partnership came at an important time for CMS. In the 1940s, when the school was under the leadership of Dr. John J. Sheinin, Chicago Medical School had a long-standing affiliation with Cook County Hospital (now John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital of Cook County). But in order to secure full AMA approval, CMS needed to provide its students with more opportunities for clinical experiences.

The school's 1947 affiliation agreement with Mount Sinai Hospital — with its 300+ beds, extensive outpatient department, and 15,000 patients a year — provided CMS students with an abundance of clinical opportunities. The agreement also brought many skilled physicians to the faculty of the school, and the following year, Chicago Medical School was granted full accreditation.

The school's affiliation with Mount Sinai Hospital was celebrated in the pages of *The Quarterly*, CMS's

newsletter at the time. An editorial in the January 1948 issue proclaimed: "Another hurdle in the advance of The Chicago Medical School has been cleared ... Our institution can now be proud of its clinical affiliation with a fully approved hospital. Both of these institutions will be enhanced by the association with one another, and even greater benefits will be received by Chicago and the nation."

Today, CMS students complete clerkship rotations at Mount Sinai Hospital, and the hospital is also an important part of Chicago Medical School's graduate medical education programs. Internal medicine residents and fellows complete part of their training at Mount Sinai Hospital. The hospital's status as a Level 1 Trauma Center that provides care to over 60,000 patients a year ensures that residents and fellows are exposed to many different types of patient cases.

Just as importantly, Mount Sinai's status as a safety-net hospital that provides care to all patients, regardless of their ability to pay, provides important clinical experiences for CMS students, who are being trained to serve all people and work toward eliminating health disparities. During the university's

centennial celebration in 2012, Dr. Russell Robertson, then dean of CMS, highlighted this fact, saying: "At Mount Sinai and Cook County, our students see patients coming from all walks of life. It's important for them to develop an acute awareness of the challenges faced by people from all demographics who are trying to meet their own health care needs."

In addition to providing clinical education to CMS students, residents, and fellows, Sinai Chicago also provides research opportunities through the Sinai



*This illustration of Mount Sinai Hospital appeared in the January 1949 issue of the Chicago Medical School Quarterly.*



*SUHI-CMS interns on a community tour of Humboldt Park, a community served by Sinai Chicago. CMS students learn the fundamentals of population health during an 8-week program.*

Urban Health Institute (SUHI). During the SUHI-CMS Summer Internship Program, CMS students learn the fundamentals of population health and work with SUHI researchers on projects in epidemiology, population health, and community-based intervention. Since the program's launch in 2012, 99 CMS students have participated and have contributed to 21 publications. An additional 22 students have completed year-long internships with SUHI.

We thank our partners at Sinai Chicago for their decades of dedication to the education of our students and other learners, and we hope for many more years of this beneficial partnership. ■



*Dr. John J. Sheinen of CMS and Dr. Solomon Katz of Mount Sinai Hospital, signing the affiliation agreement in 1947.*



*Archana Chatterjee, MD, PhD, dean of Chicago Medical School; Ngozi Ezike, MD, president and CEO of Sinai Chicago; and Brenda Affinati, MD, associate dean for clinical affairs, during a site visit to Mount Sinai Hospital.*

# Welcoming New CMS Administrators

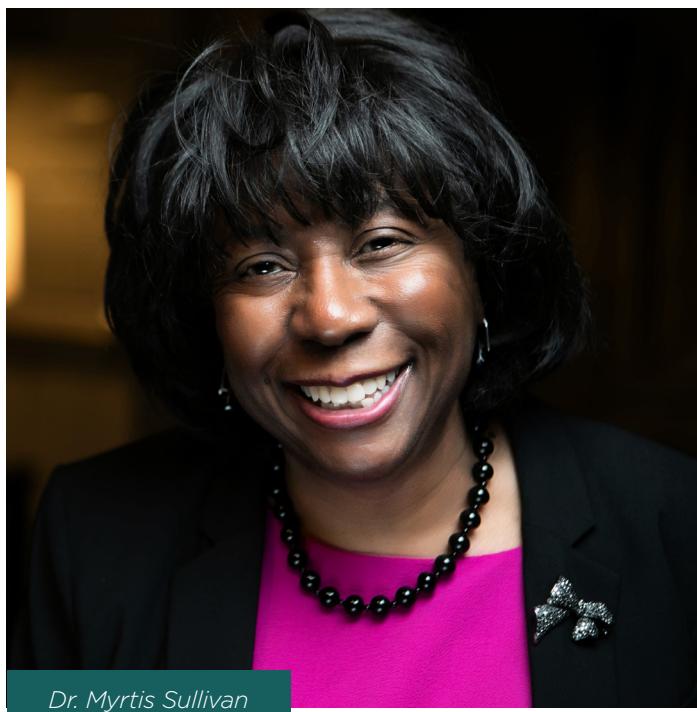
Over the last several months, Chicago Medical School has welcomed three new assistant deans. We take this opportunity to introduce the community to these new members of the CMS leadership team.

In September, **Myrtis Sullivan**, MD, MPH, FAAP, became the school's new Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Dr. Sullivan has previously served as a learning community mentor for CMS students and has held a faculty appointment as assistant professor of pediatrics. We are excited to welcome her to this new role at CMS.

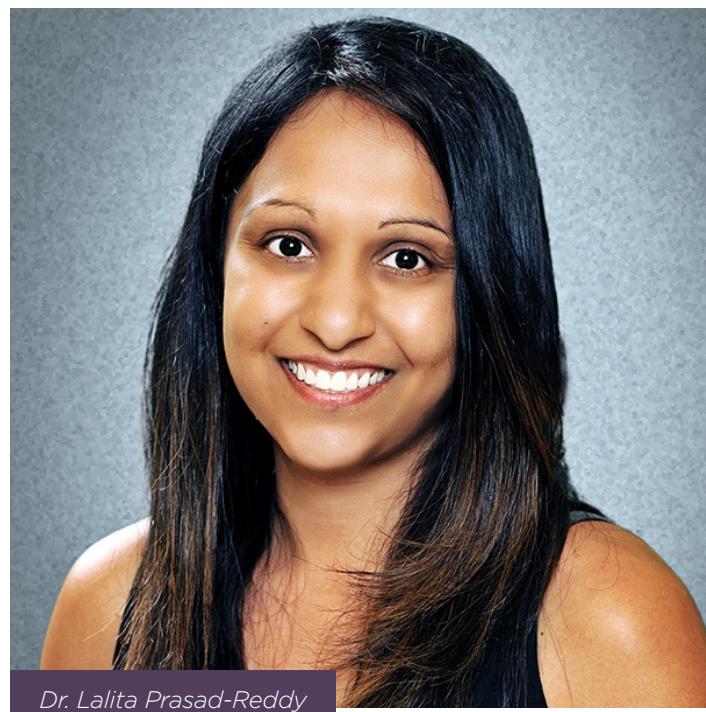
A board-certified pediatrician, Dr. Sullivan most recently served as Medical Director of Zing Health, Medicare Advantage Health Plan, where she provided consultation for Utilization and Disease Management for Medicare beneficiaries. She has also been an Adjunct Clinical Associate Professor in the Division of Community Health Sciences at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) School of Public Health. Other recent professional experiences

include serving as Medical Director at Next Level Health Partners, a Managed Care Organization, and Medical Director I in the Appeals Division at Healthcare Services Corporation (Blue Cross and Blue Shield of IL, TX, OK, NM, MT). Other clinical and professional experiences include Medical Director of Pediatric Emergency Services at Cook County Hospital (now John H. Stroger Hospital of Cook County), Attending Physician/Great Lakes Children's Environmental Health Center, and faculty member at the UIC School of Public Health (Community Health Sciences and Maternal and Child Health).

Dr. Sullivan has received several awards throughout her esteemed career, most recently the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration HRSA/MCHB Director's Award. She is widely published in her discipline of pediatrics and in addition to books, book chapters, abstracts, and journal articles, she has provided multiple scholarly presentations, and served as the Principal Investigator for numerous funded research projects focused on maternal



Dr. Myrtis Sullivan



Dr. Lalita Prasad-Reddy

and child health policy, pediatric environmental health, bronchial asthma, and community-based participatory research.

In her new role at CMS, Dr. Sullivan will serve as a thought leader in developing a support model of diversity, equity, inclusion, and engagement at all levels spanning faculty, students, and staff. She will be responsible for the overall administration of the school's diversity initiatives and will act as a resource to the school in creating an equitable and inclusive environment for underrepresented populations in medicine. Dr. Sullivan will serve as a key member of the CMS leadership team and will provide strategic and visionary leadership to advance CMS' diversity goals and foster and support a campus culture that respects and appreciates individual differences. Dr. Sullivan and her team will collaborate with offices across the school and university to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion in CMS' research and educational missions, creating a welcoming environment for students, faculty, and staff.

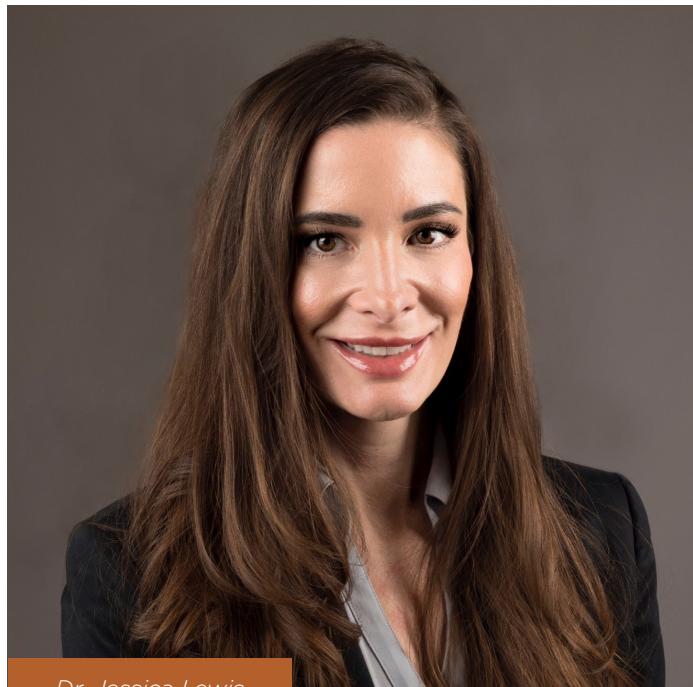
**Lalita Prasad-Reddy**, PharmD, MS, BCPS, BCACP, CDCES, FCCP, also joined CMS in September, as the

new Assistant Dean for Basic Science Education and Vice Chair of the Department of Foundational Sciences and Humanities (FSH). In the Assistant Dean role, Dr. Prasad-Reddy will be responsible for administrative leadership of the pre-clerkship/basic science portion of the educational program (Phase I) and will work with faculty and the Curriculum Committee to ensure that basic science content is appropriately reinforced in Clinical Phases 2 and 3. As Vice Chair of FSH, she will help ensure that the infrastructure for course administration, assessments, and improvement are optimized and faculty are informed of important policies and trends in medical education.

Dr. Prasad-Reddy brings a deep and wide background to CMS, having most recently served in multiple roles at two institutions. At Chicago State University College of Pharmacy, she served as Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and Clinical Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice. At Rush University Medical Center she served as a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in internal medicine, and at Rush Medical College she was the Associate Discipline Director of Pharmacology for the pre-clerkship curriculum and an Assistant Professor in the Department of Internal Medicine.

Dr. Prasad-Reddy has published widely in peer-reviewed journals, including topics on health disparities, implicit bias, professional identity formation, burnout, diabetes, and other disease management. She has presented extensively on local, state, and national levels spanning from pharmacy and medical organizations to large multidisciplinary meetings on both chronic disease topics and hot topics in healthcare academia.

She earned her Doctor of Pharmacy from Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska, and received her Masters of Science in Health Communication from Boston University. Dr. Prasad-Reddy completed her Pharmacy Practice Residency at the University of Chicago Medical Center and her Ambulatory Care



Dr. Jessica Lewis

Residency at Indiana University Health/Butler University in Indianapolis, Indiana.

**Jessica Lewis**, PhD, joined CMS in October in the newly created role of Assistant Dean for CMS Student Affairs. Dr. Lewis will lead the house and learning communities program and the academic support program for CMS.

Dr. Lewis brings over 15 years of experience in higher education developing programs to promote student growth and academic achievement. She came to CMS from Florida International University Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine where she served as Associate Director of Medical Student Learning Communities. In that role, she contributed to the development of the learning communities program from the ground up, coordinating and evaluating non-curricular activities to support the educational, social, cultural, and recreational needs of medical students.

Her other roles at Florida International University included Adjunct Professor of Education Policy

Studies and undergraduate advisor for first-year students. She has conducted research in areas including underrepresented groups in medicine, leadership development in undergraduate medical education, and co-curricular program evaluation and has given presentations on learning communities and professional identity formation at national conferences.

Dr. Lewis received her PhD in Higher Education Administration and Policy Studies from Florida International University. She received a Master of Arts degree in Liberal Studies from the University of Miami.

We also take this opportunity to highlight two administrators who have taken on expanded roles at CMS. **Kimberly Fasula**, PhD, MS, MPH, RDH, PHDH, who has served as the Director of Interprofessional Education at CMS since 2019, is now Director of Assessment and Interprofessional Education. Dr. Fasula will continue to serve in the role for interprofessionalism and has now taken on additional responsibilities for oversight of student and program assessment at CMS.



In early October, Dr. Archana Chatterjee, dean of CMS, held an event to welcome the new administrators to Chicago Medical School. Pictured above, from left to right, are Dr. Lalita Prasad-Reddy, Dr. Jessica Lewis, Dr. Myrtis Sullivan, Dr. Amanda Simanek (who joined the university this summer as founding director of the Michael Reese Foundation Center for Health Equity Research), and Dr. Chatterjee.

**Edward Rotchford**, MNM, who has served as Director of Accreditation at CMS since 2018, is now the Director of Accreditation and Quality Improvement. Mr. Rotchford will continue to maintain and direct all accreditation-related processes for the MD program, and has now taken on the additional duty of serving as an educational data analyst in the Office of Medical Education, where he will develop student and programmatic achievement profiles for continuous quality improvement. ■



# *CMS Faculty and Friends Recognition Dinner*

During an annual event to celebrate and express appreciation for the school's faculty, Chicago Medical School awarded special recognition to several individuals and groups who have put forth exemplary efforts to educate, mentor, and train our students. We thank all our faculty, including our many volunteer faculty members, for the time and effort you dedicate to serving our school, our students, and our community.

**Charles Barsano**, MD, PhD, professor emeritus of medicine and cellular and molecular pharmacology, and **Janice H. Urban**, PhD, professor of physiology and biophysics and director of the Center for Neurobiology of Stress Resilience and Psychiatric Disorders, received the **CMS Distinguished Faculty Award**. This award — the highest honor that Chicago Medical School bestows upon its faculty — is given to individuals who bring honor and prestige to

CMS through their outstanding commitment to the school and sustained contribution to teaching, service, research, and/or patient care. Recipients of the award have made a significant impact in medicine or science, and their consistent efforts have brought distinction to CMS and advanced the school's mission.

**Mildred M.G. Olivier**, MD '88, received the **Honor Medallion**, an award bestowed upon a faculty, staff member, learner, or alumnus by Chicago Medical School for extraordinary accomplishments that have brought honor and prestige to the school through the delivery of novel health care methods, health care education, leadership, groundbreaking research, and/or exceptional acts of humanitarianism.

**David Everly**, PhD, associate professor and discipline chair of microbiology and immunology, and **Carl Lawson**, PhD, MPH, MA, director of learning environment diversity, director of interprofessional global health, and assistant professor of humanities and health care, received the **Dean's Special Recognition Award**. This award recognizes

individuals who have gone above and beyond in their hard work and dedication to CMS.

**Katherine Riff**, MD, instructor of pediatrics, and **Rosaura Licea**, MD, instructor of pediatrics, received the **Clinical Preceptor Award**, in recognition of their outstanding efforts to supervise and train CMS students during clinical rotations.

The faculty of two of Chicago Medical School's affiliate partners received the **Clinical Site Appreciation Award**: the **Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center (FHCC)** and **Advocate Lutheran General Hospital**. This award is in recognition of everything the site and its faculty, staff, and administration do to provide a rigorous and beneficial clinical teaching environment for CMS students, sharing their wisdom, expertise, and passion for medical education with the next generation of physicians.

The faculty members of the **Workload Model Task Force** were also recognized during the ceremony for their contributions to CMS: **Nutan Vaidya**, MD, vice dean for faculty affairs and equity and



professor and discipline chair of psychiatry and behavioral sciences; **Lise Eliot**, PhD, executive chair of the Department of Foundational Sciences and Humanities and professor of neuroscience; **Kaiwen Kam**, PhD, associate professor of cell biology and anatomy; **Ronald Kaplan**, PhD, RFU executive vice president for research and CMS vice dean for research; **Stuart Kiken**, MD, associate professor and education director of internal medicine; **Frank Maldonado**, MD, executive chair of the Department of Clinical Sciences and professor of medicine; **Jeanette Morrison**, MD, executive vice dean for CMS and vice dean for medical education; and **Dr. Janice Urban**.

Finally, the **learning community mentors** for the Class of 2022 were recognized for their dedication to mentoring a cohort of students over the last four years: **Charles Nozicka**, DO, clinical professor of emergency medicine; **Myrtis Sullivan**, MD, MPH, assistant dean for diversity, equity, and inclusion and assistant professor of pediatrics; **Jabeen Abutalib**, MD, clinical assistant professor of medicine; and **Kenneth Tomchik**, MD, lecturer of medicine. ■

**Below, from left to right:** Dr. Lise Eliot presents the CMS Distinguished Faculty Award to Dr. Janice Urban. Dr. Nutan Vaidya presents the CMS Distinguished Faculty Award to Dr. Charles Barsano. Dr. Frank Maldonado presents the Clinical Site Appreciation Award to Thomas Hansen, MD; Sanja Nikolich, MD, MS, FACS, associate professor & assistant education director of surgery; John White, MD, lecturer of surgery; Liz Henschen, DO, assistant education director and clinical instructor of pediatrics; Marin Marinov, MD, FACS, assistant professor of surgery; and Gospodin Stefanov, MD, PhD, instructor of pediatrics, all from Advocate Lutheran General Hospital. Dr. Mildred M.G. Olivier, recipient of the Honor Medallion, with Michael Ellison, EdD, associate dean for admissions.

**Page 9:** Representatives from the FHCC — Dr. Charles Barsano; Walid Khayr, MD, professor of medicine and director of the infectious disease fellowship program; Piyush Vyas, MD, assistant professor of radiology; Mark Conneely, MD, professor and discipline chair of radiology; Ahmad Taheri, MD; Robert Buckley MD, director of the FHCC; Biana Kotlyar, MD, education director and assistant professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences; Amanda Tower, MD, assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology; and Paul Hung, MD, director of the psychiatry residency program — accept the Clinical Site Appreciation Award.



# CMS Clerkship Awards



Congratulations to the following students from the Class of 2023 who have been selected as winners of Chicago Medical School's Clerkship Awards. One student was chosen from each specialty in recognition of their outstanding performance during their M3 clerkship last year.



## Family Medicine

### Meredith Hazelrigg

*Meredith's nomination description spoke to her high level of clinical aptitude and her professionalism.*



## Ob-Gyn

### Daniela Castellanos

*Daniela's nomination described her as an "amazing team player." She was also commended for her initiative and ability to work independently.*



## Psychiatry

### Kirin Tiwary

*Kirin's nomination described her as being "smart," "adaptable," and a "leader." She was also commended on her hard work and assessments.*



## Emergency Medicine

### Ginu Kurian

*Ginu's nomination described him as being a "standout" student. He was also praised for his abilities in professionalism, communication, and patient care.*



## Neurology

### Zachary Lang

*Zachary was commended on his admirable job throughout the rotation and his high performance on the shelf exam.*



## Pediatrics

### Sasha Reed

*Sasha's nomination described her shelf performance as "Superb." She was also commended for being the most "intern ready."*



## Surgery

### Sean Hormozian

*Sean's performance in surgery was described as "exceptional" and "outstanding." He was also commended for his teamwork and his ability to accept feedback. ■*

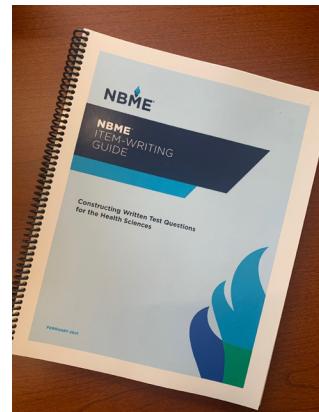
# NBME Item Writing Workshop

On July 28, the Office of Medical Education hosted over 40 CMS faculty members for an interactive workshop with the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) focused on enhancing course assessments. Participants engaged in a series of item-writing exercises, including a peer-review of faculty-authored assessments. Faculty in attendance received NBME's item writing guide, *Constructing Written Questions for the Basic and Clinical*

Science

, and all workshop materials were curated in a shared Google folder for faculty reference. Faculty are encouraged to contact [Sheryl.Juliano@rosalindfranklin.edu](mailto:Sheryl.Juliano@rosalindfranklin.edu) for more information.

A follow-up workshop for faculty to refine basic science item-writing, co-hosted by the Office of Faculty Affairs and Equity and the Master Teacher Guild, was held on October 19, 2022. ■



# Interprofessional Corner

*A place to highlight IP work, opportunities, research, and other news*

## Interprofessional Team Immersion Experience (IPTI)

This fall, several students and faculty from CMS and our other health sciences programs at RFUMS are participating in a collaborative program with the University of New England. The Interprofessional Team Immersion (IPTI) experience offers 12-15 hours of interprofessional, case-based interactions to enhance participants' interprofessional clinical skills. Simulations and collaborative activities provide a robust understanding of the multifaceted dynamics of a clinical care team and help prepare our students for real-life scenarios. The IPTI program will conclude on November 30 with a poster session.

**INTERPROFESSIONAL TEAM IMMERSION**  
Represent your profession in this 5-week immersive multi-disciplinary telehealth simulation  
All meetings via ZOOM • (Deadline to sign up: Monday, Sept. 19, 8 a.m. CDT / 9 a.m. EST)

**FALL 2022**

The case: Amanda is experiencing Long COVID. Your interprofessional team will work to help Amanda, her partner Mo, and their children navigate the lingering effects of her illness.

**UNIPROFESSIONAL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**  
Any time September 22-30  
IPTI team members from the SAME profession will be introduced to the case by their faculty facilitators and discuss how their discipline contributes to care.

**1 HOUR**

**INTERPROFESSIONAL ORIENTATION**  
Saturday, Oct. 10, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. CDT / 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. EST  
This interactive orientation prepares students with individual and team-based skills that can improve patient care, strengthen team communication, and positively impact provider satisfaction. Telehealth strategies are also addressed in this session.

**4 HOURS**

**(TEAMS 1-6) IPTI SIMULATION 1 & 2**  
Tuesday, Oct. 11 & Tuesday, Oct. 18  
5:30-7:30 p.m. CDT / 6:30-8:30 p.m. EST

**2 HOURS**

**(TEAMS 7-12) IPTI SIMULATION 1 & 2**  
Thursday, Oct. 13 & Thursday, Oct. 20  
5:30-7:30 p.m. CDT / 6:30-8:30 p.m. EST

**2 HOURS**

**BIG GROUP DEBRIEF**  
Monday, Oct. 24  
5:30-7:30 p.m. CDT / 6:30-8:30 p.m. EST

**2 HOURS**

**CECE SPRING POSTER SESSION (optional)**  
Wednesday, Nov. 30  
11 a.m.-12 p.m. CDT / 12-1 p.m. EST  
For ways to watch: [https://bit.ly/Poster\\_1130](https://bit.ly/Poster_1130)

**To participate, follow this link:**  
**SCAN ME** [https://bit.ly/IPTI\\_Fall22](https://bit.ly/IPTI_Fall22)  
You will be notified by 5 p.m. EST Wednesday, Sept. 21 to confirm your participation this fall!

**Questions? Rosalind Franklin:** [sarah.garber@rosalindfranklin.edu](mailto:sarah.garber@rosalindfranklin.edu) | **UNE:** [CECE@une.edu](mailto:CECE@une.edu)

**ROSLIND FRANKLIN UNIVERSITY**  
ROSALIND FRANKLIN  
UNIVERSITY  
OF MEDICINE AND SCIENCE

DeWitt C. Baldwin Institute  
for Interprofessional Education

UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND  
Center for Excellence  
in Collaborative Education

A virtual collaboration between University of New England and Rosalind Franklin University

## Distinction for Excellence in Interprofessional Healthcare

**Students:** The RFU Department of Interprofessional Healthcare Studies and the DeWitt C. Baldwin Institute for Interprofessional Education have established a special academic track, Distinction for Excellence in Interprofessional Healthcare, to recognize RFU students who have distinguished themselves through their commitment to interprofessionalism. The application to apply for the distinction will open in the coming weeks. For more information about the Distinction opportunity, please see the section below.

**Faculty:** If you are interested in serving as a faculty mentor for the Distinction for Excellence in Interprofessional Healthcare track, please contact Dr. Kim Fasula at: [Kimberly.Fasula@rosalindfranklin.edu](mailto:Kimberly.Fasula@rosalindfranklin.edu).

## Information about the Distinction for Excellence in Interprofessional Healthcare track:

### PROGRAM GOAL

The goal of the program is to develop graduates with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to lead and practice collaboratively in interprofessional teams.

### RECOGNITION

Completion of the program results in a certificate with specific recognition on the students' academic transcript.

### PROGRAM LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The learning objectives for the program are based on the *2016 Interprofessional Education Collaborative*

(IPEC) Competencies. Through completing the requirements for the Distinction for Excellence in Interprofessional Healthcare, learners will:

1. Demonstrate the ability to work with individuals of other professions to maintain a climate of mutual respect and shared values. **(Values/Ethics for Interprofessional Practice)**
2. Use the knowledge of one's own role and those of other professions to appropriately assess and address the health care needs of patients and to promote and advance the health of populations. **(Roles/Responsibilities)**
3. Communicate with patients, families, communities, and professionals in health and other fields in a responsive and responsible manner that supports a team approach to the promotion and maintenance of health and the prevention and treatment of disease. **(Interprofessional Communication)**
4. Describe and apply principles of team dynamics that lead to effective patient/population centered care and population health programming. **(Teams and Teamwork)**

## WHAT ARE THE PREREQUISITES?

Applicants for the program must have completed Foundations of Interprofessional Practice (HIPS 515) and be in good academic standing as a current student at RFU. Students in programs that do not take HIPS 515 may petition into the program with the support of the program chair.

Unfortunately BMS students are not eligible due to limited program time.

## EXAMPLES OF IP EXPERIENCES

- Participation in the Interprofessional Community Clinic (ICC) and/or Interprofessional Health Initiative (IHI)
- Interprofessional courses or electives
- Care of patients on an interprofessional team as part of clinical rotations

- Organizing and participating in community service/interprofessional health fairs
- TeamSTEPPS Training
- Quality Improvement or research initiatives that answer an IP question or conducted in an IP manner
- Serving as a leader in an interprofessional group or organization.

## WHAT IS REQUIRED TO EARN THE DISTINCTION?

1. Identify a mentor and complete the required application.
2. Develop a plan of study with the mentor. This includes ensuring participation in and reflecting on Interprofessional activities while at RFU. Activities must allow for IP experiences and reflection on three of the six following categories in an Interprofessional Portfolio of work:
  - i. IP Leadership
  - ii. IP Scholarship
  - iii. Health Promotion and Wellness
  - iv. Continuing IP Education
  - v. Service
  - vi. Clinical Care
3. Submit the required artifacts and reflections in three of the six categories above. These will be graded by the mentor.
4. Once the agreed upon plan of study is successfully completed, the Distinction will be awarded. Note: successful completion means all standards in the program have been met per the mentor, the DeWitt C. Baldwin Institute, and the Department of Interprofessional Healthcare Studies.

## WHAT IS THE TIMELINE?

The requirements to earn the Distinction for Excellence in Interprofessional Healthcare must be completed by the end of winter quarter of the student's final year at RFUMS. ■

# Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony for URiM Student Lounge

On October 13, Chicago Medical School held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the opening of a new lounge for CMS students who are from groups underrepresented in medicine (URiM). The new lounge is located in the Basic Sciences Building, room 2.225-A. ■



NOW ACCEPTING SUBMISSIONS!

# SYNAPSES

*A Creative Journal of Chicago Medical School*



ALL ART FORMS ACCEPTED:

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**Sunday, January 8, 2023**

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# Summer Research Poster Session

On October 4, students from Chicago Medical School, the College of Pharmacy, and the Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine presented their work at the 2022 Summer Research Poster Session. Students from the CMS Class of 2025 joined their interprofessional peers in presenting their posters on campus, showcasing research they had conducted over the summer with faculty mentors.

Congratulations to the CMS winners!

**Margaret Barcinski** received first place for her poster titled “Assessment of Oxygen Consumption in HEK293T Cell Culture using Oroboros High-Resolution FluoRespirometry.”

**Donia Momen** received second place for her poster titled “Meibomian Glands and The Diabetic Patient: Is it a Biomarker?”

**Angela Yu** received third place for her poster titled “Exploring the Impact of Parent Trauma History on Parenting Behaviors: Do Gender Differences Exist?” ■



First-place winner Margaret Barcinski, CMS '25



Second-place winner Donia Momen, CMS '25



Third-place winner Angela Yu, CMS '25



Amanda Simanek, PhD, MPH, director of RFU's Michael Reese Foundation Center for Health Equity Research; Joseph Rumenapp, PhD, CMS '25; Archana Chatterjee, MD, PhD, Dean of CMS; and Mildred MG Olivier, MD '88



Vijay Nellutla, CMS '25



Juan Medina-Echeverria, CMS '25



Laura Li, CMS '25

# *Women in Science and Healthcare Symposium*



The university held its 7th annual Women in Science and Healthcare (WiSH) Symposium on October 24, focusing on the theme "Women's Bodies Under the Microscope." Speakers and panelists discussed the issue of women's bodily autonomy and explored how sex and gender differences can impact disease diagnosis, and how the failure of healthcare practitioners and researchers to recognize and account for those differences can lead to disparities in health outcomes.

In her opening remarks, **Lise Eliot**, PhD, executive chair of the Department of Foundational Sciences and Humanities and professor of neuroscience, founder and co-chair of the WiSH Symposium, reminded the audience that the symposium series was inspired by the memory of the university's namesake, Dr. Rosalind Franklin, who faced sexism

and anti-Semitism during her career in science and research.

"I'm sure Rosalind would be thrilled to see so many women today in science and health care," said Dr. Eliot. "But she'd also see some familiar patterns: the bias, underestimation, and casual exclusion that continue to diminish the contributions and advancement of women and non-white scientists and clinicians." The WiSH Symposium series is dedicated to confronting those patterns of bias and seeking solutions to the barriers that women face in STEM fields.

**Paula A. Johnson**, MD, MPH, president of Wellesley College, delivered the keynote presentation, titled "Sex Does Matter: How Sex, Gender, and Race Impact Science and Medicine." Dr. Johnson, a cardiologist

and epidemiologist who is globally recognized for advancing women's health through innovation in medical research, clinical care, health policy, and education, talked about the realization in medical research and clinical care that sex is a fundamental biological variable that has to be taken into account in order to avoid negative impacts on women's health. She began her presentation by noting that the COVID-19 pandemic, which disproportionately affected minority communities, made it clear that considering sex and race differences in disease treatment and health care is vital for public health.

"COVID-19 really revealed a stark reality and a central truth about health care: equal outcomes can only be achieved if, system-wide, there's a recognition of meaningful differences," she said. "That recognition is what I've been working towards my entire career."

Dr. Johnson explained that as a result of fundamental cellular differences between the sexes, pharmaceuticals can work differently in men and women, and diseases can manifest themselves differently — for example, heart attacks, which typically cause chest pain in men but can present differently in women. Because men's symptoms have become the standard for recognizing and identifying heart attacks, women who have a heart attack without experiencing chest pain are put at risk. "If we fail to take into account these realities, considering men always as the default, we are leaving women's health to chance," Dr. Johnson said.

To incorporate those differences into health care, Dr. Johnson emphasized the importance of research

that considers sex as a variable. That research, in turn, should impact medical education and clinical care. "Research informs every other aspect of our healthcare system," she said. "When research is inadequate or misleading, it distorts decision-making throughout the system. That's been the case for women's health for far too long."

Dr. Johnson's keynote was followed by a panel discussion on the topic "From Subject to Investigator: Centering Women in Science and Medicine" featuring Dr. Johnson along with panelists **Wendy Rheault**, PT, PhD, FASAHP, FNAP, DipACLM, president and CEO of RFU; **Holly C. Hunsberger**, PhD, assistant professor of neuroscience; and **Biana Kotlyar**, MD, education director and assistant professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences, and moderator **Kristine Jennings Burgess**, MS, PA-C, CLC, assistant professor and director of didactic education in the College of Health Professions. The panelists talked about issues including the importance of studying animal differences (i.e., not using only male mice in a study) for advancing human health, the hurdles women face in ascending to leadership positions, and the need to incorporate discussions of sexism and sex differences into medical education.

"We can make a difference," Dr. Johnson said during the panel discussion, when addressing the need to educate medical students and residents about sex as a variable in health care, and pursuing public policy that considers race and sex in public health. "We do have the power to make a difference." ■



# *Dean Archana Chatterjee Selected to Give Kass Lecture*

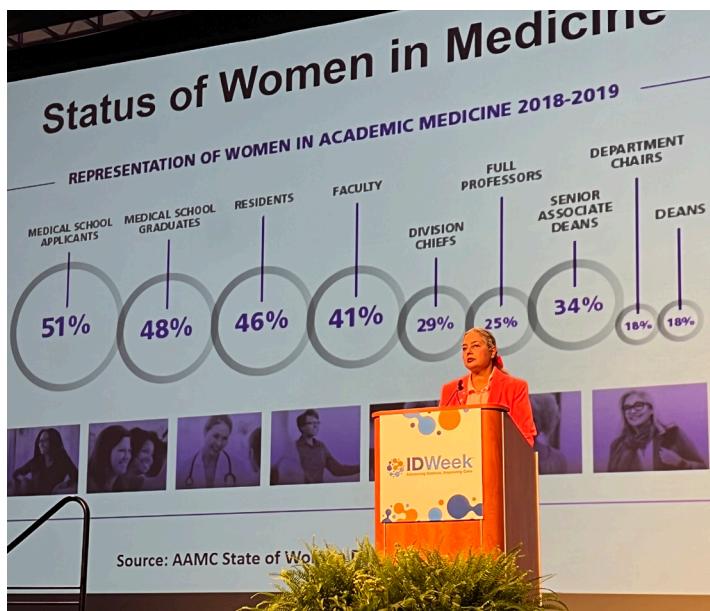
**Archana Chatterjee**, MD, PhD, dean of Chicago Medical School and vice president for medical affairs, RFU, was a featured speaker at ID Week 2022, the annual joint meeting of the Infectious Diseases Society of America, Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America, the HIV Medicine Association, the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society, and the Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists. The event was held in October in Washington, DC.

Dr. Chatterjee was invited to give the Edward H. Kass Lecture. Dr. Kass, a medical researcher in infectious diseases, was known for being an advocate for social justice and health equity within underserved populations. The lectureship named in memory of Dr. Kass is traditionally given by a recognized educator and thought leader who has a broad understanding of societal influences in medicine. In her roles as medical school dean, infectious disease specialist, and advocate for women and people of color in medical education, Dr. Chatterjee exemplifies Dr.

Kass' passion and commitment to public health and health equity.

In her presentation titled "An Unlikely Path to Leadership: Reflections of a Pediatric Infectious Disease Specialist," Dr. Chatterjee discussed her own leadership path and strategies for closing the race and gender gaps in medical leadership and academia. She championed the "strategic yes" and the "graceful no," a personal values model that can help women and people of color choose how they spend their time and effort, strategically accepting only those opportunities that can lead to personal growth and desired leadership responsibilities.

Dr. Chatterjee also talked about what individuals and institutions can do to advance equity in the fields of medicine and medical education. "Passion for advancing IDA&E [diversity, inclusion, access, and equity] and leadership is not enough," she said. "Changing the status quo requires innovative thinking, sustained action, and accountability." ■





# Student Dean Corner

**Each quarter, student dean Nick Adimi will give updates on the projects he will be working on throughout the year.**

Dear fellow classmates:

I would like to start off by congratulating us all for being almost done with the 2022 calendar year. While we close out this year, it is important to not only finish strong, but to also stay mindful to not burn out as we finish out the academic year.

That being said, I want to look forward to the next year for what we all have to look forward to. As I wrote in my last entry, my class entered CMS at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, meaning that we, for the most part, did not have many events to get to know each other and many of us still do not know each other. While this might not apply to all classes, I for one would love to better know everyone from all classes. That is why myself and some students from every CMS class are planning a dance for CMS. More details on it will be given shortly once I have more to share, so be on the lookout for more info in the coming weeks. We are planning for it to be a fun event and I hope to see you all there!

As many of you know, we must travel for our rotations, and some of them can be pretty far away. For this reason, I have been working with other CMS and non-CMS student leaders to create a fund for these travel expenses. This is currently being worked on and I will update everyone once there is more news on this. If you have any questions

about either of these two projects I am working on, please do not hesitate to email and ask me.

I would like to reiterate from my last entry that I am always available through email if anyone needs to reach me. My goal as Student Dean is to be able to make the voices of all CMS students heard. So, if you have any concerns, ideas for future events, or just have a question about a class, I am always available by email and will do my best to help out in whatever way I can. My email will be at the bottom of this entry and I hope to hear from you all soon.

Have a great rest of the semester and good luck to everyone with upcoming exams.

Sincerely,



Nick Adimi  
Chicago Medical School Student Dean, 2022-23  
Chicago Medical School Class of 2024

**[student.deancms@rfums.org](mailto:student.deancms@rfums.org)**  
**[Nick.adimi@my.rfums.org](mailto:Nick.adimi@my.rfums.org)**

# Graduate Medical Education (GME) News

## Welcome Picnic for New Residents

At the end of August, the CMS Internal Medicine residency program at Northwestern Medicine McHenry held a welcome picnic for the new residents at Moraine Hills State Park. There was a great

turnout, and everyone got to enjoy food, games, and great weather while welcoming the residents for the 2022-23 year. ■



# Graduate Medical Education (GME) News

## Residency Wellness Events



▲ Our psychiatry residents enjoyed the fall colors on October 6 during a wellness event that was coordinated by the psychiatry wellness chiefs. It was a beautiful fall day at Didier Farms in Lincolnshire where the residents enjoyed Pumpkinfest and

conquered a corn maze. Everyone also joined in congratulating the mom-to-be!

▼ Our McHenry internal medicine residents had some fun with a Pumpkin Painting Contest! ■



# Graduate Medical Education (GME) News

## Heal Elgin Health Fair

In mid-October, internal medicine residents in our Northwestern Medicine McHenry program volunteered at a free health screening event in Elgin, IL, supervised by two CMS faculty members: **Erin Davis**, MD, instructor of internal medicine, and **Shaji Baig**, MD, assistant professor of internal medicine.

Services provided at the health fair included general health exams, women's health exams, flu shots, wellness counseling, and dental and vision services, primarily for uninsured and Medicaid patients. A total of 447 people were served that weekend, and event organizers praised the participation of our resident volunteers, who enabled many more people to access health screening and health services than have ever done so in the past at this event. ■



Dr. Erin Davis with residents Dr. Hyder Ali, Dr. Ruba Ghalayni, and Dr. Komal Malik



Dr. Shaji Baig with residents Dr. Arvin Mallari, Dr. Jishna Shrestha, Dr. Ram Chandra Khatri, and chief resident Dr. Grace Ying



Resident Dr. Jishna Shrestha



Resident Dr. Po-hua Chen

# Graduate Medical Education (GME) News

## GME Faculty Retreat

Chicago Medical School held its GME Faculty Retreat on September 30, in an all-day event that included faculty and staff from CMS/RFU, the Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center, and Northwestern Medicine. **Michael Zdon**, MD, senior associate dean for CME/GME, and **Archana Chatterjee**, MD, PhD, dean of Chicago Medical School, welcomed attendees to the event, and presenters included **Dennis C. Stevens**, MD, CMS

director of clinical research; **Kate Nelson**, PHR, RFU manager of human resources; **Shawna Huley**, RFU manager of diversity hiring and outreach; and **Dima Arbach**, MD, CMS director of faculty engagement and wellness. Attendees learned about topics such as how to eliminate unconscious bias in the interview process, how to face hardships with resilience, and how to promote scholarship among faculty, residents, and students. ■



# Graduate Medical Education (GME) News

## Dean's Visit to Northwestern Medicine McHenry Hospital

**Archana Chatterjee**, MD, PhD, dean of Chicago Medical School, visited Northwestern Medicine McHenry Hospital on September 29 along with several other representatives from CMS, including **Brenda Affinati**, MD, associate dean for clinical affairs; **Michael Zdon**, MD, senior associate dean for GME and CME; **Frank Maldonado**, MD, executive chair of clinical sciences; **Michael Allswede**, MD, assistant dean of clinical education; and **Alice Holmes**, coordinator of clinical affairs.

During her time at McHenry Hospital, Dr. Chatterjee met with Northwestern leadership, including **Nick Rave**, president of McHenry Hospital; **Matt Carlen**, president of Huntley Hospital; and **Irfan Hafiz**, MD, chief medical officer for McHenry, Huntley, and Woodstock hospitals. She also met with Northwestern's medical student affairs leadership: **Ted Lorenc**, MD, director of clinical education; **John Guido**, MD, director of medical student affairs; and

**Courtney Massaro**, medical student coordinator. Dr. Lorenc and Dr. Guido also hold faculty appointments at CMS.

Finally, Dr. Chatterjee and other CMS leadership met with CMS students completing clinical rotations at McHenry, before having lunch with the CMS internal medicine residents. ■



CMS leadership with internal medicine residents.



Dr. Frank Maldonado, Dr. Michael Allswede, and Dr. Archana Chatterjee.



CMS/Northwestern internal medicine residents.

# Graduate Medical Education (GME) News

## Other News

Congratulations to Northwestern Medicine McHenry internal medicine resident **Dr. Richard Orji**, who received an Outstanding Resident of the Year award from the American College of Physicians (ACP) Illinois Chapter. This award also gives Dr. Orji the opportunity to serve as a delegate for Leadership Day 2023, the ACP's annual two-day advocacy event in Washington, DC that enables resident physicians from across the country to bring issues of concern to U.S. lawmakers.

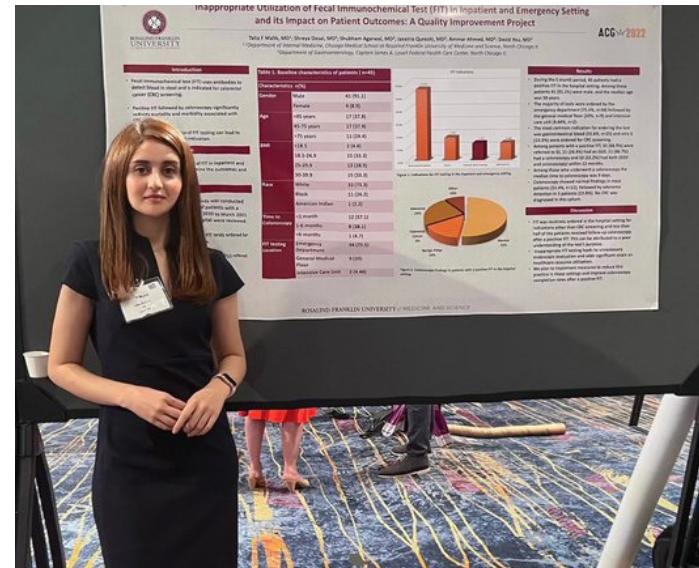


**Talia Malik**, MD, PGY-2, CMS internal medicine resident, is the primary author on a quality improvement project titled "Inappropriate Utilization of Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT) in Inpatient and Emergency Setting and Its Impact on Patient Outcomes" which was accepted for poster presentation at the American College of Gastroenterology Conference 2022, held October 21-26 in Charlotte, NC.

In addition, Dr. Malik presented four posters on rare cases relating to gastrointestinal diseases at the conference. She was the primary author on all projects:

- “Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma Presenting as a Single Colon Polyp With Concurrent Hepatitis B Virus Infection”
- “A Rare Case of Submucosal Granular Cell Tumor Presenting as a Single Colon Polyp”
- “A Case of Type II Achalasia Presenting With Markedly Elevated Troponins”
- “Perforated Gastric Volvulus: A Rare Life-Threatening Complication of Paraesophageal Hernia”

Congratulations to Dr. Malik for being recognized as an Outstanding Poster Presenter at the conference!



**Dima Arbach**, MD, assistant professor of psychiatry and director of faculty engagement and wellness, participated and presented (along with a group of wellbeing leaders) on the topic "Systems Based Approach to GME Well-being" with the ACGME

# Graduate Medical Education (GME) News

National Community Well-being Workgroup: ACT Sub-Group.

Dr. Arbach was also invited as a panelist on the topic “Navigating Residency Application in the USA for International Students” during the Syrian American Medical Society’s 11th National Conference, held in Chicago in September.

Dr. Arbach also presented with the ACGME group on A Strategic Approach for GME Programs to Identify, Implement and Assess System-based Interventions to Improve Physician Well-Being International Conference on Physicians Health (ICPH), held in Orlando, FL on October 14.



**Hassan Hashm**, MD, a recent graduate of Chicago Medical School’s pulmonary disease fellowship program; **Madeeha Banu**, MD, a current pulmonary disease fellow; and **Frank Maldonado**, MD, executive chair of clinical sciences and professor of medicine, were invited to present their case titled “A Non-Classic Triad of Yellow Nail Syndrome” as an oral presentation at the American College of Chest Physicians annual meeting, held October 16-19

in Nashville, TN. Their presentation was part of a session on “Systemic Diseases with Deceptive Pulmonary Manifestations.”



Dr. Hassan Hashm



Dr. Madeeha Banu



Dr. Frank Maldonado

Congratulations to Chicago Medical School’s Psychiatry residency program, which won the **“Innovation in Physician Wellness” award** from the Illinois Psychiatric Society (IPS)! The award was given on October 8 at the IPS Annual Meeting, at the “Technology & Innovation in Psychiatry” awards ceremony. ■



Psychiatry residency program leadership, along with graduating residents, at a ceremony earlier this year.

## CMS Alumna Receives Fellow's Award from the Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Foundation

**Nyembezi Dhliwayo**, MD '17, R '21, currently a Hematology-Oncology Fellow at Rush University Medical Center, received the Fellow's Award at the Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Symposium. Dr. Dhliwayo received a Travel Award from the Lurie Cancer Center, made possible by a generous grant from the Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Foundation. The travel award gave Dr. Dhliwayo the opportunity to attend one of the most respected breast cancer meetings in the country, learn about the latest clinical and scientific advances in breast cancer research, collaborate with esteemed colleagues in the field, and meet breast cancer experts from around the world.

The Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Foundation is dedicated to the courageous spirit of Lynn Sage. The Foundation supports innovative contributions to the understanding, research, and treatment of breast cancer, in partnership with Northwestern Medicine and the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University. The Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Symposium is a global multidisciplinary annual meeting. Referred to as the most valuable breast cancer meeting worldwide for the practicing clinician, the multidisciplinary program has provided the latest information regarding cutting-edge technology and approaches in the management of breast cancer from leading national and international medical, surgical, and radiation oncologists.

In addition to attending the main symposium sessions, Dr. Dhliwayo was also able to participate in a forum designed to offer unique perspectives

on the different career options available to residents and fellows. Physicians from both the academic and private practice settings presented their experiences, recommendations, and guidance on the career paths available to residents and fellows.

"The symposium is an amazing networking opportunity," said Dr. Dhliwayo. "It was truly an honor for my program director and Rush Breast Cancer division to recommend me for this outstanding opportunity." ■



# Alumni News

## CMS Reunion Weekend

Chicago Medical School welcomed over 100 alumni back to Chicago and North Chicago during the CMS Alumni Reunion Weekend on Friday, September 16 and Saturday, September 17. We were excited to welcome alumni back for our first in-person reunion since 2019.

Friday afternoon's activities included an experiential tour of RFU's state-of-the-art campus, including the new Innovation and Research Park, and a networking lunch with CMS Dean **Archana Chatterjee**, MD, PhD, along with CMS faculty and student leaders.

Alumni then took a shuttle to downtown Chicago to gather with classmates for dinner at the iconic Michael Jordan's Steak House on Michigan Avenue.

Saturday began with the famed Wendella Chicago Lake & River Architecture Tour, followed by the CMS Alumni Awards reception, which kicked off at



Dr. Archana Chatterjee, dean of CMS, with former dean Dr. Theodore Booden.

6:30 p.m. Saturday night at the Renaissance Hotel Chicago. Alumni enjoyed reminiscing throughout the night, and the afterparty from 9-11 p.m. capped off a wonderful weekend.

A special congratulations to **Kimberley Dary**, MD '04, who received the 2022 Distinguished Alumni Award for Service, and **Alan Blank**, MD '11, who received the 2022 Distinguished Alumni Award for Early Career Achievement (see page 34). ■



Jerry Leikin, MD '80, talks to Taylor Petesch, CMS '23, during a lunch for CMS alumni and student leaders.



Alumni tour the new Innovation and Research Park, which opened in 2021.

# Alumni News



Dr. Leo Li & Dr. Sharon Hame, both alumni from the CMS Class of '96, were joined by their daughter, Rebecca Li, currently a CMS student in the Class of '25.



Marc Feldstein, MD '90, and Jeffrey Suico, MD '92, explore the university's simulation lab.



Patricia Turner, MD '96, locates her school photo on her CMS class composite.

## 2022 CMS Distinguished Alumni



**Kimberley Darey**, MD '04, received the 2022 Distinguished Alumni Award for Service, recognizing Chicago Medical School alumni who have unselfishly devoted time and service in a professional capacity or in the broader community.

Dr. Darey was named president of Elmhurst Hospital (Elmhurst, IL) and will assume her new role in January 2023. She is board-certified in obstetrics and gynecology and has been on the medical staff at Elmhurst Hospital since 2010. She previously held positions of medical director of the Elmhurst Hospital Family Birthing Center and chief medical officer/VP of medical affairs.

Dr. Darey is the first African American medical director at Elmhurst Hospital in obstetrics and gynecology. She also serves as chair of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Council and the Health Equity

Taskforce. Dr. Darey also serves on the Board of Trustees for Elmhurst Hospital Foundation.

Additionally, Dr. Darey is active in civic and humanitarian organizations, where she holds several leadership roles. She is a charter member of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women Chicago Metropolitan Chapter, and she supports African American women experiencing infertility. She is a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

In 2017, Dr. Darey received the Chicago Defender's Women of Excellence Award. This year, *Crain's Chicago Business* recognized her among its 2022 Most Notable Executives of Color in Healthcare.



**Alan Blank**, MD '11, MS '11, received the 2022 Distinguished Alumni Award for Early Career Achievement. The award celebrates alumni who

# Alumni News

have achieved early distinction in the past 15 years, proudly reflecting the power of a Chicago Medical School education.

A fellowship-trained orthopedic oncologist, Dr. Blank is an assistant professor at Rush University Medical Center. He specializes in malignant and benign musculoskeletal growths and performing limb-salvage surgery in adults and children.

During his time at Chicago Medical School, Dr. Blank served as class president while earning both his MD and a master's degree in biomedical sciences and research. After medical school, he completed his orthopedic surgery residency at New York University Hospital for Joint Diseases (New York City). While there, he received the Resident Research Award

for his work on prophylactic surgical treatment for metastatic bone disease.

Dr. Blank also completed a year of training in adult and pediatric musculoskeletal oncology and sarcoma surgery at the renowned Huntsman Cancer Institute and Hospital in Salt Lake City.

Dr. Blank has published many peer reviewed scientific articles in the field of orthopedic oncology, co-authored a number of textbook chapters, and presented at internationally attended academic conferences. He has received a number of honors, including *Crain's Chicago Business Magazine* 40 under 40 Award Winner in 2019 and the Golden Apple Teaching Award. ■

## Other Alumni News

**William Ribbing**, MD '87, received the Rural Physician Lifetime Service Award from the Illinois Rural Health Association. Dr. Ribbing is chief medical officer of Rural Health in Anna, Illinois, where he has worked for more than 30 years.

**Bonnie Wise**, MD '89, was named chief medical officer for Grosse Pointe, Michigan-based Together Women's Health, which also has offices in Chicago.

**Eric Handler**, MD '96, has been contracted to serve as interim health officer for the City of Pasadena, California. He previously served as the health officer of Orange County, California, from 2006-19.

**Bridget Martell**, MD '97, was named to Connecticut's Top 25 Healthcare Technology Leaders of 2022 by

*The Healthcare Technology Report*. Dr. Martell is president and CEO of Artizan Biosciences, Inc.

**Inder Paul Singh**, MD '99, president of The Eye Centers (Racine and Kenosha, Wisconsin), joined the medical advisory board of Ocuhire Pharma Inc.

**Seth J. Kligerman**, MD '03, MS '99, was named chair of the Department of Radiology at National Jewish Health in Denver. He will assume his new role in early 2023.

**Kimberley Darez**, MD '04, is the chairperson for the 2022 Chicagoland Tour de Cure, the American Diabetes Association's largest fundraising event. Dr. Darez serves as chief medical officer and vice president of medical affairs at Elmhurst Hospital. ■

# STAFF CORNER

## Get to know the people who make CMS a great place to study and work!



### Eddie Martinez

Administrative Coordinator, Medical Education,  
Department of Foundational Sciences and Humanities  
Time at CMS: 6 months

Eddie Martinez joined CMS earlier this year as an Administrative Coordinator for Medical Education (ACME) in the Department of Foundational Sciences and Humanities, where he coordinates the Clinical Foundations of Medicine (CFoM) course. The CFoM course is focused on providing early clinical experiences to the first-year medical students.

Before coming to CMS, Eddie served in the United States Marine Corps for four years as an Administrative Specialist. In this role he gained administrative experience while working in a high-paced dynamic environment in the military. Eddie also comes from a legal background — he obtained an associate's degree in Applied Science with a focus on Paralegal Studies. He served as a volunteer paralegal for the San Antonio Legal Services Association (SALSA), a legal clinic that provides free legal services to low-income communities.

As administrative coordinator for the CFoM course, Eddie is responsible for a multitude of tasks. He ensures that students are provided routine direction, information, and advice in regard to their CFoM clinical experiences. He also assists the course director in facilitating observerships, which requires him to serve as a liaison between various medical sites such as the Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center (FHCC) in North Chicago and the Mulford Clinic in Rockford. He is also in charge of coordinating and providing logistical support for CFoM workshops.

When asked to name his favorite thing about working at CMS, Eddie said: "I would have to say my favorite thing is being able to be part of the process that facilitates student clinical experiences in the Veteran Hospital next door. Having students learn from those experiences while giving medical care to Veterans is something that is important to me."

One of Eddie's favorite hobbies is making trinkets, cosplay items, and figures with his 3D printer. "It's a hobby I picked up this year," he said, "and I've been really enjoying the process of making an idea in my head come to life!" ■



Eddie designs an item for his 3D printer.

# School & Department News

## Awards & Accomplishments

**Abdul Alraiyes**, MD, FCCP, associate professor of medicine, received the 2022 Distinguished AABIP Service Award from the American Association for Bronchology and Interventional Pulmonology (AABIP). The award was given during the AABIP annual meeting in August and recognized Dr. Alraiyes for his “exceptional loyalty, dedication, and meritorious service to the organizational mission.”



Dr. Alraiyes (center) at the AABIP annual meeting.

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**Joanna Dabrowska**, PhD, PharmD, associate professor of cellular and molecular pharmacology and faculty member of the Center for Neurobiology of Stress Resilience and Psychiatric Disorders, received a five-year, \$2.36 million R01 Grant from the National Institute of Mental Health to investigate “The Integrated Role of Vasopressin and Oxytocin Receptors in the Modulation of BNST Activity and Fear Processing.” This award marks a competitive renewal of her previous R01 grant.

A portrait of Joanna Dabrowska, a woman with short brown hair and glasses, wearing a white lab coat over a patterned top.

**Lise Eliot**, PhD, professor of neuroscience, Stanson Toshok Center for Brain Function and Repair, was selected to receive the Louise Hanson Marshall Special Recognition Award from the Society for Neuroscience. This award honors an individual who has

significantly promoted the professional development of women in neuroscience through teaching, organizational leadership, public advocacy, or other efforts that are not necessarily research-related. The award was presented at the Celebration of Women in Neuroscience Luncheon held during the Society for Neuroscience’s annual meeting in November.

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**Raúl Gazmuri**, MD, PhD, FCCM, professor of physiology and biophysics and director of the Resuscitation Institute, received a two-year, \$34,000 grant from ExoStat Medical, Inc. for his research study “Oral Mucosal Carbon Dioxide Pressure (POM CO<sub>2</sub>) Measurement during Hemorrhagic Shock in a Swine Model.”

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**Eun Jung Hwang**, PhD, assistant professor of cell biology and anatomy, Stanson Toshok Center for Brain Function and Repair, has been selected as an Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellow. The award carries with it a grant of \$75,000.

# School & Department News

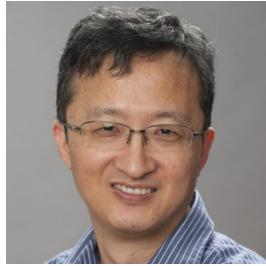
for a two-year period to support Dr. Hwang's research study "Neural Basis of Idiosyncratic Decision Making."

Through these fellowships, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation seeks to identify and support early-career scientists on the faculties of colleges and universities in the United States and Canada who have demonstrated special creative ability in chemistry, computer science, earth system science, economics, mathematics, neuroscience, or physics. Dr. Hwang is one of 118 fellowship winners this year, selected from more than 1,000 nominees.

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**Hongkyun Kim**, PhD, associate professor of cell biology and anatomy, Center for Cancer Cell Biology, Immunology, and Infection, received a \$224,250 grant from the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism for his research project "The Role of Mitochondrial Stress Response in Alcohol-Mediated Neurotoxicity."

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**Robert Marr**, PhD, associate professor of neuroscience, Center for Neurodegenerative Disease and Therapeutics, received a two-year, \$429,000 R21 grant from the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) National Institute on Aging to research "The Development of Gene Therapeutic Approaches to Suppress Cerebral Inflammation in Dementia."

Congratulations to **James Nardini**, CMS '23, who has been selected as the recipient of the Midwest Regional Medical Student of the Year Scholarship Award by the American Academy of Emergency Medicine Resident & Student Association. This award recognizes one fourth-year medical student in each region who has demonstrated dedication to the specialty of emergency medicine through leadership, advocacy, research, and academic excellence. We're proud to have James representing CMS and the whole Midwest!



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**Amiel Rosenkranz**, PhD, professor of cellular and molecular pharmacology and director of RFU's Brain Science Institute, received a two-year NIH subcontract from Virginia Tech for \$103,000 to fund his research study "IGF2 Regulation of Microglia and Synaptic Function During Aging."

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**Joseph Rumenapp**, CMS '25, has been awarded the National Health Service Corps Scholarship through the Health Resources and Services Administration. The scholarship supports those going into primary care specialties who will serve in Health Professional Shortage Areas. The Health Resources and Services Administration connects primary health care clinicians to people in the



# School & Department News

United States with limited access to healthcare. Their mission is to build healthy communities by supporting qualified health care providers dedicated to working in areas with limited access to care.



**Rachel To**, CMS '23, is one of ten selected participants for the AMAF Leadership Development Institute (LDI), a national program for fourth-year medical students aspiring to be leaders in medicine. This year-long program fosters practical skills for successful leadership, including interactive sessions on communication, public speaking, stress reduction, and implementing effective change. Selected participants gathered for a weekend at the AMA headquarters in downtown Chicago for the LDI's annual leadership retreat.



Back row: BJ Lee (University of Oklahoma), Alessandra Rau (USC), Samaneh Bolourchi (Touro COM), Ekiomoado Olumese (Vanderbilt SOM), Gualberto Muñoz (MUSC)  
Front row: Meril Tomy (UCI), Shreya S. Ramayya (Warren Alpert/Brown), Rachel To (CMS-RFUMS).

Congratulations to **Nichole Ulibarri**, coordinator of educational technology in the Department of Foundational Sciences and Humanities, who received a Summer 2022 GEM Award from the university. GEM Awards are quarterly awards that recognize RFU staff members who "Go the Extra Mile" to make the university a better place.



On October 1, **Andrew Zwijack**, CMS '25, competed in the Hennepin Hundred, a 100-mile ultramarathon in which participants run from Rock Falls, Illinois to Colona, Illinois on the Hennepin Canal State Trail. Andrew came in fifth place overall with a time of 17:14:06, and came in first place in his 20-29 age group!

This was Andrew's first 100-mile race. He describes himself as an amateur ultramarathoner who runs to decompress outside of classwork.

## Presentations & Publications

**Dima Arbach**, MD, assistant professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences and director of faculty engagement and wellness, conducted a seminar on "Finding Meaning and Resilience During Hardships" for the Akkawi Foundation in



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Jordan. The session was aimed to help underserved students from the Middle East to develop strategies to build resilience and achieve meaningful goal orientation.

Dr. Arbach was also invited as a session facilitator for the topic “Mental Health Challenges Facing Physicians and Medical Students Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic” at the Syrian American Medical Society (SAMS) 11th National Conference, held in Chicago in September.

In October, Dr. Arbach chaired two sessions during a virtual conference hosted by the Academy of Professionalism in Health Care: “Integrating Technology in Patient Care” and “Digital Privacy Challenges.”

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**Maureen Benjamins**, PhD, adjunct faculty at CMS and senior research fellow at the Sinai Urban Health Institute (SUHI), co-authored two op-eds published in *Crain's Chicago Business*. The first commentary, titled “Chicago an Outlier in Health Outcomes Among Racial Groups,” discussed Chicago’s position as one

of the most unequal cities in the U.S. It was co-authored by Fernando De Maio, PhD, vice president of research and data use at the AMA’s Center for Health Equity and professor of sociology at DePaul University. The second commentary, titled “A Sense of Belonging May Be the Counterforce Needed Now,” highlighted the potential impact of belonging and connection in working toward health equity. It was written with researchers from Rush University and DePaul University.

Dr. Benjamins also published two articles with CMS students and alumni:

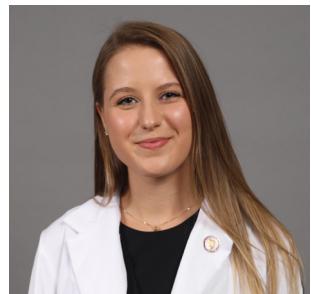
- Dr. Benjamins; **Peter Lorenz**, MD '22; **Paulina Pys**, CMS '23; and **Andrew Schulz**, MS, CMS '23, co-authored an

article titled “Black-White Inequities in Kidney Disease Mortality Across the 30 Most Populous U.S. Cities,” published in the *Journal of General Internal Medicine*.

- Dr. Benjamins and **Sam Bunting**, MD '21, authored an article titled “Engaging Students in Population Health Research to Teach Health Equity: Describing an Alliance between a Medical School and a Community-Based Research Center” which was published in *Partnerships Progress in Community Health Partnerships: Research, Education, and Action*. The article describes the summer internship program at Sinai Urban Health Institute (SUHI) which offers an eight-week program in which CMS students have the opportunity to complete research, project-based learning, and attend seminars on public health topics at SIHU.



Dr. Peter Lorenz



Paulina Pys



Andrew Schulz



Dr. Samuel Bunting

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**Neil A. Bradbury**, PhD, professor of physiology and biophysics, delivered the presentation “When Is a Calorie Not a Calorie? — Thoughts on Obesity, Weight Loss, and Metabolic Syndrome” on October 26 as part of the CMS

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Department of Clinical Sciences' medical grand rounds series.

Obesity is linked to poorer clinical outcomes across a broad range of conditions. Traditionally, changes in diet and exercise have been the dominant recommendations from physicians to tackle obesity, but Dr. Bradbury questioned some of the basic assumptions underlying obesity and discussed possible alternative approaches to weight management in patient care.

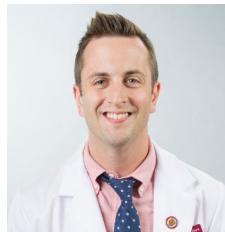
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**Diane Bridges**, PhD, MSN, RN, CCM, assistant dean of distance learning and curricular resources, along with CMS alumni **Michael P. Fiore**, MD '19, and **Mina M. Keroles**, MD '20, published a pilot study titled "Pharmacist-Led Review Sessions with Medical Students and Their Impact" in the *Journal of Psychology & Clinical Psychiatry*.



Dr. Diane Bridges



Dr. Michael Fiore



Dr. Mina Keroles

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**Archana Chatterjee**, MD, PhD, dean of Chicago Medical School and vice president for medical affairs, RFU, was a featured speaker at ID Week 2022, the annual joint meeting of the Infectious Diseases Society of America, Society for

Healthcare Epidemiology of America, the HIV Medicine Association, the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society, and the Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists.

Dr. Chatterjee was invited to give the Edward H. Kass Lecture. In her presentation titled "An Unlikely Path to Leadership: Reflections of a Pediatric Infectious Disease Specialist," Dr. Chatterjee discussed her own leadership path and strategies for closing the race and gender gaps in medical leadership and academia.



Dr. Chatterjee in Washington, D.C. after giving her lecture.

Dr. Chatterjee also co-authored an article titled "Organizations in Science and Medicine Must Hold Each Other Accountable for Discriminatory Practices," published in the August 18, 2022 issue of *Cell*.

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**Joanna Dabrowska**, PhD, PharmD, associate professor of cellular and molecular pharmacology and faculty member of the Center for Neurobiology of Stress

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Resilience and Psychiatric Disorders, presented “It Takes Three to Dance: Neuropeptidergic Modulation of the BNST Activity and Fear processing by Oxytocin, Vasopressin, and CRF” at the 24th International Symposium on Regulatory Peptides in Stirling, Scotland, U.K.

Dr. Dabrowska was also elected as a council member for the International Regulatory Peptide Society.

Practice among Healthcare Professionals in the Workforce” for the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, Research and Innovations in Medical Education (RIME) lecture series.

Eliza Hofman, MFA, CMS '25,

presented at the American Psychiatric Association's Mental Health Services Conference, held October 13-14 in Washington, DC. Her presentation, “Project



I See Me \_\_\_\_\_: Mental Health Literacy through Entertainment,” was a collaboration with Deepak Penesetti, MD, and Natasha Gambhir, DO. The project seeks to show the power of mental health literacy in entertainment and describe its clinical basis in Play Therapy. The goal of Eliza and her collaborators is to drive the national mental health conversation taking place outside of the clinic and make entertainment a public health partner (instead of a risk) in the timely national conversation on mental health.

**Laura DiVirgilio**, CMS '24, was first author on an article titled “A Community-Informed Approach to COVID-19 Vaccine Roll-Out in Under-served Areas in Chicago,” published in June in *Frontiers in Public Health*. **Kaye Just**, CMS '24, was a co-author on the publication.



Laura DiVirgilio



Kaye Just

On October 6, **Kim Fasula**, PhD, MS, MPH, RDH, PHDH, director of assessment and interprofessional education, presented her research titled “Assessing Interprofessional Education and Collaborative



**Holly Hunsberger**, PhD, assistant professor of foundational sciences and humanities, co-authored “Research Centers Collaborative Network Workshop on Sex and Gender Differences in Aging,” published in the journal

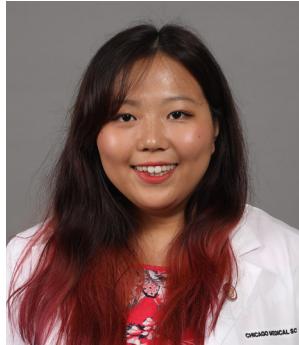
*Innovation in Aging*. This work comes out of the Research Centers Coordinating Network, which brings together key thought leaders from each of the six National

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Institute on Aging center programs to align approaches across programs that will uncover synergies and insights leading to novel collaborations.

Dr. Hunsberger was also featured in an Inscopix podcast titled "Sex Differences and Anxiety in Alzheimer's Disease."

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**Nahae Kim**, MPH, CMS '23, participated in a virtual panel discussion hosted by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) that explored how the academic medicine community is addressing and eradicating systemic racism in health

care. The panel was moderated by Malika Fair, MD, MPH, AAMC senior director of equity and social accountability, and also included individuals featured in "The Color of Care," a documentary chronicling how people of color suffer from systemically substandard health care in the United States. The panel discussion focused on lessons learned from the film, how medical education is changing and continuing to improve, and the AAMC's new medical education competencies on diversity, equity, and inclusion.

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**Ligaya Marasigan**, MD, associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology, discussed "Public Health Pearls of Wisdom" in an event hosted by the university's American Public Health Association (APHA) student interest group. Dr. Marasigan, a practicing obstetrician-gynecologist with decades of experience providing care to underserved communities, talked about her experiences providing

care within the prison system, but also answered student questions about any aspect of medicine.

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On October 6, **David 'Daven' Morrison**, MD, clinical assistant professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences, presented "Addressing the Inevitable, Invisible Psychological Wounds of First Responders" as the keynote presentation at the Kansas City Crime Commission's "First Responder Mental Health Summit," a full-day program targeting rising rates of suicide, mental illness, and PTSD in first responders. This event was a combined day of education and training for both police departments and fire services.

Dr. Morrison also authored a paper on burnout titled "Getting Serious About People Over Profit: Addressing Burnout by Establishing Meaning and Connection," published in the July/August issue of the *Physicians' Leadership Journal*.

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**James O'Donnell**, PhD, associate professor of cellular and molecular pharmacology, authored several book chapters in *Brody's Human Pharmacology*, 7th ed. (Elsevier, Inc. In press.). His chapters are titled:

- "Introduction to Endocrine Pharmacology"
- "The Pharmacology of Adrenocorticosteroid Disorders"

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- “Drug Therapy for the Management of Thyroid Disorders”
- “Calcium Regulating Hormones and Other Agents Affecting Bone”
- “Treatment of Hypothalamic and Pituitary Disorders.”

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**Hector Rasgado-Flores**, PhD, professor of physiology and biophysics, recently gave the following presentations:

- “Tracking and Addressing Microaggressions and Discrimination Faced by LHS+ Identified Medical Students,” given at the University of New Mexico.
- “Music as a Therapeutic Tool,” given at the Universidad Guizar y Valencia in Xalapa, Veracruz, Mexico.
- “Latino Medical Student Association Physician/Faculty Advisors: A Critical Partner in Supporting UiM Medical Students,” given at Morehouse Medical School in Atlanta, GA.
- “Promoting UiM Students Reaching Higher Education,” given at Mundelein High School, IL.



Dr. Rasgado also co-authored a chapter titled “LMSA Physician/Faculty Advisors: A Critical Partner in Supporting LHS+ Medical Students in Latina/o/x/e, Hispanic or of Spanish Origin+ (LHS+)” in the book *Identified Student Leaders in Medicine: More Than 50 years of Presence, Activism, and Leadership* (Springer, In Press).

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**Neelam Sharma-Walia**, PhD, associate professor of microbiology and immunology, Center for Cancer Cell

Biology, Immunology, and Infection, delivered a virtual oral presentation entitled “A Novel Role of Aquaporin 3 in Regulating Oxidative Stress in Kaposi’s Sarcoma-Associated Virus (KSHV)-Associated Primary Effusion Lymphoma” at the 46th

Annual International Herpesvirus Workshop (IHW).

This work was also selected for poster presentation at the IHW, and also at the 24th International Conference on Kaposi’s Sarcoma Herpesvirus & Related Agents, held in Denver, CO.

Contributing authors on the project include **Olivia Powrozek**, laboratory research assistant; **Melanie Klemond**, CMS '24; **Morgan Mroz**, CMS '24; **Khalil Qadri**, CMS '24; and Dr. Neelam Sharma-Walia.



Melanie Klemond



Morgan Mroz



Khalil Qadri

Another work from Dr. Sharma-Walia’s lab, titled “Lipoxin and Aspirin-Triggered Lipoxin Regulated Transcription Factors Restrict Kaposi’s Sarcoma-Associated Herpesvirus (KSHV) Latency and Infected Cell Survival” was selected for podium presentation at the 17th International Conference on Bioactive Lipids in Cancer, Inflammation, and Related Diseases, held October 30–November 2 in New Orleans.

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# School & Department News



Dr. Heinz Steiner

**Heinz Steiner**, PhD, professor of cellular and molecular pharmacology, and **Michael Hrabak**, research associate, both of the Stanson Toshok Center for Brain Function and Repair, and the late professor **Anthony R. West**, PhD, formerly of the Center for Neurodegenerative Disease and Therapeutics, co-authored “Phosphodiesterase 10A (PDE10A): Regulator of Dopamine Agonist-Induced Gene Expression in the Striatum,” published in the journal *Cells*.

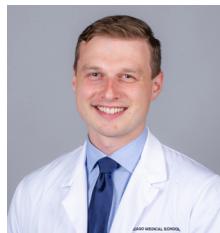
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**Rom A. Stevens**, MD, FCCM, U.S. Navy Captain (retired), professor of medicine and anesthesiology, presented “Medical Support for Ukraine” on September 7 as part of the Department of Clinical Sciences’ medical grand rounds series. During this event, Dr. Stevens discussed the effects of the ongoing war on the Ukrainian healthcare system.



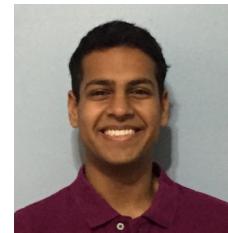
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**Beth Stutzmann**, PhD, professor of neuroscience and director of the Center for Neurodegenerative Disease and Therapeutics, is a co-author on the *Cell Reports* article “Essential Role of the Mitochondrial Na<sup>+</sup>/Ca<sup>2+</sup> Exchanger NCLX in Mediating the PDE2 Dependent Neuronal Survival and Learning.”

**Heinz Steiner**, PhD, professor of cellular and molecular pharmacology, and **Michael Hrabak**, research associate, both of the Stanson Toshok Center for Brain Function and Repair, and the late professor **Anthony R. West**, PhD, formerly of the Center

**Kyle B. Thomson**, CMS '24; **Pranav Mirpuri**, CMS '24; and **Melissa Chen**, MD, clinical director of the Interprofessional Community Clinic and associate professor of medicine, co-authored “The Impact of Volunteering with a Student-Run Free Clinic on Medical Student Specialty Selection,” published in *BMC Medical Education*.



Kyle B. Thomson



Pranav Mirpuri



Dr. Melissa Chen



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**Sajoy Varghese**, MD, assistant professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences, delivered a presentation on October 12 titled “Assessing Blood-Brain Barrier Dysfunction in PTSD and Alcohol Use Disorder” as part of the Department of Clinical Sciences’

medical grand rounds series. Dr. Varghese reviewed the

role of various neurobiological domains that trigger relapse in substance use disorders.

## Events and Other News

**David “Daven” Morrison**, MD, clinical assistant professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences, was featured in the first episode of the *Psychiatric Times*’ series “The Psychology of Fraud.”



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**Lawrence Robbins**, MD, associate professor of neurology, was quoted in the article “Migraine and Mood Disorders: Clinical Challenges and Solutions,” published in *Practical Pain Management*.

The Clinical Sciences Department recently held its **15th Annual Advances in Pulmonary Medicine Series** (formerly known as the COPD Symposium). The virtual symposium was given in three sessions, with all segments moderated by **Ashok Fulambarker**, MD, professor of medicine:

- **Ayodeji Adegunsoye**, MD, MS, FACP, FCCP, assistant professor of medicine at the University of Chicago, started the event with his presentation “The COVID-19 Pulmonary Odyssey: The Journey So Far” on August 24, discussing how to recognize and manage a patient with pulmonary symptoms resulting from “long COVID.”
- **Abdul Alraiyes**, MD, FCCP, CMS associate professor of medicine and an Interventional Pulmonology specialist with Advocate Aurora Health, delivered the second lecture in the series, “Lung Cancer Diagnostics and Staging” on September 14. He discussed updates in bronchoscopy technology that can aid in the early detection of lung lesions.
- **Renea Jablonski**, MD, assistant professor of medicine at the University of Chicago, concluded the series on September 28 with her presentation titled “Pulmonary Fibrosis-Interstitial Lung Disease Update.” Dr. Jablonski reviewed best practices relating to ongoing care of patients with interstitial lung disease (ILD) and discussed the current state of therapy for ILD and new therapies currently under development.

Several faculty, alumni, students, staff, patients, and community experts presented at the Principles of Professionalism, Health Care, and Health Equity (P2H2) forum for third-year CMS students.

On October 11, **Rosanne Oggioan**, DO; **Emma Holloway**, MD '21; **Robert Radtke**, PA, CHP '19; Hannah Graham, MD, physician at Advocate’s Adult Down Syndrome Center; and Paul Moran, wheelchair paralympian and local tennis coach, participated in the session “Working with Patients with Disabilities.” Topics included communication tips, patient-first language, and the ableism of medical culture.

On October 17, **Lauren Gard**, MPH, CMS '23; **Michael Allswede**, DO, CMS assistant dean of clinical education, emergency room physician, Army Veteran, and first responder at the Las Vegas mass shooting; Deanna Behrens, MD, pediatric intensivist and firearm injury scholar; and Phil Andrew, survivor, crisis negotiator and former FBI agent, participated in the session “Firearm Injuries: Hitting Close to Home.”



Dr. Beth Stutzmann



Dr. William Frost

**Beth Stutzmann**, PhD, professor of neuroscience and director of the Center for Neurodegenerative Disease and Therapeutics, and

**William Frost**, PhD, professor of cell biology and anatomy and director of the Stanson Toshok Center for Brain Function and Repair, participated in the university’s Bio Innovations Speaker Series on October 19, serving as panelists in a discussion on “Advances in Diagnosing, Preventing and Treating Brain Diseases.” ■

# Recent Events



Leaders from Boys Town National Research Hospital in Nebraska visited RFU in August to meet with representatives from Chicago Medical School, the College of Nursing, and the university's research centers.



Dr. Lise Eliot (right) joined Marie Benedict, author of the novel "Her Hidden Genius" for a book discussion and author talk at Lake Forest Library. Their discussion bridged themes of women in science, leadership, and bringing stories to life that transcend time and place.



Dr. Ron Kaplan at the University's inaugural Biomedical Innovation Day on Sept. 22, an event to highlight the state-of-the-art research taking place at RFU and the novel approaches being developed for diagnosing and treating a wide range of diseases.



Dr. Melissa Chen during the university-wide proposal presentations for the Elizabeth Shafernich Coulson Award for Innovation in Teaching and Learning.



Dr. Joseph Reynolds and Dr. Kaiwen Kam at an event held at DePaul University in honor of the new RFU-DePaul collaboration for new research projects on AI in biomedical discovery and healthcare.



*The Chicago Medical School's Dean's Cabinet — Front row: Dr. Brenda Affinati, Dr. Ron Kaplan, Dr. Archana Chatterjee, Dr. Jeanette Morrison, and Dr. Nutan Vaidya; Back row: Dr. Michael Ellison, Dr. Sandra LaBlance, Dr. Michael Zdon, Dr. Frank Maldonado, Dr. Lise Eliot, Edward Rotchford, Sarah Schuck, Carissa Van Ausdall, and Dr. Myrtis Sullivan.*

**We want to hear from you!**

**To submit information or news for upcoming issues, contact  
Candice Kosanke at [candice.kosanke@rosalindfranklin.edu](mailto:candice.kosanke@rosalindfranklin.edu).**



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