



# CMS NEWS

## The Chicago Medical School Newsletter

**WINTER 2021**  
**ISSUE 19**

### **DR. JUDITH POTASHKIN ELECTED AAAS FELLOW**

*Dr. Potashkin received this honor from the American Association for the Advancement of Science for her research on Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases.*

**PAGE 16**

### **CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH: A SPOTLIGHT ON RISING STARS**

*Several CMS students and one alumna are highlighted for their accomplishments.*

**PAGE 20**

### **KWAN KEW LAI, MD '79, ON GLOBAL HEALTH VOLUNTEERING**

*Dr. Lai shared her experiences from 15 years of international humanitarian missions providing emergency and disaster relief.*

**PAGE 28**



## **Innovation and Research Park Grand Opening**

*On the one-year anniversary of the completion of the IRP, RFU celebrated with a virtual grand opening featuring university leaders and community partners.*

On January 28, the university's Innovation and Research Park (IRP) marked its one-year anniversary with a virtual grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony. The event featured remarks from RFU leadership, elected officials, bioscience industry leaders, and IRP center directors.

*continued on page 3*

## IN THIS ISSUE:

**Cover** Innovation and Research  
Park Grand Opening

**2** Dean's Message

**6** CMS Military Match Results

**8** CMS Virtual Holiday Party

**10** New FSH Discipline Chairs

**12** Celebrating the Career of Dr. Stuart Goldman

**16** Dr. Judith Potashkin Elected AAAS Fellow

**17** Dr. Esther Choo Presents in Dr. Rosalind Franklin Centennial Series

**18** Updates from the Office of Excellence in Diversity and Inclusion

**20** Celebrating Black History Month

**23** CMS Social Hour

**24** Nutrition Tips for the First Year of Medical School

**26** Summer Research Poster Session

**27** Alumni News: Evelyn Lewis, MD '83, on Veteran Health

**28** Alumni News: Kwan Kew Lai, MD '79, on Global Health Volunteering

**31** Alumni News: Stephanie Whyte, MD '96, on COVID-19

**32** Other Alumni News

**33** Staff Corner: Marissa McCarthy

**34** School & Department News

**Contact Information:**  
Office of the Dean  
Chicago Medical School  
Rosalind Franklin University  
3333 Green Bay Road  
North Chicago, IL 60064  
[www.rosalindfranklin.edu/cms](http://www.rosalindfranklin.edu/cms)



## Dean's Message

Hello from snowy North Chicago!

As we enter the third month of 2021, we look to the future with hope as COVID-19 vaccines are being distributed, while remembering that there is still much we all must do. It's critical for each of us to do what we can to keep ourselves and others safe

— whether by working on the front lines, by social distancing and wearing a mask, or even by fighting the spread of misinformation by pointing those in our circle of influence to accurate, reliable resources.

We at CMS and RFU have been doing our part during the pandemic to help the community in any way needed. About 200 faculty and student volunteers have been partnering with the Lake County Health Department (LCHD) to help with the administration of vaccines and the development of educational materials about the vaccines. During the past few months, the RFU Health Clinic was administering about 175-200 COVID tests per day, often with a 24-hour turnaround. With vaccines now available, COVID testing is down to about 75-100 tests per day.

I am excited to share with you that the RFU Health Clinic has been administering vaccines since February 15th, averaging approximately 150 vaccines per week. Currently they are all first doses and have been provided to those members of our RFUMS community who fit the State's guidelines for Phase 1A and B recipients. The Clinic and its mobile Care Coach continue to focus on community education, helping the LCHD gain access to the underserved community.

I have also been contributing to community awareness and education both locally and across the nation. Closer to home, I have participated on Q&A panels presented by WBEZ Chicago for Latino and African American Communities and the COVID-19 Vaccines. One took place in late January and I will participate again in early March. These virtual events allow the panel of health experts to provide verified, fact-based, information about the vaccines and their distribution in these communities.

As the vaccine rollout continues, it's important to remember that even if we personally have received the vaccine, we must continue our practice of mask-wearing, social distancing and cleaning in order to protect the most vulnerable among us. It has been a long struggle, but if we as a community remain committed to these principles of education, health and safety, we can continue to look to the future with hope and promise.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Archana Chatterjee".

Archana Chatterjee, MD, PhD  
Dean, Chicago Medical School

# Innovation and Research Park Grand Opening

*continued from cover*



*The IRP provides a place where academic and industry scientists can work side by side for the improvement of human health.*



*Each floor of the IRP includes shared space to facilitate conversation and collaboration.*

The IRP is designed for collaboration among academic and industry scientists, innovators, and entrepreneurs, showcasing the university's commitment to translational research. RFU researchers in the IRP's six interdisciplinary, disease-based centers will be able to work side by side with industry scientists, encouraging the sharing of ideas and knowledge that can translate academic research into medical therapies.

The emphasis on research and discovery that will lead to improved health outcomes has been especially important in recent months. Although the grand opening — originally planned for March 2020 — was postponed nearly a year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the scientists within the IRP have been steadfastly continuing their research.

“The IRP has been up and running during the darkest days of the COVID struggle,” **Wendy Rheault**, PT, PhD, FASAHP, FNAP, DipACLM, RFU president and CEO, said during the grand opening. “Now that we can see the light on the horizon, our



*The Innovation and Research Park.*



The IRP contains 100,000 square feet of laboratory and office space, with two-thirds allocated to RFU research labs and the remaining third available to healthcare industries and startups.

faith in medicine and science is being rewarded. The bright future of the post-COVID years is coming into view. We look forward to the advances that the scientists, faculty, and staff of IRP and its occupants will generate.”

The four-story, 100-square-foot IRP contains state-of-the-art laboratories, incubator space, and support for faculty and regional startups and biotech firms. It offers the largest wet lab space available in Lake County. The building currently houses the six disease-oriented research labs and the Helix 51 Incubator, with a third of the space available to healthcare industries and startups.

**Ron Kaplan**, PhD, RFU Executive Vice President for Research and CMS Vice Dean for Research, also spoke during the ceremony, enumerating the many benefits the research park will bring to the university and surrounding community. In addition to fostering collaboration between academic and industry scientists, the IRP will expand research and training opportunities for RFU students and also provide new workforce development and mentorship

opportunities to local college and high school students.

“Our commitment to research has never been stronger,” Dr. Kaplan said. “Our disease-focused research centers are already working to foster innovation that will move our science out of the lab and into the marketplace to improve human health.”

The ceremony also featured several state and local elected officials, including Leon Rockingham Jr., mayor of North Chicago; U.S. Senators Dick Durbin and Tammy Duckworth; U.S. Representative Brad Schneider; and Governor J. B. Pritzker, who was the event’s keynote speaker.

“The completion of Rosalind Franklin University’s Innovation and Research Park is the type of strategic investment that helps us reach the kind of future our state deserves,” said Gov. Pritzker. “This project demonstrates that innovation is critical to our success as a state, and this past year in particular. We need more bold thinkers and more brave risk-takers to solve our toughest challenges. We need more entrepreneurs and innovators to continue generating new ideas and finding new opportunities.”

Several leaders from the local bioscience industry also spoke during the ceremony, including CMS alumnus **Jeffrey W. Sherman**, MD '81, FACP, Executive Vice President and Chief Medical Officer at Horizon Therapeutics, a company focused on the research, development, and commercialization of products to treat rare diseases. Dr. Sherman voiced his appreciation for what the IRP will do for Lake County.

The ceremony concluded with remarks from some of the research center directors: **Marc Glucksman**, PhD,

director of the Center for Proteomics and Molecular Therapeutics; **Michelle Hastings**, PhD, director of the Center for Genetic Diseases; **Beth Stutzmann**, PhD, director of the Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases and Therapeutics; **Amiel Rosenzcranz**, PhD, director of the Brain Science Institute; and **Johnny He**, PhD, director of the Center for Cancer Cell Biology, Immunology, and Infection.

"The IRP has already had a very positive impact on the research environment at the university. Even during the current pandemic it continues to have

a positive impact on our research as well as the research of our collaborators within the university," said Dr. Rosenkranz. "I'm very grateful to continue to be part of this environment."

Dr. Hastings also expressed her gratitude for the research park. "Every day, we come to lab excited to continue our studies," she said. "We can hardly wait to see what the future holds." ■

## RFUMS RESEARCH INSTITUTE AND CENTERS

### BRAIN SCIENCE INSTITUTE

CENTER FOR  
MOLECULAR THERAPEUTICS  
OF NEURODEGENERATIVE  
DISEASES

CENTER FOR  
MOLECULAR BASIS OF  
BEHAVIORAL DISORDERS

CENTER FOR  
BRAIN FUNCTION  
AND REPAIR

### CENTER FOR GENETIC DISEASES

CENTER FOR  
CANCER CELL BIOLOGY,  
IMMUNOLOGY  
AND INFECTION

CENTER FOR  
PROTEOMICS  
AND MOLECULAR  
THERAPEUTICS

# Celebrating CMS 2021 Military Match Results

While medical students across the nation eagerly await March 19 for this year's Match Day 2021 celebrations, military medical students received their Military Match results on January 6, 2021. Military Match selections are made by the Joint Service Graduate Medical Education Selection Board (JSGMESB) — a collection of residency program directors and high-ranking officials from the United States Army, Navy, and Air Force. More than 500 military medical students across these three branches of the US Armed Forces are evaluated and matched to military residency programs each year. CMS proudly has five military medical students in its senior class, and extends our warmest congratulations to these future physician leaders for their outstanding Match results.

All five 2021 military scholarship students were selected to their first-choice destinations: **Cecily Ober** (US Army) was selected for the Internal Medicine residency program at San Antonio Military Medical Center; **Kristin Bala** (US Navy) was selected for the Pediatrics residency program at Naval Medical Center San Diego; **Matthew Christensen** (US Navy) was selected for the Emergency Medicine residency program at Naval Medical Center San Diego; **Alex Luke** (US Air Force) was selected for the Otolaryngology (ENT) residency program at San Antonio Military Medical Center; and **Matthew Burke** (US Air Force) received his preference of a civilian deferment in order to continue in the NRMP Match with the rest of the CMS class of 2021. ■



**Cecily Ober | US Army**

Specialty: Internal Medicine

Location: San Antonio Military Medical Center



**Kristin Bala | US Navy**

Specialty: Pediatrics

Location: Naval Medical Center San Diego



**Matthew Christensen | US Navy**

Specialty: Emergency Medicine

Location: Naval Medical Center San Diego



**Alex Luke | US Air Force**

Specialty: Otolaryngology (ENT)

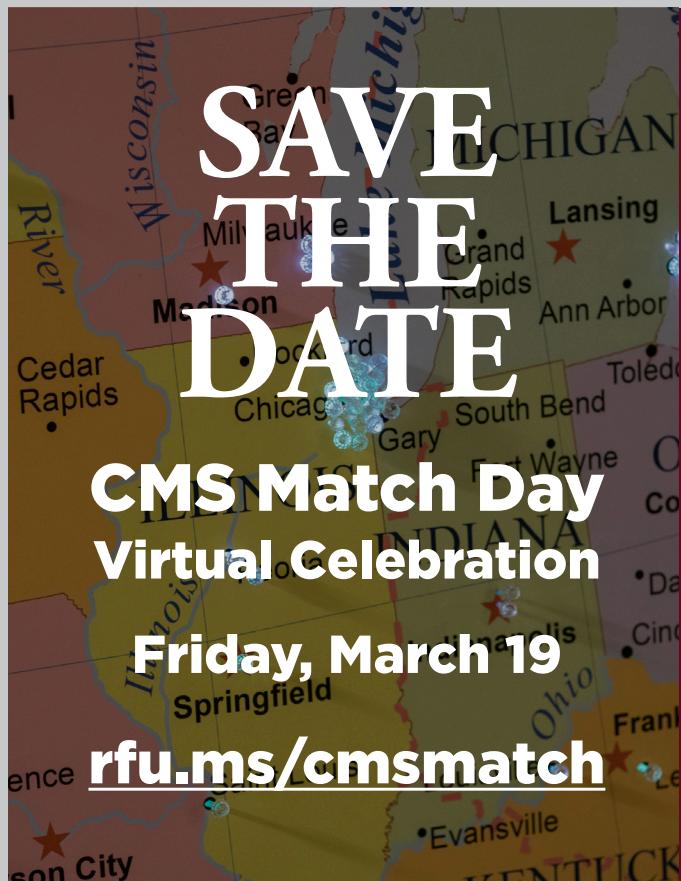
Location: San Antonio Military Medical Center



**Matthew Burke | US Air Force**

Specialty: Anesthesia

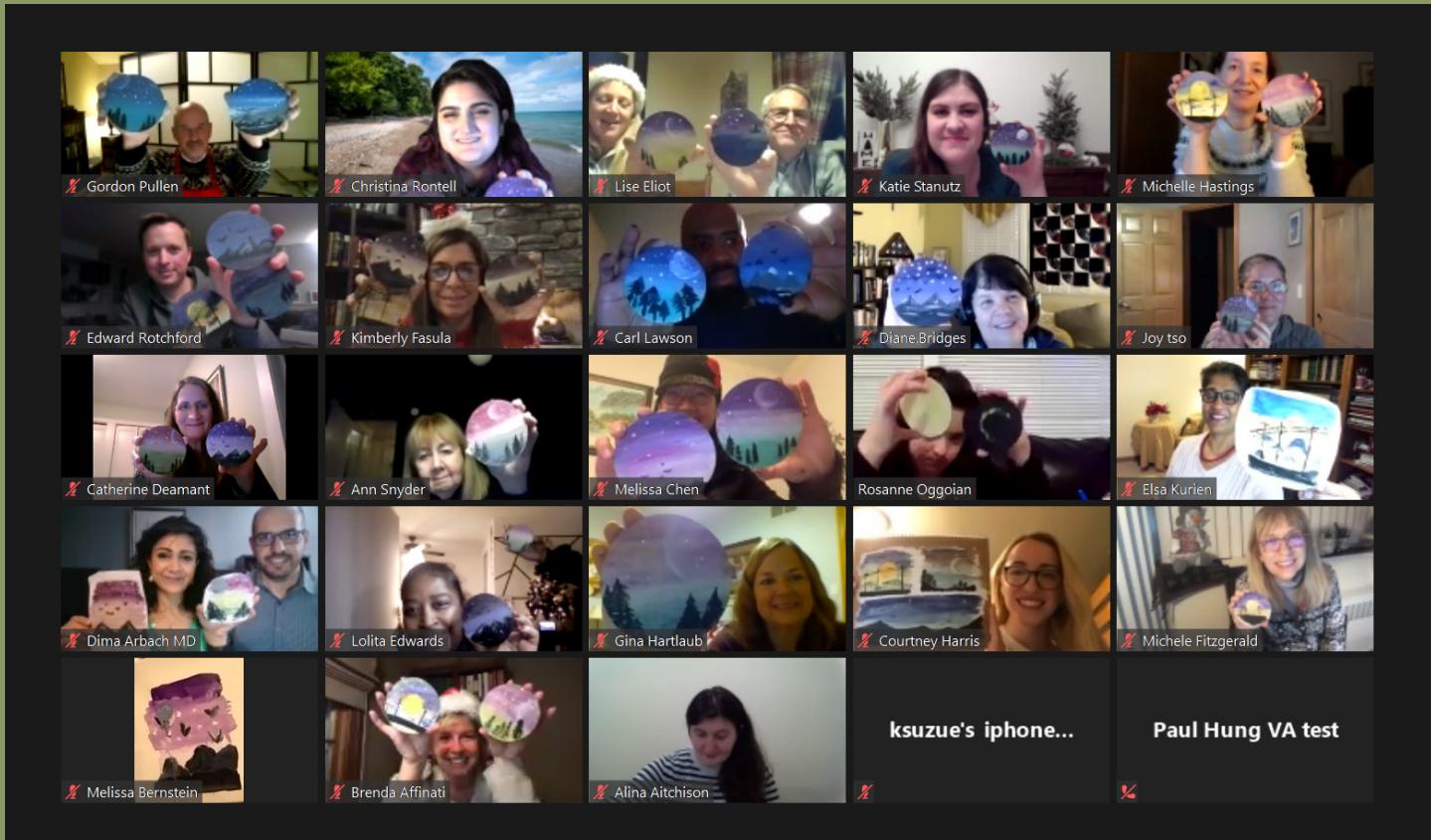
Location: selected for Civilian Deferment



# CMS Virtual Holiday Party

Chicago Medical School held its annual Holiday Party on December 17. Although the event had to be virtual this year, we still found a way to have fun! Faculty and staff were able to visit with each other and answer trivia questions while painting a set of wooden coasters in a painting session hosted by Paint the Town. Below are the “group photos” from the event, with attendees displaying their final artworks. ■





# *New Discipline Chairs in the Department of Foundational Sciences and Humanities*

**Dr. Donghee Kim and Dr. Grace “Beth” Stutzmann have taken on new roles in the Department of Foundational Sciences and Humanities (FSH), effective Jan. 1.**



Dr. Donghee Kim

**Donghee Kim**, PhD, professor of physiology and biophysics, has taken on the additional role of discipline chair of physiology and biophysics. Dr. Kim has authored 116 peer-reviewed articles and other publications. His research is focused on the role of potassium channels in cardiovascular and neuronal function and has been funded by numerous grants from the NIH and American Heart Association. Dr. Kim works in the university’s Center for Proteomics and Molecular Therapeutics.

Dr. Kim received a bachelor of science (BS) degree in Chemistry and Biochemistry from MIT and his PhD

in Pharmacology and Toxicology from Michigan State University. He held appointments as Assistant Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and Visiting Professor at the Mayo Clinic before joining CMS in 1989.

In addition to research, Dr. Kim directs the BMS Physiology course and lectures on the cardiovascular system in the Cardiovascular-Pulmonary-Renal (CPR) block and the Topics in Physiology course. He served as Speaker of the CMS Academic Assembly in 2006-07 and is a current member of the Years 1 & 2 Curriculum Committee.

Dr. Kim is taking over the position of discipline chair as **Janice Urban**, PhD, steps down after 8 years of outstanding leadership in the role. Dr. Urban, in addition to being a professor of physiology and biophysics, is director of the Center for Neurobiology of Stress Resilience and Psychiatric Disorders, so this move will allow her to dedicate more time to leading this growing team and to focus on her own impactful research on the mechanisms of stress regulation in the amygdala.

Since 2012, Dr. Urban has ably led the Physiology and Biophysics discipline through several challenging transitions, including the launch of the new curriculum and division into multiple research centers. She has been an exceptional mentor and advocate for physiology faculty and students alike, gracefully shepherding the hiring and retirement

of several faculty members. She enthusiastically stepped up to direct the new Endocrine-Reproductive course, a role that she continues through this transition.

We thank Dr. Urban for her 8 years of generous service as physiology discipline chair and wish her continued success in her research, teaching, and leadership of the Center for Neurobiology of Stress Resilience and Psychiatric Disorders.



**Beth Stutzmann**, PhD, has assumed the role of discipline chair of neuroscience. Dr. Stutzmann is a professor of neuroscience and director of the Center for Neurodegenerative Disease and Therapeutics. Her research is focused on the role of calcium signaling in the pathogenesis of Alzheimer's disease and is well-funded by grants from the NIH, Department of Defense, and Alzheimer's Drug Discovery Foundation.

Dr. Stutzmann's lab utilizes electrophysiological, multi-photon imaging, and molecular approaches to examine early mechanisms of neurodegenerative processes, particularly in aging, Alzheimer's disease (AD), and traumatic brain injury. She uses

transgenic mice engineered to express human gene mutations that cause the inheritable form of AD, as well as human neurons derived from AD patients. With these tools, Dr. Stutzmann examines within individual neurons and entire networks how AD mutations impair neuronal functioning and synaptic plasticity across various stages of the disease process, with the goal of finding ways to block or reverse these impairments.

Dr. Stutzmann received a BS in Psychology/Biology from Washington and Lee University and her PhD in Neural Science from New York University. She completed post-doctoral training at Yale and the University of California at Irvine before joining the CMS faculty in 2005.

She is the author of 41 peer-reviewed articles and other publications. In 2015, she co-founded NeuroLucent, a company aimed at developing novel drugs for combating Alzheimer's disease.

In addition to her research, Dr. Stutzmann directs a graduate course on Neuronal Physiology & Signaling and lectures in the Neurobehavioral Health block and the BMS Neuroscience course. In 2012, she founded the Neurodegeneration and Repair Consortium, to connect RFUMS and Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center faculty, research staff, and students who share interests in neurodegenerative disease, aging, and cellular repair.

She also served as Speaker of the Academic Assembly from 2013-15 and is a current member of the CMS Student Evaluation & Promotion Committee and the SGPS Admissions Committee.

Dr. Stutzmann took over the role of discipline chair from **Lise Eliot**, PhD, professor of neuroscience and executive chair of the Department of Foundational Sciences and Humanities, who had been serving as acting discipline chair of neuroscience since 2019. ■



# *Celebrating the Career of Dr. Stuart Goldman*

After 14 years of delegated leadership at Chicago Medical School, Dr. Goldman has gone into semi-retirement as of Dec. 31. While he will maintain his role as discipline chair of family and preventive medicine, he has retired from his leadership positions of Executive Chair of the Clinical Sciences Department and Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs. We take this opportunity to look back on Dr. Goldman's time at CMS and express our appreciation for his dedicated service to the school and its students.

Dr. Goldman has juggled several key roles over the years at CMS, starting in 2006 when he joined the medical school as the clerkship director for family medicine and primary care. In 2013, he assumed the additional role of Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs, and was later appointed Executive Chair of the Clinical Sciences Department in 2016.

In addition to his ongoing leadership roles, Dr. Goldman participated in several noteworthy initiatives

in CMS and also RFU. His work at the university level in streamlining the process for faculty appointments, promotions, and renewals was an important undertaking. At the school level, he worked tirelessly and often creatively to build the Clinical Sciences Department, including the appointment of highly qualified education directors for each specialty area. In the area of curriculum development, he helped ensure that the relevant aspects of the basic sciences, as well as the use of simulation, were integrated into the clinical sciences curriculum.

In his semi-retirement, Dr. Goldman plans to learn how to cook, take walks with his wife, read great classics he's never had time for, play the French horn again, and spend as much time as he can with his 12 grandchildren. ■



*Dr. Goldman with faculty and staff from the Clinical Sciences Department.*



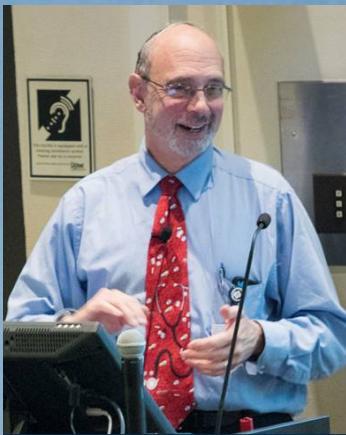
With Dr. Jeanette Morrison at the 2015 RFU Faculty Awards.



Teaching a class in the Foundations for Interprofessional Practice course in 2016.



At the 2017 Match Day celebration.



Presenting Medical Grand Rounds in 2016.



At the student-run 2017 CMS Faculty Awards.



With fellow members of the Master Teacher Guild at the 2017 RFU Faculty Awards.



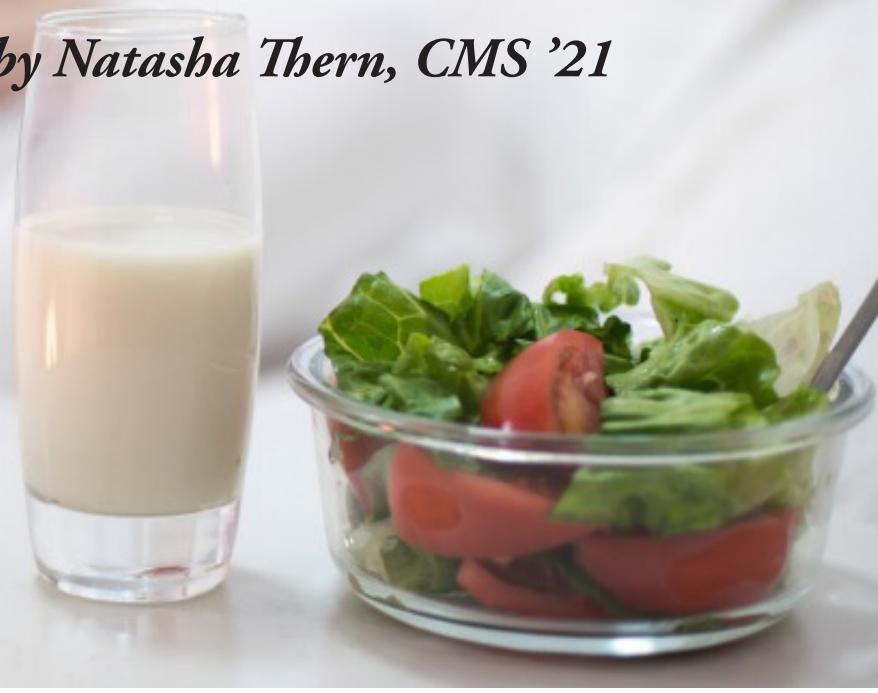
With Dr. David Garfield at Dr. Garfield's retirement party in 2019.



Volunteering at Feed my Starving Children in 2018.

# Gestational Diabetes: Dietary Intervention & Nutritional Therapy

*Article submitted by Natasha Thern, CMS '21*



Diabetes is a condition in which too much sugar (glucose) stays in the blood instead of being taken up by the body and used for energy. When diabetes is diagnosed for the first time during pregnancy, it is referred to as gestational diabetes (GD).

Many health-related problems can occur when the blood sugar levels become too high over an extended period of time, so pregnant women diagnosed with GD require special care both during and after pregnancy. GD is usually diagnosed at 24-28 weeks' gestation, with the use of a universal screening test.

There are many risk factors known to contribute to the development of GD. Such risk factors may include: being overweight/obese, physical inactivity,

GD in a previous pregnancy, having a very large baby in a previous pregnancy (>9lbs.), high blood pressure, a history of heart disease, and a history of PCOS. A small percentage of the time, GD can develop in those with no risk factors at all. Some women develop symptoms of diabetes, while others have no symptoms at all and only have a positive screening test. Common symptoms include tiredness, nausea, increased thirst, increased frequency of urination, recurrent bladder infections, and blurred vision.

It is important to initiate management for GD sooner rather than later, to avoid some rather serious complications associated with this condition. GD is associated with much larger than average babies,

making delivery difficult. There is also the risk of premature birth, low blood sugar (sugar crashes) in both mom and baby, as well as the potential to develop type II diabetes after pregnancy. Thus, maintaining adequate glycemic control is essential and it's the number-one management option for gestational diabetes. If a woman is diagnosed with GD at her 24-28-week visit, her doctor will counsel her on the implications and necessity for dietary intervention. Nutritional therapy on its own is often sufficient to control blood glucose levels and prevent the use of insulin or other anti-hyperglycemic agents.

Dietary intervention and nutritional therapy are key to maintaining a healthy pregnancy, especially in those diagnosed with GD. There is a very common misconception that pregnant women are eating for two, and are thus encouraged to eat more. However, the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG) says, instead of eating for two, we should think of it as eating twice as healthy. The following are guidelines, generalized for all pregnant patients with GD. However, patients should always consult their doctor or dietician for specific meal plan recommendations that are right for them.

The goals for nutritional therapy include optimal nutrition for the developing fetus and for the mother, keeping maternal glucose at a normal level without distorting the diet, and nutritional patterns that prevent recurrence of GD and later onset of type II diabetes. For those already diagnosed with GD, a calorie level of 2,200-2,400 cal is a great starting point. Patients are encouraged to keep a food diary and monitor their glucose levels every morning and between meals. Remember, regulating blood glucose levels is key. Patients should focus on low glycemic foods, sticking to 3-4 small or medium meals spread evenly and consistently throughout the day.

Patients should reduce their daily intake of carbohydrates — but not restrict them completely, otherwise they may develop ketosis, which can be

harmful to the developing fetus. Instead, focusing on low or non-glycemic foods is ideal. Patients should increase their daily intake of protein, especially while pregnant. Such protein sources may include fish, chicken, turkey, eggs, tofu, beans, nuts, seeds, quinoa, and legumes.

Dietary interventions, such as the ones described, in the form of nutritional therapy, are the safest and most reliable method of not only reducing a patient's chance of developing GD, but preventing complications later in pregnancy and delivery in someone already diagnosed with GD. Pregnant moms with GD should be reminded that, although it can seem like a lot of work, they can control their GD and have healthy pregnancies. After all, a healthy pregnancy and a healthy birth are the greatest rewards. ■





## ***Dr. Judith Potashkin Elected AAAS Fellow***

**Judith Potashkin**, PhD, professor of Cellular and Molecular Pharmacology and director of faculty affairs for Chicago Medical School, has been elected to the rank of fellow by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) for her research on Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases.

At RFU's Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases and Therapeutics, Dr. Potashkin and her team have identified dysregulated pathways and molecular networks in Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia, as well as new biomarkers for Parkinson's disease.

Dr. Potashkin's work highlights RNA's role in cell biology and, more recently, in neurodegenerative and metabolic diseases. She has identified several

potential molecular blood biomarkers for Parkinson's disease, paving the way for badly-needed therapeutic strategies. In addition, her research has revealed relationships among diabetes, diet, and dementia and Parkinson's disease at the molecular level, providing support for using lifestyle interventions for slowing the progression and reducing the risk of neurodegeneration.

She has spent the last 14 years of her 30-year career at RFU looking for biomarkers of Parkinson's disease, a chronic, debilitating, often misdiagnosed illness that affects 1 to 5 percent of the population over the age of 60. She led investigations funded by the Department of Defense, National Institute of Neurological Disease and Stroke, Michael J. Fox Foundation and CurePSP using human blood samples to identify pre-motor

diagnostic and disease-progression RNA markers for Parkinson's. These studies revealed that inflammation is a risk factor for the disorder. Her Alzheimer's and dementia study, funded by the National Institute of Aging, confirmed that inflammation is also a significant risk factor for these disorders.

"The Center for Neurodegenerative Disease and Therapeutics is beyond thrilled that the AAAS has recognized Dr. Potashkin as a fellow," said **Beth Stutzmann**, PhD, director of the Center for Neurodegenerative Disease and Therapeutics. "The honor reflects her long-standing contribution of excellent science and scholarship at RFU. We are incredibly proud of her accomplishments and grateful

for her dedication to the neurodegeneration field, the center and the university."

A professor in both the Chicago Medical School and School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, Dr. Potashkin has left her mark on a new generation of scientists and physician-scientists through her teaching and mentorship. After graduating Lehigh University, she earned a master's degree in cell biology and biochemistry at Pennsylvania State University. She obtained a PhD in molecular biology from Roswell Park Memorial Institute, Buffalo, New York, and completed postdoctoral work at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, New York. ■

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## Dr. Esther Choo Presents in Dr. Rosalind Franklin Centennial Series



Esther Choo, MD, MPH, professor in the Center for Policy and Research Emergency Medicine, Oregon Health & Science University, gave a virtual presentation titled "From Concept to Action: Chasing Equity in Medicine" on December 10 as part of the "HERSTORY to YOURSTORY: Dr. Rosalind Franklin Centennial Series." The series marks Dr. Franklin's centennial year with a celebration of discovery and advancements for women in science and health care. In her webinar, Dr. Choo discussed the importance of achieving racial and gender equity in the healthcare workforce.

Other talks in the series have included "From DNA to Viruses, How Dr. Franklin Shaped Our Views," presented October 29 by CMS faculty member **Carl Correll**, PhD, and "How Racism and Sexism Squash Talent and Slow Progress in STEM," presented February 10 by Namandjé N. Bumpus, PhD, John Hopkins. The next event is scheduled for March 24, when Olga Ancuzukow-Camarda, PhD, from The Jackson Laboratory, will discuss "Alternative RNA Splicing Defects in Cancer: Molecular and Therapeutic Insights from Model Systems." On April 20, Janet Shibley Hyde, PhD, from UW Madison, will talk about "The Future of Gender and Sex in Science: Five Challenges to the Gender Binary." ■

# Updates from the CMS Office of Excellence in Diversity and Inclusion (OEDI)

In recent months, the OEDI organized a program of virtual events in observation of Martin Luther King Jr. Day and launched a new spotlight series in honor of Black History Month. Below is a summary of some of the events and initiatives of the OEDI.

## New CMS Service Awards Committee

In response to student feedback, the OEDI recently announced the formation of the **Chicago Medical School Service Awards Committee**, in order to ensure that CMS remains accountable to its stated goals of equity, diversity, and inclusion. The new committee, chaired by **Simone Raiter**, CMS '22, and **Mildred M.G. Olivier**, MD '88, is charged with highlighting students' work with underserved populations and communities; among the many awards given to CMS students, there has not been one reflecting such accomplishments. The

CMS Service Awards Committee believes that it is extremely important to recognize these efforts and encourage others to explore working with these communities as well.

With that goal in mind, the CMS Service Awards Committee is delighted to inform the CMS community

of the **Chicago Medical School Student Service Award for Under-represented Communities**. This award will recognize students who have demonstrated excellent achievement in working with persons and communities that are underrepresented in medicine.

The other committee members include **Héctor Rasgado-Flores**, PhD; **Carl Lawson**, PhD, MPH; **Evelyn L. Lewis**, MD '83, MA, FAAFP, DABDA; **Mark E. Williams**, MD '96; and **Laura J. Lucero**, MD '00.

## Observation of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

In observance of **Martin Luther King Jr. Day** on January 18, the OEDI began a new tradition of following Dr. King's legacy by encouraging CMS students to recognize the work of their mentors and teachers. Students were invited to post brief statements on a virtual wall to recognize and thank their faculty mentors and other role models.

Students were also encouraged to participate in virtual events held by organizations across the country to honor the life and legacy of Dr. King, including the series "The Urgency of Creating the Beloved Community!" hosted by the King Center in Atlanta, GA, and "The People's Holiday," hosted by the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture.



Simone Raiter

Finally, CMS partnered with the U.S. National Park Service to offer a **virtual tour of the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historical Park**, located in Atlanta, GA. The tour included Dr. King's birth home, his burial site, and the Old Ebenezer Baptist Church. All RFU community members were invited to attend.

The historical park encompasses several buildings related to the life and work of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. Originally designated as a national historic site, it was expanded and designated as a national historical park in 2018.



*The Martin Luther King Jr. National Historical Park*

## Health Disparities and Equity in Healthcare & Medical Education Journal Club

**Dr. Carl Lawson** continues to lead the ongoing **Health Disparities and Equity in Healthcare & Medical Education Journal Club**, held on the fourth Thursday of each month at noon. Each session focuses on a current issue in medical education that relates to the goal of equity in healthcare and medical education.

The purpose of this journal club is for CMS faculty, researchers, staff, and learners to become more knowledgeable about the causes and impacts of health disparities, biases in medical education, racism in medicine, and other related issues, in order to become better equipped to engage in clinical,

research, and educational activities that bring us closer to eliminating health disparities and inequities in healthcare and medical education.

In the last several months, the club has discussed articles including "Training to Reduce LGBTQ-Related Bias Among Medical, Nursing, and Dental Students and Providers," published in *BMC Medical Education*; "Structural Racism in Precision Medicine: Leaving No One Behind," published in *BMC Medical Ethics*; "Medical Students' Perceptions of and Responses to Health Care Disparities During Clinical Clerkships," published in *Academic Medicine*; and "Misrepresenting Race: The Role of Medical Schools in Propagating Physician Bias," published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

## OEDI Annual Report

At the end of the year, the OEDI released an annual report summarizing the events and programming organized by the office during 2020. The report covered visiting speakers, symposia, and other initiatives related to the topics of diversity, inclusion, and equity in health care and medical education. To read the annual report, visit <http://bit.ly/oedi2020> or scan the following QR code:



*Scanning this code will download a PDF of the annual report to your device.*

## Black History Month Spotlight Series

In honor of Black History Month, the OEDI began a limited spotlight series that features the accomplishments of CMS community members, including students and distinguished alumni, to celebrate their accomplishments and contributions to medicine and medical education. We reprint some of the students and alumni featured in the series on the following pages. ■

# Celebrating Black History Month: A Spotlight on Rising Stars in the CMS Community

## **Kenneth Furlough** *CMS Class of 2021*

“First and foremost, I am passionate about my community and exploring how I can make a difference through healthcare, art, and entrepreneurship. In consideration of these experiences, my goal is to develop and implement a value-based healthcare delivery system in Chicago. With respect to my interest in musculoskeletal health, I seek to practice in such a way that is holistic and multidisciplinary in approach to support the adoption of value-based delivery frameworks and payment models. Being a graduate of the Value Based Fellowship in Surgery and Perioperative Care at Dell Medical School, I witnessed the impact of health literacy on our healthcare system and how predictive analytics can impact patient activation and outcomes. In an effort to improve outcomes through health literacy, I seek to explore how we can use aspects of culture such as music, art, and lifestyle to improve patient understanding of medical information, nutrition, and anatomy.

“During my M1 year, I was awarded the Rosalind Franklin Fellowship to educate student-athletes at North Chicago High School on the importance of financial literacy, career development, and health literacy. Extending from my role in the community, I also wanted to make sure that every patient was treated in such a way that accounted for the social determinants in order to maximize clinical outcomes. For these efforts, I was selected into the



*Kenneth Furlough*

Gold Humanism Society. Lastly, but certainly not least, I am soon to be a graduate of Chicago Medical School, an institution that appreciated my value and allowed me to grow.”

## **Anne-Isabelle Reme and Aaron Dyson** *CMS Class of 2023* **Student National Medical Association (SNMA) Co-Presidents 2020-2021**

“Our journey began as SNMA Co-Presidents in January 2020. We always had one goal at the top of our list, and that was to advocate for underrepresented students in medicine. We began the year with a series of events including a collaboration with the I AM ABEL Foundation, dinner with the first black female AMA President, and the Black History Month Showcase. But the year took a turn in an unprecedented direction when the PMP



Anne-Isabelle Reme and Aaron Dyson pictured with Dr. Patrice A. Harris, the 174th president of the American Medical Association (and the organization's first African American woman to hold this position) during Dr. Harris' February 2020 visit to RFU.

director resigned, the COVID pandemic hit, and the Black Lives Matter (BLM) protests began leaving us with the role as spokespersons for minorities at CMS. It is hard to say that we were not overwhelmed this summer, but we came together, made several letters to advocate for underrepresented students, including a Call to Action letter in response to the BLM movement, and collaborated with Dean Chatterjee and administration to ensure that minority voices were heard. While our co-presidency has come to an end with the production of our Virtual Black History Month Show, we are proud to say that we stayed true to our mission. We enjoyed our continually evolving role as Co-Presidents of SNMA as we continue to increase ethnic and cultural diversity within the medical field as future leaders.”

**Monica Branch, MD '17, MS '13**  
*Chief Resident (PGY-4) in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Schwab Rehabilitation/University of Chicago Hospital and Care Network Residency Program*

As a medical student, Dr. Branch was active in multiple service and leadership roles including:

SNMA CMS Chapter President; RFUMS Franklin Fellow; CMS LCME Diversity and Inclusion Committee Member; Co-Chair of the RFUMS Ambassador Program; and Graduate Assistant in the RFUMS Department of Enrollment and Strategic Management, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, and the Community Care Coach mobile clinic. She is also a National Medical Fellowships alum, former GE-NMF Primary Care Leadership Program Scholar, and a United States Air Force veteran.

As a rehabilitation physician, Dr. Branch's mission is to deliver high quality, cost-conscious care to low-income and underserved communities. This mission is significant because it recognizes the need to combat urgent health disparities that plague underserved communities. Dr. Branch endeavors to educate patients, families, and communities on sensible ways to manage and/or improve their health; participate in community advocacy endeavors to bring services to underserved communities; provide education and leadership to current and future health professionals; and encourage and advocate for individuals from underserved groups to pursue a career in medicine.



*Dr. Monica Branch*



Leslie Amonoo

### Leslie Amonoo CMS Class of 2021

“While enrolled at CMS some of the accomplishments I am most proud of include contributing to the success of several health and wellness promotion

projects. This included a school-wide workshop on health and well-being and the launching of an accompanying visual podcast. This podcast disseminated health information and aimed to advance health equity amongst urban households.

“My future goals include working in an environment where I can practice and deliver quality health care to vulnerable groups; this includes developing and implementing innovative solutions that address chronic debilitating diseases. The key to achieving this goal to which I am committed is to increase health care equity and access to innovative healthcare solutions for South Side Chicago communities.

“I am proud to be a CMS student because, for me, CMS models what a supportive, inclusive environment looks like when everyone works together. In creating such a culture, CMS remains true to the very ideals of why it opened over 100 years ago.”

### Chinelo Okolo, CMS Class of 2022, and Andrew Martin, CMS/SGPS Class of 2025 Student National Medical Association (SNMA) Co-Presidents 2019-2020

“The visions of our year came to fruition through the hard work and dedication of our talented Executive Board. We began with events on financial literacy in medicine and continued with a series of volunteer events with Waukegan area youth interested in STEM

fields, furthering our core mission of giving back to the community. CMS SNMA members also attended the SNMA Annual Medical Education Conference in Philadelphia, where board members voted and attended delegation meetings on the national stage. Our proudest moment came when our chapter hosted the Annual SNMA Region II Leadership Institute Conference. The conference was something that we were extremely proud of as hosts, as this event saw the largest turnout in its history and was filled with amazing guest speakers from all walks of specialties, backgrounds, and experience.

“Our chapter sought to increase member retention and community connectedness by creating a monthly newsletter and Instagram page highlighting our organization, student achievements, and medical topics. Finally, this vision culminated with our annual Black History Month Showcase: “Homecoming” — a riveting night full of amazing performances, faculty engagement, history lessons, and excitement. We learned invaluable lessons from our tenure as Co-Presidents and are incredibly grateful to our amazing executive board, SNMA members, CMS, and the Office of Excellence in Diversity and Inclusion for their continued efforts to increase cultural competency and eliminate healthcare disparities in medicine.” ■



Chinelo Okolo and Andrew Martin at the 2019 Annual SNMA Region II Leadership Institute Conference, held at RFU.

trivia • cooking classes

# CMS SOCIAL HOUR

games • activities

Chicago Medical School is proud to announce a new initiative to encourage well-being among faculty and staff: CMS Social Hour! This series of monthly events, organized by the “CMS Wellness Crew,” offers an opportunity for Chicago Medical School faculty and staff to meet virtually for an hour of relaxation, socializing, and fun.

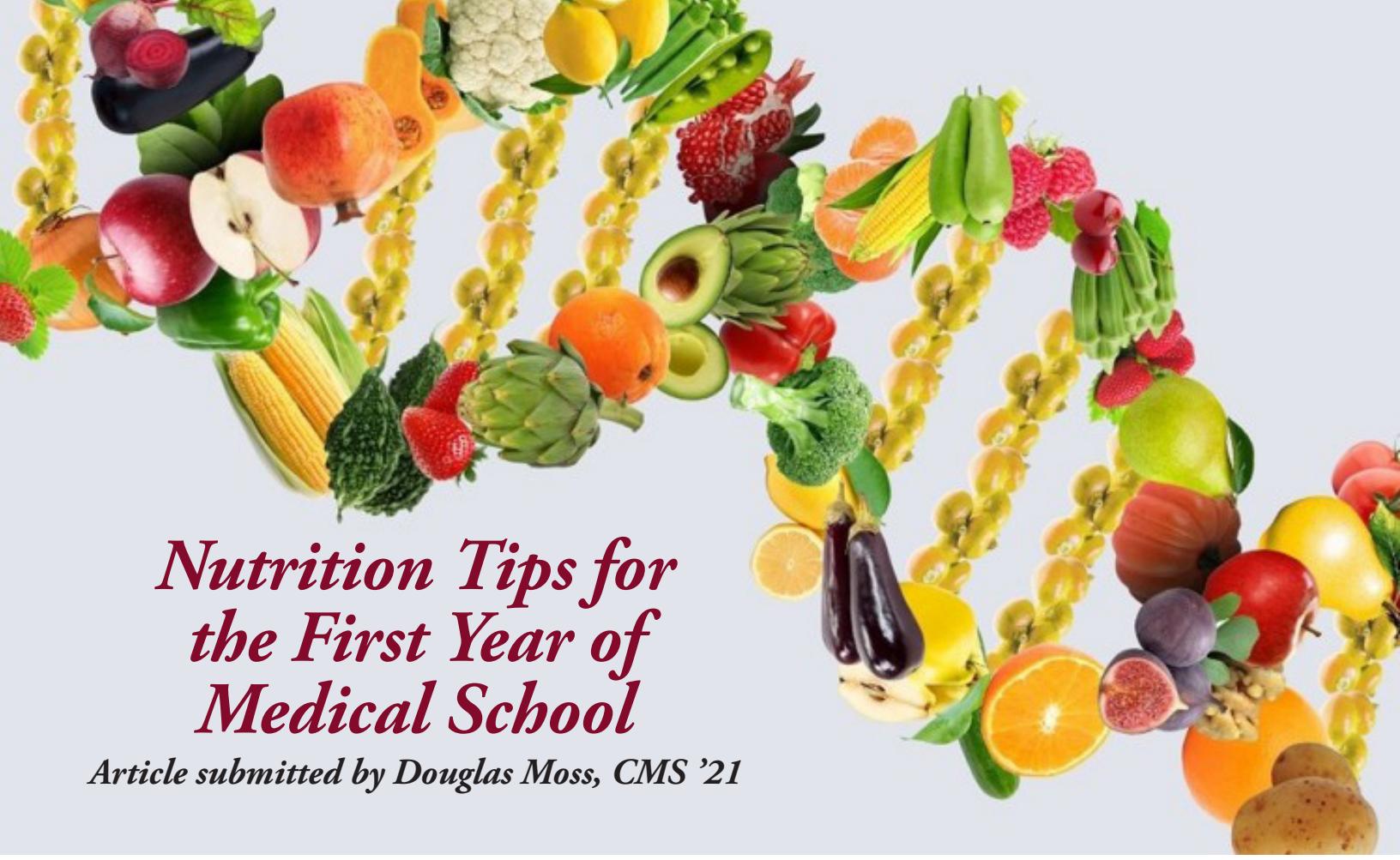
So far the CMS Wellness Crew has hosted two events in this series. In January, CMS hosted a trivia night using the online quiz platform Kahoot. Fourteen faculty and staff members attended the event and competed for prizes by answering questions in categories including education history, general trivia, and movie trivia. **Dr. Carl Lawson**, Director of Interprofessional Global Health and Interim Director of Learning Environment Diversity, won the first two

rounds of trivia, while **Dr. Kalyn Herzog**, assistant professor of physiology and biophysics, won the third round.

In February, the Wellness Crew organized a “Val Pal” secret gift exchange. Faculty and staff who signed up to participate were assigned a fellow participant and instructed to make or purchase a gift for that person. Each participant mailed an anonymous gift to their assigned person along with a clue regarding their identity. On February 26, the 16 participants met via Zoom to open their gifts, with each person guessing who had sent their gift to them.

Stay tuned for more CMS Social Hour events in the coming months! Events are generally held on the last Friday of each month. ■





# *Nutrition Tips for the First Year of Medical School*

*Article submitted by Douglas Moss, CMS '21*



I'm Nutty the Nutrition Nut! You may think I'm nuts, but follow my tips and I promise your 1st year of medical school will be as smooth as peanut butter!!



## **Take me and my nutty friends to the library with you!**

We may not be able to give you the test answers, but we can provide you with long and sustained energy to get you through those long study hours. We're packed with healthy monounsaturated and omega-3 fats, fiber, protein, vitamins, and minerals. Other healthy snacks include: fresh fruit and vegetables, dark chocolate, and cheese.



## **Learn to meal prep!**

Forget fast food and the vending machine. Prepare healthy meals at home and get ready to save money, control your portion sizes, stay well-fed throughout the week, and improve your cooking skills. Eating healthy meals fuels brain power, which will help you when you're studying. It has been reported that meal prepping helps people feel less stressed about choosing what to eat. Additionally, cooking in itself has often been shown to decrease stress.



### **Eat with friends (once it's safe to do so)!**

**#3:**

Put down those books for a minute, clear your mind, relax, and have a healthy meal with your friends. Sitting together, no matter what kind of food is served, allows us to connect with others. This leads to a feeling of contentment and also helps decrease stress. When you're destressed, digestion improves, bloating and gas are reduced, and there is greater absorption of nutrients. Taking this time to refuel and destress will be very important for your mental health. Social isolation can cause feelings of loneliness, which has been linked to an increased risk of heart disease, stroke, and other health issues.



### **Stay hydrated!**

**#4:**

Invest in a reusable water bottle and keep drinking that H<sub>2</sub>O. Try to follow the 8x8 rule: drink eight 8-ounce glasses of water each day. Water has been shown to have significant effects on energy levels and brain function. One study found that a fluid loss of 1.6% had negative impacts on working memory and led to increased feelings of anxiety and fatigue.

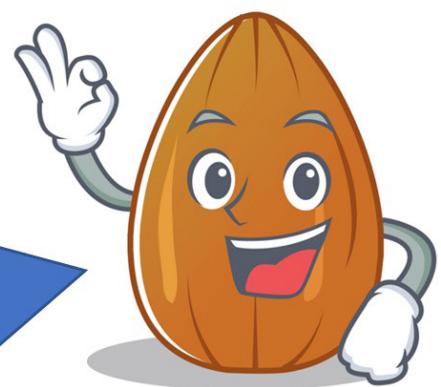


### **Don't skip breakfast!**

**#5:**

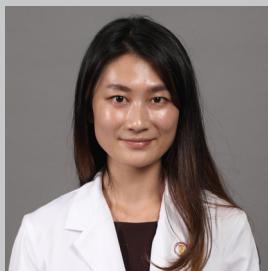
Give yourself the energy you need to focus all day long and kickstart your metabolism with a healthy breakfast every morning. Breakfast has also been shown to have positive effects on your memory and concentration. Skipping breakfast throws off your body's fasting and eating rhythm, which leads to increased tiredness and cravings for high-fat, high-sugar foods later in the day.

Medical school is challenging, no doubt. It is also an exciting time filled with new friends, new experiences and more wisdom than you could even imagine. You can't control the amount of material you will be required to learn, the assignments you will complete, or the types of patients you will encounter. What you can control is your nutrition. Proper nutrition is one of the easiest and simplest ways to set yourself up for success. Be your best self by taking care of yourself! ■



# Summer Research Poster Session

Students from Chicago Medical School, the College of Pharmacy, and the Dr. William M. Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine shared their research projects at RFU's first virtual Summer Research Poster Session, held Dec. 3-9. More than 100 posters were presented on research that students conducted over the past summer. Congratulations to all the winners, including the following CMS students (all from the Class of 2023) who received awards for their posters:



Sophia Yang



Kaiesha Lewis



Judith Soto-Lopez

## First Place

**Sophia Yang, Kaiesha Lewis, and Judith Soto-Lopez**

“Sociodemographics and Clinical Characteristics of Asymptomatic and Symptomatic COVID-19 Patients”

*Project mentor: Sana Ahmed, MD,  
Lake County Health Department and  
Community Health Center*



Taylor Lewis

## Second Place

**Taylor Lewis**

“Influence of Hemodynamic Changes on Venous Endothelial Cell Adaptation after Arteriovenous Fistula Creation”

*Project mentor: T. Lee, MD,  
University of Alabama at Birmingham*



Jyothi Thippana

## Third Place

**Jyothi Thippana**

“Developing a Behavioral Health Training Module for Community Health Workers”

*Project mentor: Maureen Benjamins, PhD,  
Sinai Urban Health Institute ■*

## Evelyn Lewis, MD '83, Discusses Veteran Health



**Evelyn Lewis**, MD '83, MA, FAAFP, DABDA, clinical instructor of family medicine at CMS and chief medical officer of Warrior Centric Health, presented “Health Inequities in the Ranks: The Impact of Healthcare Disparities on Those Serving Our Country” on November 30 as part of the race and inequities seminar series hosted by Chicago Medical School. Dr. Lewis’ presentation focused on healthcare issues and disparities that impact the veteran community.

In her presentation, Dr. Lewis talked about the facets of military service that influence the health of veterans, such as environment, stress, toxins, and combat, as well as other factors that impact their health, including homelessness, depression, and comorbidities. She also gave advice on how healthcare practitioners can best treat the needs of veterans whenever they encounter them as patients.

Dr. Lewis is a decorated U.S. Navy veteran who has dedicated her life to family medicine, with an

emphasis on veteran healthcare issues and health disparities. She is a nationally recognized expert in the areas of community outreach and engagement, veteran healthcare issues, cultural competency, and health and healthcare disparities. She has received numerous prestigious honors and awards, including government awards and military service medals, and she is a highly-respected lecturer and speaker. In 2018, she received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from CMS.

After retiring from the Navy in 2003 after 25 years of service, Dr. Lewis joined the Steptoe Group to develop what would become the Warrior Centric Health (WCH) platform. In addition to serving as the Chief Medical Officer for WCH, she is currently chair of the Warrior Centric Healthcare Foundation; Board Chair for the National Children’s Center; and Chief Medical Advisor for Intellivance, LLC. She is also an appointee to the Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Disability Compensation.

Dr. Lewis has received numerous prestigious awards including: State of Tennessee House of Representatives Proclamation for co-development and instruction of the WCH training solution, the CDC Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) Blacks in Government (BIG) Chapter Black Women Rock Award in Business, and the W.E. Upjohn Award for Innovation.

Her military honors include the Defense Meritorious Medal, Joint Service Commendation, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement medal, Navy Sea Service Deployment, Navy and Marine Corps Overseas Service with bronze star, and the Coast Guard Special Operations Service medal. ■

# Kwan Kew Lai, MD '79, on Global Health Volunteering



**Kwan Kew Lai**, MD '79, DMD, FACP, infectious disease expert, Harvard Medical Faculty Physician at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Needham Hospital, and the 2019 recipient of the CMS Distinguished Alumni Award for Service, gave a virtual Global Health Grand Rounds presentation on December 9 titled "Global Health and Medical Volunteering." Dr. Lai, a longtime disaster relief volunteer, spoke to CMS students about her path to medical school, her decision to dedicate her time to emergency and disaster relief, and her many international volunteering experiences.

Dr. Lai grew up in Penang, Malaysia. In the 1950s, a teacher introduced her to a free library inside a nearby U.S. Information Center. In that library, she read about Dr. Tom Dooley, who volunteered in

Vietnam, and Dr. Albert Schweitzer, who went to Africa to set up hospitals for the poor. "These two men touched and inspired me deeply when I was young, and I thought that at some point in my life, I needed to spend part of it caring for the people who need care the most," said Dr. Lai.

Dr. Lai came to the United States after receiving a full scholarship to Wellesley College, where she was further inspired by the college's motto: "*Non ministrari sed ministrare* — Not to be ministered unto, but to minister." After graduating from Wellesley, she began her healthcare career at a school for dental medicine, but later decided to apply to medical school instead. She graduated from Chicago Medical School in 1979.

Her first opportunity to participate in disaster relief came in 2005, shortly after the December 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami prompted a worldwide humanitarian response. "The pictures I saw on television moved me to go there and help," she said. She spent three weeks in a village in southern India, providing medical care to survivors of the tsunami.

"When I returned, I decided it was time for me to leave academia and change the focus of my life to medical volunteering," Dr. Lai said. She left her position as a full-time professor of medicine in Infectious Diseases and Internal Medicine at UMass Memorial Medical Center in 2006 and created a half-time position as a clinician, dedicating the other half of her time to humanitarian work.

# Alumni News

In the following years, Dr. Lai volunteered her medical services all over the world, participating in humanitarian missions in the wake of natural disasters, conflict, and war. She has also made good use of her background as an infectious disease expert. In 2006, she went to Vietnam with the International Center for Equal Healthcare Access to mentor the local healthcare workers in the care of HIV/AIDS, and the following year she volunteered with the Clinton Foundation HIV/AIDS Initiative in Tanzania.

After returning from Tanzania, Dr. Lai was accepted by the Infectious Disease Society of America to teach at the Infectious Disease Institute in Kampala, Uganda. She taught HIV/AIDS skills to healthcare workers from all over Africa, who in turn would mentor other healthcare workers when they returned

to their home countries. She later traveled to Kenya, South Africa, and Nigeria, where she mentored in several HIV clinics.

Dr. Lai turned her attention to disaster relief work following the 2010 Haiti earthquake. She was part of a team that set up mobile clinics to care for survivors, and she later helped run a cholera center to address the cholera outbreak that followed the earthquake.

After Haiti, Dr. Lai returned to Africa, where she worked with refugees in Uganda and internally displaced people in Libya during the Arab Spring. In the summer of 2011, when a drought hit parts of Ethiopia, Somalia, and Kenya, she ran mobile medical clinics, sometimes traveling four hours a day to reach the refugee camps. The following summer, she



Dr. Lai at the 2019 CMS Reunion, where she received the CMS Distinguished Alumni Award for Service for her work as a disaster relief volunteer.

# Alumni News

worked with refugees of the Democratic Republic of Congo after thousands of people made their way across the border to the refugee camp in Uganda. In 2013 she traveled to South Sudan, which had become its own country in 2011 after 25 years of civil war. She provided health care in remote villages, caring for people who had been affected by the civil war. Finally, she went to Malawi with Doctors Without Borders to volunteer in an HIV/AIDS mentorship program, where she oversaw 14 health care centers.

In 2013, Dr. Lai provided disaster relief in the Philippines after Typhoon Haiyan. She then volunteered in Africa with the International Medical Corps during the heart of the largest Ebola outbreak in history, working in treatment units in Liberia and Sierra Leone. She eventually received the U.S. Presidential Volunteer Service Award in recognition for her volunteer work during the Ebola epidemic. Her first book, *Lest We Forget: A Doctor's Experience with Life and Death During the Ebola Outbreak*, was based on these experiences. (Her second book, *Into Africa, Out of Academia: A Doctor's Memoir*, was published in October 2020.)

After running a mobile clinic in Nepal to care for survivors of the 2015 earthquake, Dr. Lai once again sought to help those who had been displaced by war. She returned to Africa to offer medical relief to some of the 750,000 Rohingya refugees fleeing violence and persecution in Myanmar. Most recently, as part of a humanitarian mission with Project HOPE, she went to Yemen in November 2019, working in a camp for displaced people and running a clinic to combat malnutrition and cholera.

The coronavirus pandemic has put a hold on Dr. Lai's international volunteering, but she has still found a way to provide help where it's needed. In

April 2020, she volunteered at Elmhurst Hospital, in the epicenter of the pandemic in New York City.

When talking to students about how they can start volunteering, Dr. Lai emphasized that even actions that seem small can have a big impact on others. "I remember my secondary school teacher who took us to the free library; Wellesley College, which gave me a scholarship; Chicago Medical School, which accepted me; the women from the CMS financial aid office, who gave me advice — these all contributed to lift my life," she said. "They might not be aware of the impact they had, but all these actions made a difference in my life."

The pandemic, according to Dr. Lai, has given people a chance to reflect on what each of us can do to help others — in ways big or small. "Be the voice of the voiceless people," she said, citing the example of the Rohingya and other refugees. "Live a life that would lift the lives of others." ■



Dr. Lai receiving the 2019 Chicago Medical School Distinguished Alumni Award for Service, with Dr. Ronald Kaplan, then the interim dean of CMS.

# Stephanie Whyte, MD '96, Talks About COVID-19 and Healthcare Disparities



**Stephanie A. Whyte**, MD '96, MBA, CHCQM, CHIE, gave a presentation to the CMS community on February 22 on the topic “COVID-19: The Great Disruptor.” Dr. Whyte was the recipient of the CMS Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2013. Board certified in pediatrics, she was appointed as the first-ever chief health officer of Chicago Public Schools in 2012. She is currently serving as Senior Director, Clinical Solutions Medical Director, for Aetna, and is a founding member of Chief, a private network built to drive more women into positions of power.

Dr. Whyte discussed the pandemic’s impact on everyone’s lives and the call to action it has prompted, especially with regard to health equity and the problems caused by structural racism.

“2020 was quite a year,” she said, noting that the way we work, teach, socialize, and even shop for

groceries has changed in the past year. “But with any disruption comes the need for accountability and action. It opens the door for ongoing change, growth, and improvement.”

One area that especially calls for accountability and action is the reality of healthcare disparities and the impact they have on health outcomes. The pandemic brought these issues to the forefront of the conversation as minority communities were disproportionately affected by COVID-19; there was a three-fold higher infection rate and a six-fold higher death rate in predominately black communities when compared to predominately white communities.

Dr. Whyte encouraged everyone, especially medical students and physicians, to use the disruption caused by the pandemic as an opportunity to pursue change in society, by engaging in conversations about racism and implicit bias, being active in decisions about health policy, fighting to eliminate disparities in health care, and working to increase the diversity of the healthcare workforce at all levels.

“COVID-19 has called to light an opportunity to motivate us to create a culture where conversation is happening,” she said. “The more we engage on multiple fronts, the more we’re able to have a broader impact.” ■

## Jennifer Dochee, MD '06, Presents Grand Rounds



**Jennifer Dochee**, MD '06, delivered a virtual medical grand rounds presentation on Jan. 27 titled "Systemic Diseases Affecting the Cardiovascular System." Dr. Dochee discussed the importance of identifying causes of cardiac dysfunction, since system diseases can induce tissue damage in different organs over time. During her presentation, Dr. Dochee reviewed several systemic diseases that may present with cardiovascular symptoms and talked about how to identify clinical clues from the cardiovascular system which can lead to identification of systemic diseases. ■

## Other Alumni News

**Marcel I. Horowitz**, MD '58, was awarded two U.S. patents for implantable urological devices.

**Stuart Cohen**, MD '78, chief of the division of infectious diseases and director of hospital epidemiology and infection control at University of California-Davis, is leading a Phase 3 clinical trial of Novavax's COVID-19 vaccine, NVX-CoV2373.

**Dianna Grant-Burke**, MD '79, was named senior vice president/chief medical officer of Phoebe Putney Health System, a not-for-profit integrated healthcare delivery system that serves more than 500,000 residents in southwest Georgia.

**Mildred MG Olivier**, MD '88, CMS assistant dean for diversity and learning environment, was the recipient of the American Academy of Ophthalmology's 2020 EnergEYES Award. Created in 2009, this award honors an ophthalmologist who demonstrates exemplary leadership skills, mentors young ophthalmologists, serves as a strong role model, and displays high energy that motivates young ophthalmologists to get involved.

**Neelum Aggarwal**, MD '92, senior cognitive neurologist at Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center Clinical Core in

Chicago, gave a virtual presentation titled "Women in Bio: Incubating and Early Investing in Biotech" as part of the RFU BioPathways Entrepreneurial Speaker Series.

**Stephanie A. Whyte**, MD '96, senior clinical solutions medical director for Aetna Medicaid, delivered the Founders' Day Convocation Keynote and Martin Luther King Jr. Teach-In Talk for her undergraduate alma mater, Illinois Wesleyan University.

**Inder P. Singh**, MD '99, presented on current and new treatment options for glaucoma at the virtual Glaucoma Research Foundation Patient Summit.

**Sreekumar Madassery**, MD '09, was promoted to section chief of the Vascular Intervention and CLI Program at Rush University Medical Center.

**Eli Friedman**, MD '11, FACC, medical director of sports cardiology for Miami Cardiac & Vascular Institute at Baptist Health South Florida, and **S. Moli Yin**, MD '13, attending physician for Boston Children's Hospital at Harvard Medical School, served as panelists on the MedAxiom webinar "CV Care for Athletes in the COVID Era." ■



### Marissa McCarthy

Administrative Coordinator for Family Medicine and Internal Medicine Clerkships, Department of Clinical Sciences  
Time at CMS: 4 years

Marissa got her start in medical academia while living in Providence, Rhode Island, and working at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. She worked in the school's Neurology Department, where she was the Assistant Residency Program Coordinator in addition to assisting with the Neurophysiology Fellowship and coordinating the M4 electives for Brown students and visiting students. She joined CMS in March 2017 after returning to Wisconsin, where she was born and raised.

As Administrative Coordinator for Chicago Medical School's Family Medicine and Internal Medicine Clerkships, Marissa coordinates the student rotations at affiliate sites, hosts orientations every six weeks, proctors exams at the end of each clerkship rotation, organizes weekly didactic sessions among faculty and students, and ensures student compliance with clerkship requirements, among many other duties. "Marissa has been someone we can always count on, and I'm so grateful for all of her hard work," said Marissa's supervisor. "She has shown to have excellent communication and organizational skills. Her efforts have not gone unnoticed and we thank her for the help and support she has provided to the Clinical Science Department. Marissa is truly an asset to the team and the organization. Her work ethic and involvement are admirable, and we are very lucky to have someone as dedicated as her on the team."

Marissa's hard work and organizational skills have been especially useful in recent times. "The pandemic has certainly brought along a new set of challenges," she said. "My Education Directors and I have gotten quite creative to make sure all students meet course objectives and requirements to pass their clerkships." They've had to make some modifications to the clinical rotations, including mastering remote learning platforms to move workshops and didactic sessions online.

When asked to name her favorite part about working at CMS, Marissa mentioned the students and the work environment. "I love working with the students and interacting with them. I am extremely passionate about ensuring they successfully complete their clerkship rotations," she said. "Additionally, the work environment at RFU/CMS is unparalleled to any other institution I've worked at. There is such a familial type atmosphere here, and people genuinely care about each other and want you to succeed in your role."

Outside of work, Marissa loves to travel, especially touring museums, historic sites, and visiting wineries and distilleries. During the pandemic, her "at home" hobbies have included yoga and watching Netflix. She also enjoys working in her garden during the summer. She and her husband make their own seasonings and spices, and they enjoy making hot sauces from their hot pepper plants. Marissa also appreciates art and music; she has dabbled in painting and she used to play clarinet, flute, violin, and piano. ■

# School & Department News

## Awards & Accomplishments



**Archana Chatterjee**, MD, PhD, Dean of Chicago Medical School and RFU Vice President for Medical Affairs, received the University of Nebraska Medical Center's Distinguished Alumnus Award during a virtual ceremony on Nov. 17.

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**Crystal Gutierrez**, administrative coordinator for medical education in the CMS Department of Foundational Sciences and Humanities, received a Fall 2020 GEM Award from the university. GEM Awards are quarterly awards that recognize RFU staff members who "Go the Extra Mile" to make RFU a better place.



study, "A New Mouse Model for the Study of CLN3 Protein Function."

Dr. Hastings also received a two-year, \$129,000 grant from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation for the research

study "Antisense Oligonucleotides for the Treatment of Class I CFTR Mutations."

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**David Mueller**, PhD, Center for Genetic Diseases, professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, was selected to serve on the study section for the National Institutes of Health Director's Pioneer Award, part of the High-Risk, High-Reward Research Program. The award supports scientists with outstanding records of creativity pursuing new research directions to develop pioneering approaches to major challenges in biomedical, social science, and behavioral research. The study section is formed on an ad hoc basis, and this will be Dr. Mueller's second year serving on the section.



**Lisandra Ochoa**, CMS '22, received a Health Professional Student Scholarship from the National Hispanic Health Foundation during a virtual ceremony held Nov. 17. The scholarships are presented to outstanding Latino health professional students to assist them with becoming a doctor, nurse, dentist, pharmacist, physician assistant, or public health administrator.

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# School & Department News



**Mildred MG Olivier, MD '88,** professor of ophthalmology and CMS assistant dean for diversity and learning environment, was the recipient of the American Academy of Ophthalmology's 2020 EnergEYES Award. Created in 2009, this award honors an ophthalmologist

who demonstrates exemplary leadership skills by energizing others to improve ophthalmology, mentors young ophthalmologists, serves as a strong role model and displays high energy that motivates young ophthalmologists to get involved.

Dr. Olivier was also quoted in the article "Associations Provide Pathways for Underrepresented Minorities to Succeed," published in the Jan. 25 issue of *Ocular Surgery News*.

**Madelaine Schaufel, MS, CMS '22**, presented an abstract at the 9th Annual Johns Hopkins Critical Care Rehabilitation Conference in November 2020, entitled "Clinical Pearls & Pitfalls: Using Expressive Writing with Your ICU Patients." Her work received the conference award for Best Abstract Presentation.



Madelaine Schaufel

The work presented was part of ongoing narrative medicine and expressive writing research that Madelaine is working on as a team with **David Thoele**, MD, lecturer of pediatrics, and **Rachel Silverman**, CMS '23, at Advocate Children's Hospital in Park Ridge. Their work focuses on using writing as a therapeutic tool with patients and their families. Expressive writing has

the potential to improve patient care and recovery, by enhancing patient/family-practitioner relationships, communication, and coping with stressful situations. The 3-Minute Mental Makeover (3MMM) is an expressive writing intervention that is user-friendly, brief, and designed for use in fast-paced clinical settings. The 3MMM is unique in that it involves both the practitioner and patient/family member writing and sharing. The 3MMM has previously been associated with reduced stress in both patients and practitioners, and was also associated with increased long-term expressive writing use as a stress coping tool in both patients and practitioners.



A professional headshot of Beth Stutzmann, PhD. She is a woman with shoulder-length brown hair, wearing a blue sleeveless top with a keyhole neckline. She is smiling and looking directly at the camera. To the right of the image is a block of text describing her research and grant.

Dr. Stutzmann also received an NIH grant for her research project titled “Calcium and the Pathophysiology of Neurodegenerative Disorders,” with Andrew Marks, MD, of Columbia University.

## **Presentations & Publications**

**Shiva Barforoshi, Nikhil Patel, and Alvin Singh**, all CMS '21, have published a case report manuscript titled "A Rare Case of Steroid-resistant Neurosarcoidosis of the Cavernous Sinus with Optic Neuropathy: A Case Report" in the journal *The Neurohospitalist*. The three students

# School & Department News

are listed as co-first authors. **Terrence Li**, MD, assistant professor, discipline chair, and education director of neurology, and Benjamin MBA, MD, of John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital of Cook County, are also listed as contributing authors on the paper.



Shiva Barforoshi



Nikhil Patel

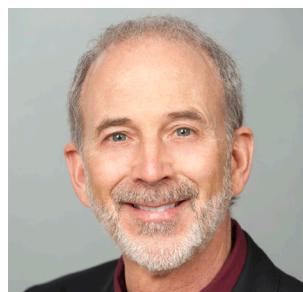


Alvin Singh

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**William Bloom**, CMS '23, authored an article titled "Epidemiology of Eye Injuries Caused by Personal Protection Devices and Kinetic Impact Projectile Weapons," published in *JAMA Ophthalmology* in December. The article looked at the emergency department burden caused by pepper spray and kinetic impact projectiles (like rubber bullets and paintballs), and how their use as a crowd control likely introduces the risk of serious eye trauma.

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**Jeffrey Bulger**, PhD, director of the Office of Bioethics and Humanities and professor of medical education, delivered a presentation titled "Medical Education and the Humanities" on February 24. This was a

Master Teacher Guild presentation and also part of the university's Clinical Sciences and Humanities grand rounds series. Dr. Bulger discussed the importance of including philosophical ethics and humanistic empathy in medical education in addition to objective evidence-based medicine, in order to provide a proper balance for all medical decision-making.

Dr. Bulger gave another Master Teacher Guild/Clinical Sciences Medical Grand Rounds presentation on December 2 on the topic "Structural Injustice and Healthcare Disparities." During this presentation, he defined structural injustice, explored its historical roots, and discussed strategies for eliminating these injustices in order to contribute towards the diminishing of healthcare disparities. Dr. Bulger discussed the biological tendency to form tribal distinctions ("us" versus "them") and how individuals can use the skills of active critical thinking, logic, and ethics to reduce and override such tribalism.

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**Samuel Bunting**, CMS '21, co-authored "A National Study of Medical Students' Attitudes Toward Sexual and Gender Minority Populations: Evaluating the Effects of Demographics and Training," published Jan. 12 in the journal *LGBT Health*.

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**Mirek Dundr**, PhD, Center for Cancer Cell Biology, Immunity and Infection, assistant professor of cell

# School & Department News



Dr. Mirek Dundr

biology and anatomy, published a research paper titled “How Hierarchical Interactions Make Membraneless Organelles Tick Like Clockwork” in the journal *Trends in Biochemical Sciences*.

The article is about  
the structure-function

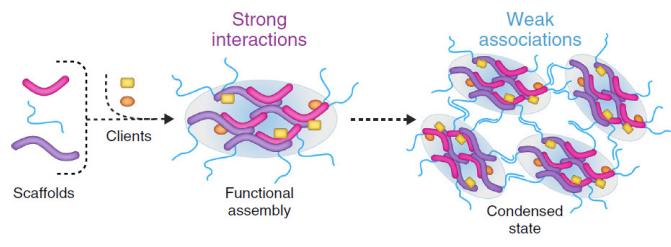
principles of biomolecule condensates (BMCs) involved in fundamental cellular functions. BMCs are cellular compartments that form spontaneously in the cell, often by the process of liquid-liquid phase separation of component molecules.

While there has been lots of work studying the mechanistic principles of how liquid-like condensates form, much less is known about how they perform their specific functions. Up to now, it has been commonly assumed that they are primarily a compartmentalization mechanism because the liquid characteristics of BMCs suggest they lack the structure required to impart specific functionality.

Dr. Dundr, along with co-authors Dr. Jeremy Schmit (Kansas State University) and Dr. Marina Feric (NIH), argue that functionality can be encoded within a liquid assembly if the interactions stabilizing the liquid have a hierarchical structure. This occurs when you have a mixture of strong and weak interactions between the component molecules. The stronger interactions generate structure (with specific function), while the weaker interactions hold components together while allowing the system to remain dynamic.

Dr. Dundr and co-authors show that this hierarchical architecture has been observed in many well-studied

BMCs and argue that this is a physical requirement for optimizing the functionality of these structures.



Trends in Biochemical Sciences

**Lise Eliot, PhD, Stanson Toshok**

Center for Brain Function and Repair, professor of neuroscience and Executive Chair of the Department of Foundational Sciences and Humanities, published an article titled “Brain Development and Physical Aggression: How a Small Gender Difference Grows into a Violence . January 2021 issue of *Current An*



A portrait of Jennifer Doudna, a woman with curly brown hair and glasses, smiling. She is wearing a black top and a necklace. The background is a blurred laboratory setting.



**Michelle Hastings, PhD**, director of the Center for Genetic Diseases and professor of cell biology and anatomy, was invited to virtually present her research at the Washington University in St. Louis' Hope Center for Neurological Disorders on February 18. Her presentation, titled "Antisense Oligonucleotides for the Treatment of CLN3 Batten Disease," was based on research published in her July 2020 *Nature* article.

# School & Department News



**Johnny He**, PhD, Director of the Center for Cancer Cell Biology, Immunology, and Infection and professor and discipline chair of microbiology and immunology, served as the panel chair and a review for a NIH study section “AIDS

and AIDS Related Research” on Dec. 10, 2020.

Dr. He also served as a co-editor of a special issue “Unraveling NeuroHIV in the Presence of Substance Use Disorder” for Issue 15 of the *Journal of Neuroimmune Pharmacology*. He co-wrote the commentary for the special issue and also co-authored a comprehensive review titled “Independent and Combined Effects of Nicotine or Chronic Tobacco Smoking and HIV on the Brain: A Review of Preclinical and Clinical Studies.”

**David “Daven” Morrison III**, MD, clinical assistant professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences, published two papers: “Is Separation from the Workplace a Psychiatric Emergency? The Role of the Clinician and the Consultant” and “The Stressful, Hostile, and Toxic Workplace: An Advanced Understanding of a Common Clinical Complaint.” Both papers were published in the February 2021 issue of *Psychiatric Annals*, a special issue focused on workplace mental health.

**David Mueller**, PhD, Center for Genetic Diseases, professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, co-authored a manuscript entitled “Early Onset Severe ATP1A2 Epileptic Encephalopathy: Clinical Characteristics and Underlying Mutations,” published

in *Epilepsy Behavior*. Dr. Mohamad Mikati from Duke University, Department of Neurobiology, is the senior and corresponding author. This is the second manuscript that Dr. Mueller and Dr. Mikati have collaborated on; the first one was in the Aug. 4, 2020 issue of *Neurology Genetics*.



**Sumit Patel**, CMS '21, contributed to two recently published articles: “Osteochondral Allograft Transplant for Focal Cartilage Defects of the Femoral Condyles: Clinically Significant Outcomes, Failures, and Survival at a Minimum 5-Year Follow-up,” published in the January 2021 issue of *The American Journal of Sports Medicine*, and “Understanding the Difference between Symptoms of Focal Cartilage Defects and Osteoarthritis of the Knee: A Matched Cohort Analysis,” published in *International Orthopaedics*.



**Judy Potashkin**, PhD, Center for Neurodegenerative Disease and Therapeutics, professor of cellular and molecular pharmacology and CMS Director of Faculty Affairs, delivered a presentation to RFU students titled “Lifestyle Medicine & Its Role in the Treatment of Neurodegenerative Disease” on December 8. This event

# School & Department News

was hosted by the Lifestyle Medicine Interest Group and the Student Interest Group In Neurology/Neurosurgery (SIGN).

Dr. Potashkin conducted a brief overview of her current research in the field of neurodegenerative disease, followed by a presentation on how lifestyle medicine can be incorporated when treating Alzheimer's and Parkinson's patients.

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Dr. Neelam Sharma-Walia

Infections" accepted in *Frontiers in Cellular and Infection Microbiology*. Dr. Asha is a postdoctoral research associate in Dr. Sharma-Walia's lab.

Dr. Sharma-Walia also presented a virtual seminar titled "Biologically Active Lipids: Role in the Microenvironment of Kaposi's Sarcoma-Associated Herpesvirus Related Malignancies" on December 14, for the HIV and AIDS Malignancy Branch (HAMB), Center for Cancer Research, National Cancer Institute.

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**Alvin Singh**, CMS '21, has had two abstracts accepted for poster presentation at the 2021 American Academy of Neurology (AAN) Annual Meeting in April 2021. The

titles of his presentations are "Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Neurology Education: A SIGN Needs Assessment" and "@NMatch2021: A Social Media Initiative Supporting Participants of the 2021 Neurology Residency Application Cycle."

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**Heinz Steiner**, PhD, Stanson Toshok Center for Brain Function and Repair, professor and discipline chair of cellular and molecular pharmacology, co-authored "The Multimodal Serotonergic Agent Vilazodone Inhibits L-DOPA-Induced Gene Regulation in Striatal Projection Neurons and Associated Dyskinesia in an Animal Model of Parkinson's Disease" as an invited article in the "Molecular and Cellular Mechanisms of Parkinson's Disease" special issue of the journal *Cells*. Other co-authors on the paper were **Feras Altwal**, PhD '20; **Connor Moon**, research associate; and **Anthony R. West**, PhD, formerly a professor with the Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases and Therapeutics.

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**Dennis C. Stevens**, MD, MS, Director of Clinical Research at CMS, serves as a volunteer virtual lecturer for high schools around the country for the company Nepris.com. Students are generally enrolled



# School & Department News

in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) curricula. Dr. Stevens' lectures include topics such as careers in medicine, neonatal intensive care, and medical research. Since October 2020, he has given six lectures which have involved eight classes and nearly 600 students. Geographically, classes have been from all parts of the United States.

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Dr. Beth Stutzmann

**Beth Stutzmann**, PhD, Director of the Center for Neurodegenerative Disease and Therapeutics and professor and discipline chair of neuroscience, authored an article titled "Calcium Dyshomeostasis Disrupts Neuronal and Synaptic Function in Alzheimer's Disease,"

published in *Cells*. This was a featured article in the *Cells* Special Issue "Calcium Signalling in Alzheimer's Disease: From Pathophysiological Regulation to Therapeutic Approaches." **Sarah Mustaly-Kalimi**, a PhD candidate in the Stutzmann lab, was also a contributing author.

Dr. Stutzmann also authored a paper titled "RyR2 Calcium Channels in the Spotlight: I'm Ready for My Close Up, Dr. Alzheimer!" published in the January 2021 issue of *Cell Calcium*.

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**Jim Zhang**, CMS '23, presented a poster titled "Mobile Health for Adolescents with Socially Complex Needs: Assessing User Needs for Adolescents on the West Side of Chicago" at the American Academy of Child



and Adolescent Psychiatry's 2020 Virtual Meeting. The presentation was part of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Summer Research Fellowship, which Jim was awarded this past summer.

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**Leslie Zun**, MD, MBA, professor of emergency medicine and psychiatry and behavioral sciences and Assistant Dean for Faculty Talent Enhancement, was the first editor on the book *Behavioral Emergencies for Healthcare Providers, 2nd Edition* (Springer, 2021). The book

focuses on mental illness, both globally and in terms of specific mental-health-related visits encountered in emergency department settings, and provides practical input from physicians experienced with adult emergency psychiatric patients.



## Events and Other News



The **CMS Faculty Development Talks** podcast has released several new episodes. Join Assistant Dean for Faculty Talent Enhancement, **Dr. Leslie Zun**, as he talks with colleagues and experts in a range of disciplines about teaching, learning, and faculty development in medical education.

In Episode 10, "Cultural Considerations for Health Care Treatment of Latinos," **Héctor Rasgado-Flores**, PhD, CMS Professor and Director of Diversity, Outreach and Success, discusses cultural issues that a health provider should consider when treating a Latino patient. He also sheds

# School & Department News

light on two types of situations and how they are analyzed: first, when a white physician treats a Latino patient in the U.S.; and second, when a white physician treats a Latino patient in a Latin American country.

In Episode 11, "Learning & Teaching," **Moreen K. Travis Carvan**, EdD, RFU Interim Vice President for Academic and Faculty Affairs and Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning, shares her insights on teaching and learning.

In Episode 12, "Insights from the RFUMS President," Dr. Zun sits down with the President and CEO of RFUMS, **Wendy Rheault**, PT, PhD, FASAHP, FNAP, DipACLM, to talk about the challenges brought on by 2020 and her vision for RFU's future.

All podcast episodes are available now on Apple Podcasts, LibSyn, and the RFU website at <http://bit.ly/CMS-FD-Talks>.

**Archana Chatterjee**, MD, PhD, Dean of Chicago Medical School and RFU Vice President for Medical Affairs, has participated in several events contributing to community awareness and education on the topic of COVID-19 vaccines. She was a panelist on "COVID Conversations Q&A: Latino Communities and the COVID-19 Vaccines," a virtual discussion presented by Chicago radio station WBEZ via Facebook Live on Jan. 21. Dr. Chatterjee also appeared on television programs including WTTW's "Chicago Tonight," CNN, and CNBC to discuss the role of the independent Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee, on which Dr. Chatterjee serves, in evaluating COVID vaccine efficacy. The advisory committee



provides independent expert advice to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration on the development of COVID-19 vaccines.

On February 25, Dr. Chatterjee held a university-wide town hall meeting on the topic of COVID-19. She discussed the science of COVID-19 and current efforts to combat the virus.

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**Michael Zdon**, MD, has assumed the position of Interim Executive Chair of the Clinical Sciences Department, following Dr. Stuart Goldman's retirement from the position on December 31. Dr. Zdon has graciously agreed to take the helm until CMS has identified the new Executive Chair. We thank him advance for his leadership of this important and dynamic department.

Dr. Zdon, a full time faculty member at CMS since October of 1988, serves as Professor, Discipline Chair, and Education Director for Surgery and Professor of Critical Care Medicine. He received his MD from Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine and completed his training in General Surgery at The University of Kansas Medical School in Kansas City. He is Board Certified in both General Surgery and Surgical Critical Care. Dr. Zdon also currently serves as the Associate Dean for Continuing Medical Education and Graduate Medical Education, and is the Designated Institutional Official for the medical school.

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We take this opportunity to welcome **Angela Williams**, who joined Chicago Medical School in December as an

# School & Department News



*Angela Williams*

administrative assistant with the Department of Clinical Sciences.

Angela earned her Associates Degree in Computer Office Applications from Coleman College in San Diego, California.

While serving as an Office Administrator for a private engineering firm, she received a Certified Administrative Professional (CAP) designation from the International Association of Administrative Professionals.

Prior to joining CMS, Angela was an Executive Assistant at the San Diego Unified Port District.

**Dennis Stevens**, MD, joined us in January as the Director of Clinical Research for the CMS Dean's Office.

Dr. Stevens was born and raised in the northwest suburbs of Indiana. He received his undergraduate, medical, and post-graduate training in pediatrics and neonatal/perinatal medicine at Indiana University in Bloomington and Indianapolis. In 1993, he obtained a Master's degree in Clinical Research Design and Statistics from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Between 1980 and 2019, Dr. Stevens served in the clinical and academic practice of medicine with the Sanford Health System and the Sanford School of Medicine at the University of South Dakota in Sioux Falls. In those



positions, he was extensively involved in teaching at all levels, research and hospital and medical school administration. He retired in 2019 and relocated to Stillwater, MN to be closer to his family.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Dennis Stevens to CMS!



*Dr. Nutan Vaidya*



*Dr. Leslie Zun*

Chicago Medical School's Faculty Development in the Office of Academic Learning Environment recently offered two successful virtual programs to faculty at CMS and all RFUMS schools. Unlike most programming from their office, CMS Faculty Development ran these programs in partnership with the Office of Faculty Affairs and the Office of Mentoring Programs at Rush University.

In December and January, faculty were invited to attend a three-day career development bootcamp. Faculty from both schools were invited to attend

and asked to speak at the events. The December session was designed for early-career faculty (instructors and assistant professors), while the January session engaged mid-career faculty (associate and full professors) in a series of presentations on topics ranging from negotiation and promotion to conflict management and finances. Be on the lookout for additional new programming from CMS Faculty Development.

Congratulation to **Nutan Vaidya**, MD, Senior Associate Dean for Academic Learning Environment, and **Leslie**

# School & Department News

**Zun**, MD, Assistant Dean for Faculty Talent Enhancement, and their Rush University colleagues Susan Chubinskaya, PhD, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, and Amarjit S. Virdi, PhD, Associate Professor and Director of Mentoring Programs, on planning and facilitating these programs. Additionally, thank you to the CMS faculty who gave of their time to present at the programs: **Dima Arbach**, MD, Psychiatry Associate Residency Program Director and assistant professor of psychiatry; **Jarrod Barker**, MD, lecturer of emergency medicine; **Archana Chatterjee**, MD, PhD, Dean of CMS and RFU Vice President for Medical Affairs; **Jeanette Morrison**, MD, Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs & Education and associate professor of medicine; **Mildred M.G. Olivier**, MD '88, Assistant Dean for Diversity and Learning Environment and professor of ophthalmology; **Judy Potashkin**, PhD, CMS Director of Faculty Affairs and professor of cellular and molecular pharmacology; and **Jeremy Amiel Rosenkranz**, PhD, MS, Director of the Brain Science Institute and professor of cellular and molecular pharmacology.

In November, an exhibit in the university's Scholl Gallery in honor of **Native American Heritage Month** featured **The REDress Project**, an aesthetic response to the critical issue of missing and murdered Indigenous women throughout North America. The project was created in 2010 by Jaime Black, an artist and Indigenous woman of Anishinaabe heritage, and continues as a movement of awareness throughout public spaces. Organizations and individuals across North America have been inspired by this movement, and have envisioned the project in public spaces within their communities.

The dresses on display in the Scholl Gallery were borrowed or donated from members of the RFU community and present many different forms, shades and conditions. The exhibit was presented by the

university's Office of Diversity and Inclusion and the Division of Institutional Advancement. ■



# RFU in the Time of COVID



Bruce J. Goldberg, MD, CMS assistant professor of medicine, teaches a clinical anatomy course while Adam Jansen, the Anatomy Lab director, films the live feed to students.

**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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