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NYMC Publications

5-18-2020

Week of May 18, 2020

New York Medical College

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NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE

A MEMBER OF THE Touro College and University System

InTouch

a publication for the New York Medical College community

Week of May 18, 2020



NEWS

NYMC Launches M.S. in Biomedical Ethics and Humanities Program

Starting this fall, New York Medical College (NYMC) will offer a Master of Science (M.S.) in [Biomedical Ethics and Humanities program](#) with courses that provide students with interdisciplinary training that will prepare professionals to address the ethical, legal, and social challenges in health care today and in the future. Graduates of the program will be prepared to confront ever-evolving medical and health care ethics issues being faced today and in the future. [Read the full article on the new Biomedical Ethics and Humanities program.](#)





Albert Kwon, M.D., Joins Team to Develop Alternate Form of Ventilation Amid COVID-19 Crisis

For the past several weeks, Albert Kwon, M.D., assistant professor of anesthesiology, has taken a step back from his critical role as an anesthesiologist at Westchester Medical Center to work on a critically important research project with equally lifesaving prospects. As the acute need for ventilators amid the COVID-19 health crisis emerged and with the potential looming for a shortfall of thousands of units, a group of MIT engineers, teaming with doctors with clinical experience in treating respiratory conditions, looked to a ten-year-old design for an inexpensive alternative for ventilation as the possible solution. This alternate design sought to automate the standard manual process of squeezing by hand an emergency resuscitator bag (known as an Ambu bag), currently readily available in large numbers at hospitals. [Read the full article on Dr. Kwon.](#)

Medical Student Ebrahim Afshinnekoo Part of Project to Test NYC Subways for COVID-19

Rising fourth-year medical student **Ebrahim Afshinnekoo's** passion for research has long been in evidence. So it came as no surprise that when the COVID-19 pandemic hit New York, Mr. Afshinnekoo rose to the occasion as part of a team to test New York City (NYC) hospitals and urban environments for the prevalence of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) and other viruses and to address the limitations in patient testing. [Read the full story on Ebrahim Afshinnekoo.](#)



NYMC Hosts Webinar to Address (Re)building Our Community

Resiliency and adaptation were the theme of the webinar, (Re)building Our Community, hosted and moderated by **Salomon Amar, D.D.S., Ph.D.**, vice president for research at New York Medical College and provost for biomedical research at Touro College and University System on May 13. Three guest speakers examined what the reopening of communities and cities, including college and university campuses, after the COVID-19 pandemic might look like. [Read the full article on \(Re\)building Our Community and view the video.](#)

SOM Seeks MMI Interviewers

The School of Medicine (SOM) Office of Admissions is seeking clinicians, faculty, staff and community members, from the Westchester and greater New York metro area to serve as interviewers for the 2020-2021 interview season. The admissions program uses a scenario-based interview format known as the Multiple Mini-Interview (MMI). If you would like to get involved, please contact [Jamie Zelig](#), administrative coordinator in the SOM Office of Admissions. [Read the Q&A on MMI interviews.](#)



ACCOLADES



Although the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET) Annual Meeting at Experimental Biology 2020 scheduled for April 4 - 7 in San Diego was cancelled, **Juan Azcona**, a Ph.D. candidate in the laboratory of Austin M. Guo, Ph.D., assistant professor of pharmacology, was selected to give an oral presentation in the 2020 Division for Cardiovascular Pharmacology Trainee Showcase competition. His presentation was titled, "Novel Contributions of Neutrophil-derived Myeloperoxidase and Hypochlorous Acid to 20-HETE Production that Drives Post-ischemic Angiogenesis."



George W. Contreras, M.E.P., M.P.H., M.S., CEM, FAcEM, assistant director of the Center for Disaster Medicine and assistant professor in the Institute of Public Health, was an invited keynote speaker for an employee webinar hosted by Con Edison, "An Update on the COVID-19 Response in NYC," on May 13. He discussed the New York City response during the pandemic with a focus on racial disparities and the mental health toll on the public. Mr. Contreras was also an invited keynote speaker for an international webinar on May 15, hosted by SAMU Metropolitano, an emergency medical services provider to more than seven million residents in Santiago, Chile and its immediate surroundings. His presentation, "An Update on the COVID-19 Response in NYC and Best Practices for Future Response," for the senior leadership at SAMU, discussed the overall NYC EMS and public health response during the pandemic and recommendations as Chile starts to see an increase in COVID-19 cases throughout the country.



Michael H. Gewitz, M.D., professor of pediatrics and vice chair of the Department of Pediatrics, was a speaker at the New York State Department of Health (DOH) webinar on COVID-associated Pediatric Multi-Symptom Inflammatory Syndrome on May 14.

HIGHLIGHTS



School of Health Sciences and Practice Awards Ceremony
 Monday, May 18, 2020 | 5:00 p.m.



Graduate School of Basic Medical Sciences Awards Ceremony
 Tuesday, May 19, 2020 | 11:00 a.m.



Virtual 161st Commencement
 Tuesday, May 19, 2020 | 7:00 p.m.
 Go to www.nymc.edu/commencement

Congratulations to our resilient and resourceful Class of 2020!

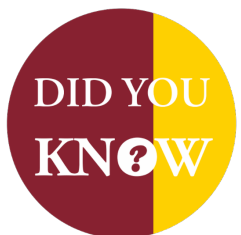


Yoga Class for Faculty and Staff
 Mondays | 5:30 p.m. | [Zoom Meeting](#)
 Meeting ID: 489 054 8060; Password: YOGA
 One tap mobile +19292056099 (for dial in)

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



NYMC Family Health Center offers virtual doctor visits.
 Call today to schedule your virtual appointment at **(914) 828-0435**.



On May 19, 2020, New York Medical College will celebrate its 161st Commencement exercises in its 160-year history. In 1975, the College held two Commencements to address the physician shortage at the time. Some alumni still proudly refer to themselves as members of the Class of 1975A or the Class of 1975B.



VIRTUAL EVENTS ON THE NYMC CALENDAR

[View all events...](#)

Monday, May 18	5:00 p.m.	School of Health Sciences and Practice Awards Ceremony
Tuesday, May 19	11:00 a.m.	Graduate School of Basic Medical Sciences Awards Ceremony
	11:00 a.m.	Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Grand Rounds
	7:00 p.m.	161st NYMC Commencement/Inaugural TCDM Commencement Ceremonies
Wednesday, May 20	8:00 a.m.	Department of Pediatrics Grand Rounds

	8:30 a.m.	Department of Surgery Grand Rounds
	9:00 a.m.	Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases Grand Rounds
Monday, May 25	All Day	NYMC Closed: Memorial Day
Wednesday, May 27	8:30 a.m.	Department of Surgery Grand Rounds
Friday, May 29	All Day	NYMC Closed: Shavuot (Day 1)
Saturday, May 30	All Day	NYMC Closed: Shavuot (Day 2)

[Add an event here to the NYMC calendar.](#)

IN THE NEWS

New York Medical College Leadership News

[When Can I Go Back To Work During Novel Coronavirus? Experts Weigh In](#)

Women's Health - 5/13/2020

Robert W. Amler, M.D., M.B.A., vice president for government affairs and dean of the School of Health Sciences and Practice

[The US probably had the coronavirus in December, but was too busy watching China to notice](#)

Business Insider - 5/12/2020

Edward C. Halperin, M.D., M.A., chancellor and chief executive officer

New York Medical College News

[Coronavirus updates: FDA authorizes 1st diagnostic test with at-home collected saliva](#)

ABC News - 5/9/2020

[New York governor says five-year-old boy died from rare COVID-related illness](#)

CNA - 5/9/2020

[In the Northeast, states work together, but have own reopening schedules. Here are their plans](#)

The Journal News - 5/8/2020

[In coronavirus response, Gov. Andrew Cuomo shows a different side: A softer one](#)

Democrat and Chronicle - 5/8/2020

[New York Gov. Cuomo is freezing evictions until August 20 for people who can't pay their rent because of the coronavirus](#)

Business Insider - 5/8/2020

[Governor extends non-eviction law for 60 days](#)

Mid-Hudson News - 5/8/2020

[Cuomo: Extending rent relief 'a deep breath' for families amid COVID-19 crisis](#)

Newsday - 5/8/2020

[Hold on New York rental evictions extended through August, Andrew Cuomo says](#)

The Journal News - 5/7/2020

[Some hospitals cleared to restart elective surgery, including Albany Med; Schenectady's Ellis waiting](#)

The Daily Gazette - 5/7/2020

[Cuomo extends rent relief to NY'ers through Aug. 20](#)

ABC Albany (WSYR) - 5/7/2020

Faculty News

[Accessing Non-COVID Medical Care During the Time of Corona](#)

The Inside Press - 5/14/2020

Andrew Ashikari, M.D., clinical associate professor of surgery

[Healthy Habits: Kelly Stays Home - The Science of Coronavirus](#)

NY1 - 5/12/2020

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

[Covid-19 patients sharing ventilators is possible-but not ideal](#)

NOVA - 5/12/2020

[Healthy Habits: Kelly Stays Home - The Science of Coronavirus](#)

Motherhood Moment - 5/12/2020

Albert H. Kwon, M.D., assistant professor of anesthesiology

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

[Up to 5 NY children dead, 93 sickened by rare COVID-related illness](#)

Daily Mirror - 5/12/2020

Michael H. Gewitz, M.D., professor of pediatrics and vice chair of the Department of Pediatrics

[Pediatric Cases, Deaths Possibly Linked to COVID-19 Rise Statewide](#)

Examiner News - 5/10/2020

Sherlita Amler, M.D., M.S., clinical associate professor of pediatrics, adjunct professor of public health and senior fellow for Center for Disaster Medicine
Michael H. Gewitz, M.D., professor of pediatrics and vice chair of the Department of Pediatrics

[2 NY boys die after developing inflammatory condition possibly linked to COVID-19](#)

Fox 5 News - 5/9/2020

Sherlita Amler, M.D., M.S., clinical associate professor of pediatrics, adjunct professor of public health and senior fellow for Center for Disaster Medicine
Michael H. Gewitz, M.D., professor of pediatrics and vice chair of the Department of Pediatrics

[2 New York Boys Die Of Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome Amid Pandemic](#)

CBS New York - 5/9/2020

Michael H. Gewitz, M.D., professor of pediatrics and vice chair of the Department of Pediatrics

[5-Year-Old Dies in New York City of Rare Illness Linked to Virus](#)

The New York Times - 5/8/2020

Sherlita Amler, M.D., M.S., clinical associate professor of pediatrics, adjunct professor of public health and senior fellow for Center for Disaster Medicine
Michael H. Gewitz, M.D., professor of pediatrics and vice chair of the Department of Pediatrics

[Coronavirus-linked disease may have killed Westchester boy, hospitalized 11 children](#)

The Journal News - 5/8/2020

Sherlita Amler, M.D., M.S., clinical associate professor of pediatrics, adjunct professor of public health and senior fellow for Center for Disaster Medicine
Michael H. Gewitz, M.D., professor of pediatrics and vice chair of the Department of Pediatrics

[Child With Mysterious Illness Linked To COVID-19 Dies In Westchester](#)

Daily Voice - 5/8/2020

Sherlita Amler, M.D., M.S., clinical associate professor of pediatrics, adjunct professor of public health and senior fellow for Center for Disaster Medicine

[11 Children Hospitalized at Maria Fareri With Possible COVID-Related Syndrome](#)

Examiner News - 5/8/2020

Sherlita Amler, M.D., M.S., clinical associate professor of pediatrics, adjunct professor of public health and senior fellow for Center for Disaster Medicine
Michael H. Gewitz, M.D., professor of pediatrics and vice chair of the Department of Pediatrics

[Amid a pandemic, nurses make a vast difference to improve global public health](#)

Nursing Times 5/7/2020

Padmini Murthy, M.D., M.P.H., M.S., M.Phil., CHES, professor of public health and global health director and clinical assistant professor of family and community medicine

Amy Ansehl, M.S.N., D.N.P., FNP-BC, assistant dean, associate professor of public health practice, executive director of the Partnership for a Healthy Population and assistant professor of family and community medicine

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