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## Dean's Research Newsletter, August 2023

Neil W. Schluger

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Dear NYMC Community,

I am pleased to share with you the latest issue of the SOM Research Newsletter and my first as dean of the School of Medicine, which highlights just a portion of the important research underway by our faculty and students across the College in a variety of areas, including schizophrenia, gliomas, oral cancer detection and glaucoma.

Many of the scientific advances of today have resulted in improved patient outcomes and originated with research conducted at medical schools, and NYMC with its long history has contributed robustly to that success. Throughout my career, I have been a strong proponent of the importance of supporting research endeavors, and I am committed to continuing that strong advocacy as dean.

I look forward to what lies ahead for the SOM and to having the opportunity to share more exciting research news soon.

Sincerely,

**Neil W. Schluger, M.D.**  
Dean of the School of Medicine  
Professor of Medicine

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## Dr. Sangmi Chung Awarded \$7.1 Million in Grants to Support Schizophrenia Research

**Sangmi Chung, Ph.D.**, professor of cell biology and anatomy, psychiatry and behavioral sciences and of neurology, has been awarded two grants totaling \$7.1 million over five years from the National Institutes of Health's Institute of Mental Health to support her research into schizophrenia.

"Schizophrenia is a highly heritable neurodevelopmental disorder, but the mechanisms behind how schizophrenia genetic risk loci function is not clear," said Dr. Chung. "Cortical interneurons are substantially

affected in schizophrenia and enriched for schizophrenia heritability during development. This research will help to identify the schizophrenia risk loci that are active in these neurons during development, providing greater insight on schizophrenia risks and help to identify novel therapeutic targets.”

Recruited to NYMC in 2017 from Harvard Medical School, Dr. Chung has published 38 papers in top-tier journals, including *Nature Neuroscience*, *Cell Stem Cell*, *Molecular Psychiatry*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* and *Neuron*. Her work has gained her international recognition as an expert in human stem cell research, at the cutting-edge in advancing understanding of the function, maturation and disease-associated dysfunction of cortical interneurons in the developing and adult brain.



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## Study Demonstrates Intranasal Immunization Offers Stronger Protection Against COVID-19



Immunizations delivered intranasally (IN) were found to offer stronger and more durable protection against pulmonary infectious diseases, including COVID-19, in a new study published in *Frontiers of Microbiology* that was conducted by Chandra Shekhar Bakshi, D.V.M., Ph.D., professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology; Alan Kadish, M.D., president of NYMC and TU and professor of medicine; and **Salomon Amar, Ph.D., D.D.S.**, vice president for research at NYMC, senior vice president for biomedical research at TU and professor of pharmacology and of pathology, microbiology and immunology—in collaboration with researchers from Lovelace Research Institute in New Mexico. To further enhance their research capabilities, NYMC, a member of TU, formed an affiliation with Lovelace last year.

“While the COVID-19 vaccines administered via intramuscular or subcutaneous routes have reduced the severity of respiratory infections, hospitalization rates and overall mortality, it has been well established that a parenteral route of administration does not induce the effective mucosal immune response required for the protection of mucosal surfaces of the upper respiratory tract where respiratory viruses like SARS-CoV-2 first enter the body,” said Dr. Amar. “Our study underscores the potential of mucosal immunization approaches in triggering a consistently strong immune response and offering superior protection compared to other methods.” [Read the full story on the intranasal immunization study.](#)

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## SOM Student Ann Mercurio Publishes Research in JAMA Oncology

**Ann Mercurio, M.S., R.N.**, SOM Class of 2024, recently published a research study into gliomas, a type of brain tumor, in the *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) Oncology*. The research, which was conducted in conjunction with researchers at Columbia University, sought to reevaluate clinical outcomes among patients who receive treatment for central nervous system (CNS) tumors since classification guidelines for CNS cancers were updated by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2016.

“The WHO updated its guidelines to classify CNS cancers with a new focus on genetic characteristics — a departure from former definitions based on appearance or structural traits of CNS tumor cells,” said Mercurio. “In our research, we sought to clarify the prognostic value of MGMT methylation (mMGMT), a common molecular feature of gliomas that is defined by the newest WHO guidelines. Previous



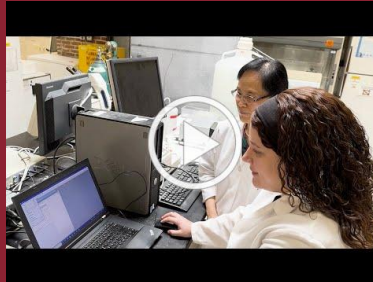
studies have suggested that mMGMT results in better chemotherapy responses, but it has been difficult to determine whether mMGMT is useful as an independent prognostic factor, since it frequently occurs in combination with other characteristic genetic mutations.”

“In analyzing this data, we stratified gliomas based on their genetic profiles, and ultimately found that mMGMT is indeed related to response to chemotherapy, but to varying degrees in association with other mutations,” said Mercurio. “This finding is significant in that physicians may be able to consider mMGMT as a useful biomarker for evaluating prognosis among patients diagnosed with gliomas.” [Read the full story on Mercurio’s research.](#)

## Beyond the Classroom: NYMC Research



**Madelaine McElrath**, SOM Class of 2025, discusses her research on conversations related to obstetrics and gynecology on TikTok, which she conducted along with a team of students, as part of the Obstetrics and Gynecology Summer Research Program.



**Xiu-Min Li, M.D., M.S.**, professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology, and **Devora Loike-Weinstein**, SOM Class of 2026, are researching the therapeutic potential of traditional Chinese medicine compounds in preventing asthma, eczema and food anaphylaxis.



**Doris J. Bucher, Ph.D.**, associate professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology, and her team of researchers have two decades of experience at cultivating strains that help save millions of people each year with their creation of flu vaccines.

## New Non-Invasive Test Can Detect Oral and Throat Cancer at Early Stages



Oral cancer is the seventh-most common neoplasm and the ninth-most common cause of cancer-related death globally. When detected early oral cancer has a high survival rate, but most cases are not detected until the disease is very advanced. A new saliva-based, non-invasive test, CancerDetect for Oral & Throat Cancer™ [CDOT], developed by VIOME life sciences and tested by a group of researchers from around the world, including **Salomon Amar, Ph.D., D.D.S.**, vice president for research at NYMC, senior vice president for biomedical research at TU and professor of pharmacology and of pathology, microbiology and immunology, has the potential to enable early diagnosis, saving lives and significantly reducing health care expenditures. CDOT, which was found to have an 80 to 90 percent detection rate in a recent study published in *Oral Oncology*, was granted breakthrough designation for accelerated review by the Food and Drug Administration.

“CDOT utilizes saliva, which is in direct contact with the tissues of the oral cavity and can be easily administered in dentist offices, primary care centers and specialized cancer clinics for early detection of oral cavity and oropharyngeal cancers, thus greatly improving patient outcomes,” said Dr. Amar. [Read the full story on the new test to detect oral and throat cancers.](#)

## SOM Student Haddijatou Jallow Publishes Research Conducted During Prestigious Fellowship Program

During the summer following her first year at NYMC, **Haddijatou Jallow**, (pictured far left with her fellow researchers) SOM Class of 2024, was selected to participate in the highly competitive Mayo Clinic Summer Research Fellowship Program. Jallow's research that she conducted that summer on cardiac rehabilitation was recently published in the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology* and she presented the study at the American College of Cardiology Conference.



"Out of the several thousands of applicants from all around the country who applied to this very prestigious fellowship with the Mayo Clinic, I was one of the few chosen to participate in it," said Jallow. "This opportunity to conduct research alongside the renowned researchers at the Mayo Clinic on the impacts of cardiac rehabilitation on patients with different heart conditions and other chronic conditions has contributed significantly to my growth as a medical student."

The eight-week paid fellowship program allows medical students underrepresented in medicine to spend time at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, conducting research in several medical disciplines. During her time in the program, Jallow conducted clinical research aimed at comparing the efficacy of home-based cardiac rehabilitation to hospital-based cardiac rehabilitation during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"At the end of the program, I became the first author of an abstract based on data collected on multi-morbidity and how it impacts patients who have already undergone cardiac rehab and their subsequent likelihood of having a future major adverse cardiovascular event (MACE). Our research found that having heart failure was a significant contributor to MACE even after cardiac rehabilitation compared to having multi-morbidity (two or more chronic conditions), such as diabetes or hypertension. Our findings were significant because they demonstrate that more attention needs to be given to patients with heart failure and individualized plans need to be created for them during cardiac rehab to decrease their likelihood of MACE in the future."

## Grants Corner

**Aviva Berkowitz, M.D.**, clinical assistant professor of radiation medicine, received a \$20,626 grant from NCI/NIH for "Phase III Prospective Randomized Trial of Primary Lung Tumor Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy Followed by Concurrent Mediastinal Chemoradiation for Locally-Advanced Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer(NRG-LU008)."

**Mitchell Cairo, M.D.**, professor of pediatrics, cell biology and anatomy, medicine and of pathology, microbiology and immunology, received a \$147,600 grant from The Research Institute at Nationwide Children's Hospital, for "Overcoming Immunological Tumor Microenvironment Resistance in Ewing Sarcoma."

**Vishna Chaturvedi, Ph.D.**, professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology, received a \$188,109 grant from NIH for "Glycomics-Driven Diagnostics for Candida Auris."

**Allen Dozor, M.D.**, professor of pediatrics, received a \$52,069 grant from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation for "Standardizing Treatments for Pulmonary Exacerbations: A Platform for Evaluating Treatment Decisions to Improve Outcomes (STOP360)."

**Victor Garcia, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of pharmacology, received a \$164,000 grant from NIH for "Uncovering the Role of GPR75 as an Activator of Fatty Acid Transporters in Non-alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD)."

**Alan Gass, M.D.**, professor of medicine, received a \$142,350 grant from Nanowear, Inc., for "The Nanowear Wearable System SimpleSense Validation Trial for Cardiac Output."

**Marina Holz, Ph.D.**, dean of the GSBMS and professor of cell biology and anatomy, received a \$45,000 grant from the LAM Foundation for "LAM Patient Needs Assessment and Research Priorities Survey."

**Sankaran Krishnan, M.D.**, associate professor of pediatrics, received a \$124,381 grant from Astra Zeneca for "A Multicenter, Single-arm, Open-label, Post-Authorization, Phase 4 Effectiveness and

Safety Study of Tezepelumab in Adult and Adolescent Participants with Severe Asthma including Several Under-Studied Populations in the United States (PASSAGE)."

**Srihari Naidu, M.D.**, professor of medicine, received a \$137,953 grant from Cytokinetics, Inc. for "Protocol CY 6022 An Open-Label Study of CK3773274 for Patients with Symptomatic Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy (HCM)."

**Sheila Nolan, M.D.**, clinical associate professor of pediatrics, received a \$277,715 NIH sub award from Rutgers University for "A Multi-Center Observational Study: The RECOVER Post Acute Sequelae of SARS-CoV-2 (PASC) Pediatric Cohort Study."

**Kartik Prabhakaran, M.D.**, clinical associate professor of surgery, received a \$494,084 grant from Takeda Development Center Americas, Inc. for "A Phase 3, Prospective, Randomized, Open-label, Adaptive Group Sequential, Multicenter Trial with Blinded Endpoint Assessment to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of PROTHROMPLEX TOTAL for the Reversal of Direct Oral Factor Xa Inhibitor-induced Anticoagulation in Patients Requiring Urgent Surgery/Invasive Procedure."

**Tana Pradhan, D.O.**, clinical associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology, received a \$50,909 grant from KLUS Pharma, Inc. for "A multicenter, open-label, phase 2, basket study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of SKB264 in combination with pembrolizumab in subjects with selected solid tumors" and a \$38,895 grant from Alkermes Inc./The GOG Foundation for "A Phase 3, Multicenter, Open-Label, Randomized Study of Nemvaleukin Alfa in Combination With Pembrolizumab Versus Investigator's Choice Chemotherapy in Patients With Platinum-Resistant Epithelial Ovarian, Fallopian Tube, or Primary Peritoneal Cancer (ARTISTRY-7)."

**Subhadra Siegel, M.D.**, assistant professor of pediatrics, received a \$53,101 grant from Sanofi for " A Multi-Center, Single-Arm Study to Investigate the Pharmacokinetics and Safety of Dupilumab in Male and Female Participants >2 Years to <12 Years of Age With Uncontrolled Chronic Spontaneous Urticaria (CSU) or Chronic Inducible Cold Urticaria (CICU)."

**Amir Steinberg, M.D.**, associate professor of medicine, received a \$50,000 grant from Werewolf Therapeutics, Inc., for "A Multicenter Phase I/Ib Dose Escalation Study of WTX-124 as Monotherapy and in Combination with Pembrolizumab in Patients with Selected Advanced or Metastatic Solid Tumors."

**Steven Wolf, M.D.**, clinical professor of pediatrics, received a \$225,082 grant from Takeda Development Center Americas, Inc. for "A Phase 3, Prospective, Open-Label, Multisite, Extension of Phase 3 Studies To Assess the Long-Term Safety and Tolerability of Soticlestat as Adjunctive Therapy in Subjects With Dravet Syndrome or Lennox-Gastaut Syndrome (ENDYMION 2)."

## SOM Student Kara Rickford Receives National Award to Conduct Glaucoma Research



As a medical student at NYMC, **Kara Rickford**, SOM Class of 2025, has developed an impressive record of research achievement working alongside ophthalmologists at Westchester Medical Center and the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. In 2022, Rickford was awarded the Dr. James McCune Smith Medical Student Award from the National Medical Fellowships for a research study she is conducting with an ophthalmologist at New York Eye & Ear Infirmary of Mount Sinai to assess the use of a minimally invasive, low-cost calculator to predict glaucoma risk in high-risk vulnerable populations in New York.

"Many populations in under-resourced areas are faced with barriers to access to care and are often diagnosed with glaucoma at a more severe stage of the disease, leading to poor visual outcomes and an increased risk of irreversible blindness," said Rickford. "The use of this glaucoma calculator allows health care personnel to screen in under-resourced or remote areas and to refer patients considered high-risk for glaucoma for a comprehensive evaluation with an ophthalmologist."

While the research study is ongoing, preliminary findings demonstrating the effectiveness of the calculator have been published in the *Journal of Ophthalmology* and more than 250 patients in New York communities in the South Bronx, Harlem, Southeast Queens and Central Brooklyn have been

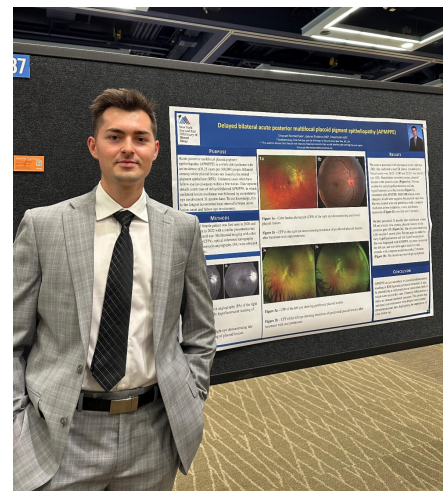
## SOM Student Emanuel Mordechaev Presents Ophthalmology Research at Two National Conferences

As part of a research study at the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary (NYEE) of Mount Sinai, **Emanuel Mordechaev**, SOM Class of 2024, and fellow researchers identified an association between age-related macular degeneration (AMD) and internal carotid artery (ICA) stenosis that could prompt increased screening to save vision and help diagnose underlying vascular disease. Mordechaev has since co-authored an article in [Retina Today](#) and presented his findings at two national ophthalmology conferences — the [Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology](#) in New Orleans and the American Society of Retina Specialists in Seattle.

"While rotating in ophthalmology as a third-year medical student, I became fascinated by the immediate positive impact that procedures such as cataract surgery and LASIK had on people's lives," said Mordechaev. "I sought out further experience to see if ophthalmology was the right fit for me and was fortunate to be selected as a retina research fellow at NYEE, where I had the honor of working with Dr. R. Theodore Smith during my scholarly year."

NYEE's cross-sectional study of 28 patients with ischemic stroke, which is currently undergoing peer-review in the *Investigative Ophthalmology & Visual Science* journal, found that moderate or more ICA stenosis is associated with subretinal drusenoid deposits (SDDs), retinal lesions found in AMD. This places ischemic stroke patients with ICA stenosis at greater risk of developing AMD and warrants further research to determine if SDDs can serve as predictors of vascular disease.

"I recruited inpatient subjects with ischemic stroke and evaluated them for SDDs by performing optical coherence tomography, a non-invasive imaging modality that uses light waves to take cross-sectional pictures of the retina. My team and I discovered that ICA stenosis is significantly associated with ipsilateral SDDs, thereby establishing SDDs as potential biomarkers of systemic vascular disease. In short, a simple and non-invasive eye test can diagnose AMD in stroke patients and may help identify occult life-threatening vasculopathy."



## Beyond the Classroom: NYMC Research



**Esther L. Sabban, Ph.D.**, the Sidney E. Frank Distinguished Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, is researching PTSD under the microscope with the aim of providing therapies that can reduce the long-term consequences of



**Chioma M. Okeoma, Ph.D.**, professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology and vice chair of research, explains her HIV research with postdoctorate fellows **Nneoma Anyanwu, Ph.D.**, and **Wasifa Naushad, Ph.D.**



**Christopher S. Leonard, Ph.D.**, professor and interim chair of the Department of Physiology, discusses his research on drug addiction with **Elizabeth A. Berry, Ph.D.** '23.

## Obstetrics and Gynecology Summer Research Program Results in Expanded Research Opportunities for Students



The Obstetrics and Gynecology Summer Research Program marked another successful year this July with more than 20 medical students participating in team research projects on a wide variety of OB-GYN-related topics, including treatment for pudendal neuralgia, hypertension in pregnancy, sarcopenia among patients with cervix cancer and understanding patient perspectives about vaginal estrogen. Now in its third year, the program has led to both publications in academic journals and numerous presentations at national conferences for program participants.

“We developed the program using the team-based research model based on the understanding that while each participant has something to contribute to a project, very few know everything about conducting a research study and taking it through to publication,” said Cara Grimes, M.D., associate chair of research for the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology in the SOM. “This model of multiple team members learning research methodology together to tackle a research question has worked extremely well for us and that is evident through both the growth of the program and the research outcomes thus far.”

During the program, students match with a faculty mentor and join at least one research project, though most join multiple projects, and attend a series of lectures focused on teaching rigorous research methodology, including how to develop a research question and concept proposal, statistics and study design, quality improvement and how to write a manuscript. The program culminates with a student research presentation.

**Bracha Kreiman**, (pictured above) SOM Class of 2025, conducted a student-led systematic review on the use of absorbable sutures in apical prolapse surgery when she participated in the program last summer. The study has since been published in the high-impact journal *Obstetrics and Gynecology* and was presented by Kreiman at two national conferences. “One of my most valuable experiences at NYMC has been conducting research with Dr. Grimes and the rest of the team during the summer research program,” said Kreiman, who has also created a manual for students on how to do systematic reviews and is now mentoring three students on the subject. [Read the full story on the OB-GYN Summer Research Program.](#)

### Research Resource Corner

The following are helpful links to resources available to faculty and students in support of research.

- [Library Databases](#)
- [National Inpatient Sample Data Set Access](#)
- [Library Research Consultation Form](#)
- [Guide to Scholarly Publishing](#)
- [Systematic Review Guide](#)
- [Office of Research Administration](#)
- [Human Subject Research](#)
- [IRB Policies and Procedures](#)
- [Intramural Funding Opportunities](#)

### Research Repository on LEO (available to matriculated students)

The Research Repository provides centralized access to numerous resources designed to assist students in all stages of their research endeavors — from locating a project and mentor to creating a plan for research productivity, to analyzing data and generating a scholarly product. Highlights of the site include a listing of prospective, NYMC-affiliated faculty mentors and resources for funding conference presentations. Current students can access the Research Repository by logging into LEO/LCMS+ and under "COURSES", search for: Yr999 - 2023-2024 - SOM - Research (RESEARCH).



## NYMC Hosted the 12th Annual Paul K. Woolf, M.D., Pediatric Trainee Research Day

The Department of Pediatrics hosted the 12th Annual Paul K. Woolf, M.D., Pediatric Trainee Research Day on May 17 to highlight innovative research in pediatrics. The event is named after the late Paul K. Woolf, M.D., SOM senior associate dean for Westchester Medical Center and associate professor of pediatrics, who passed away in 2010 and was instrumental in developing the pediatric cardiovascular program at NYMC and Maria Fareri Children's Hospital at Westchester Medical Center. **Mitchell S. Cairo, M.D.**, third from right, professor of pediatrics, medicine, pathology, microbiology and immunology and cell biology and anatomy, and associate chair of pediatrics, and **Michael H. Gewitz, M.D.**, right, professor and vice chair of pediatrics, congratulated the winners. [Read the full story on Paul Woolf Day.](#)



From left: Lance Parton, M.D. '80, FAAP, Hannah Sampath, M.D., Edmund F. La Gamma, M.D. '76, Nina DeBenedictis, M.D., Morgan Anderson-Crannage, Ph.D. candidate, Mitchell S. Cairo, M.D., Yanling Liao, Ph.D., and Michael H. Gewitz, M.D.

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## Department of Physiology Hosts Annual Research Symposium



The Department of Physiology hosted its annual Research Symposium on May 19, which featured 13 rapid-fire presentations by students, research fellows and faculty on a range of topics from the functions of neuronal spines and dendrites and the consequences of maternal undernourishment to new diagnostic approaches using diffuse correlations spectroscopy and potential new therapies to repair endothelial function.

Brian Rattliff, Ph.D., associate professor of physiology and of medicine, opened the symposium by sharing the story of Louis Pasteur. As a boy, Pasteur's teachers described him as a hopeless student and his parents lamented him ever succeeding academically. Yet Pasteur persisted in choosing chemistry as his lifetime endeavor and subsequently went on to develop the germ theory of disease, create the process of pasteurization and revolutionize how vaccines are created today, a process that Pasteur discovered accidentally.

“This story is remarkable and is a lesson for all of us, both as scientists and as humans, to always believe in yourself and your ability to make the world a better place, to not give up despite the many setbacks you face and to give yourself permission to fail,” said Dr. Rattliff. “We will make errors in our experiments and our research and in our lives, of course, but do not run from those failures and mistakes, but instead embrace them for failures and mistakes provide the greatest of learning, strength, and maybe just maybe, will reveal an astonishing discovery that we had not expected to change the

world, a lesson for all of us, not only as scientists but as humans.”

Each of the research presentations was well received by those in attendance and provoked thoughtful questions from faculty. The half-day conference concluded with closing remarks by Christopher Leonard, Ph.D., interim chair and professor of the Department of Physiology.

“The diversity of our research is a strength of our Department and makes me incredibly proud. Through your work, you’re making the world a better place by generating new knowledge which is necessary for new understanding,” said Dr. Leonard. “You’re part of the larger scientific enterprise, which should not be taken for granted. It’s an honor, privilege and responsibility to be part of this vocation. Science is more important now than it’s ever been.”

## Department of Surgery Hosts 20th Annual Louis R.M. DelGuercio Distinguished Visiting Professorship and Research Day



The Department of Surgery hosted the 20th Annual Louis R.M. DelGuercio Distinguished Visiting Professorship and Research Day on May 24, with internationally acclaimed cardiologist **Valentin Fuster, M.D., Ph.D.**, president of Mount Sinai Heart and physician-in-chief of The Mount Sinai Hospital and the general director of the National Center for Cardiovascular Research in Madrid, Spain, delivering the keynote address on the role of imagenomics in enhancing cardiovascular health throughout the lifespan.

Sponsored annually since 2002, the Louis R.M. DelGuercio Research Day is named for the late Louis R.M. Del Guercio, M.D., professor emeritus of surgery, who served as chair of the

Department for 24 years before retiring in 2000. The event provides students, residents and fellows, with both an opportunity to showcase their research and an occasion to network, learn from one another and potentially combine efforts to promote the advancement of surgical research. [Read the full story on Louis DelGuercio Day.](#)

## Faculty and Student Publications and Accolades

The following is a selection of recent publications by SOM faculty, residents and students. View the full list of [publications](#).

**Chandra Bakshi, D.V.M., Ph.D.**, professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology; and **Sudhir Jain, Ph.D.**, associate professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology, published [“Chronically Hypertensive Transgenic Mice Expressing Human AT1R Haplotype-I Exhibit Increased Susceptibility to Francisella Tularensis”](#) in *Frontiers in Microbiology*.

**David Baruch**, SOM Class of 2026; **Grigori Vaserman, M.D. ’23**, **Xiaoyu Tang, M.D., Ph.D.**, assistant professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology; **Edmond Ritter, M.D.**, clinical professor of surgery; **Muhammad Choudhury, M.D.**, professor and chair of Department of Urology; **Ryan Bendl, D.O.**, clinical professor of surgery; and **John Phillips, M.D.**, professor of urology, published [“Pelvic Exenteration and Abdomino-Perineal Resection in a Transgender Female With Squamous Cell Carcinoma of Unknown Origin”](#) in *Urology*.

**Heepeel Chang, M.D.**, clinical assistant professor of surgery; **Igor Laskowski, M.D., Ph.D.**, associate professor of surgery; **Daniel Ventarola, M.D.**, clinical assistant professor of surgery; **Aiden Lui**, SOM Class of 2025; **Romeo Mateo, M.D.**, assistant professor of surgery; **Sateesh Babu, M.D.**, professor of surgery; and **Arun Goyal, M.D.**, clinical assistant professor of surgery, published [“Renal Transplant Recipients Undergoing Endovascular Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Repair Have Increased Risk of Perioperative Acute Kidney Injury but No Difference in Late Mortality”](#) in the *Journal of Vascular Surgery*.

**Megan Claypool**, SOM Class of 2025; **Carrie Muh, M.D.**, associate professor of neurosurgery and of

pediatrics; **Elizabeth Zellner, M.D.**, clinical associate professor of surgery; and **Jared Pisapia, M.D.**, assistant professor of neurosurgery, published "[Use of Neuronavigation in Suturoctomy for Craniosynostosis](#)" in *The Journal of Craniofacial Surgery*.

**Vasiliki Gregory**, SOM Class of 2025; **Rahim Hirani**, SOM Class of 2025; **Kathleen Harwood**, SOM Class of 2025; **David Spielvogel, M.D.**, professor of surgery; and **Sugura Ohira, M.D., Ph.D.**, clinical associate professor of surgery, published "[Repair of Infectious Thoracoabdominal Aneurysm and Coeliacomesenteric Trunk With Removal of Endovascular Graft](#)" in *Multimedia Manual of Cardiothoracic Surgery*.

**Shuai Gao, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of cell biology and anatomy and of biochemistry and molecular biology, published "[LSD1 Inhibition Disrupts Super-Enhancer-Driven Oncogenic Transcriptional Programs in Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer](#)" in *Cancer Research*.

**Anita Gul, M.B.B.S.**, clinical assistant professor of medicine, published "[A Case of Pathologic Complete Response to Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy and Pembrolizumab in Metaplastic Breast Cancer](#)" in *JCO Precision Oncology*.

**Meena Jhanwar-Uniyal, Ph.D.**, research associate professor of neurosurgery; **Olivia Gellerson, M.D.'23**; **George Kleinman, M.D.**, associate professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology and of neurosurgery; and **Chirag Gandhi, M.D.**, professor and chair of Department of Neurosurgery and professor of neurology and of radiology, published "[Defining the Role of Mtor Pathway in the Regulation of Stem Cells of Glioblastoma](#)" in *Advances in Biological Regulation*.

**Christopher Nabors, M.D., Ph.D.**, clinical assistant professor of medicine; and **Abhay Dhand, M.D.**, associate professor of medicine, published "[Coronavirus Disease 2019 and Heart Transplantation: Single-Center Experience and Review of the Literature](#)" in *Cardiology in Review*.

**Bistra Nankova, Ph.D.**, associate professor of pediatrics; and **Esther Sabban, Ph.D.**, the Sidney E. Frank Distinguished Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, published "[Differences in Gut Microbiota Associated With Stress Resilience and Susceptibility to Single Prolonged Stress in Female Rodents](#)" in *Neurobiology of Stress*.

**Elayna Shanker, M.D. '23**; and **Amanda Beck, D.V.M.**, associate professor of cell biology and anatomy, published "[If You Give a Mouse a Mutation: Comparing the Therapeutic Utility of Renowned Mouse Models of Human Cancers](#)" in the *Journal of Comparative Pathology*.

**Iwan Sofjan, M.D.**, clinical assistant professor of anesthesiology; **Sima Vazquez**, SOM Class of 2024; **Nitin Sekhri, M.D.**, associate professor of anesthesiology; **Matthew Wecksell, M.D.**, associate professor of anesthesiology; and **Irim Salik, M.D.**, clinical associate professor of anesthesiology, published "[Risk Factors for Postoperative Unplanned Reintubation in a Cohort of Patients Undergoing General Anesthesia](#)" in *Cureus*.

**Patric Stanton, Ph.D.**, professor of cell biology and anatomy and of neurology, published "[Elevated Insulin Growth Factor-1 in Dentate Gyrus Induces Cognitive Deficits in Pre-Term Newborns](#)" in *Cerebral Cortex*.



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