

10-2023

Dean's Update, October 2023

Neil W. Schluger

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Dear Members of the NYMC Community:

I am pleased to welcome you back for the beginning of a new academic year at NYMC. This is also a new beginning for me personally as the new dean of the SOM. The faculty, staff and students have been incredibly welcoming, and I couldn't be more excited for the year ahead and look forward to the accomplishments that we will celebrate together.

This summer, we welcomed 219 medical students who comprise our Class of 2027 – our largest class to date. Our new first-year medical students come to NYMC from 23 states and include 12 international students.

Over the last year, members of the SOM community have been compiling information and creating an extensive self-study document in preparation for the reaccreditation site visit in April 2024, by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), the organization responsible for the formal accreditation of M.D.-granting medical schools in the United States and Canada. The maximum accreditation granted by the LCME is for eight years, which the SOM received in 2016.

Next April, an experienced LCME site visit team will come to campus to review the requisite information we have submitted and to meet with our students and the many stakeholders involved in the delivery of our M.D. program. I would like to express my gratitude to Pamela Ludmer, M.D., M.M.E.L., for serving as faculty lead for the SOM's accreditation, as well as to the members of the LCME Self Study Task Force, which encompasses faculty, staff, students and trustees, and the EQUIP Team for their hard work and commitment to preparing for this very important visit.

I am pleased to share that Dr. Ludmer who has been serving on an interim basis as dean for undergraduate medical education since July will be our new dean for undergraduate medical education. I look forward to working collaboratively with Dr. Ludmer to continue to deliver an outstanding medical education curriculum.

In November, we will welcome Robert D. Holland, M.D., M.H.A., as the new Catherine and Vladislav P. Hinterbuchner Professor and Chair of Rehabilitation Medicine. I would like to thank John Pellicone, M.D., senior associate site dean and clinical associate professor of medicine at NYMC and chief medical officer at NYC Health + Hospitals/Metropolitan, for chairing the search, as well as the entire search committee for their diligence in filling this important role.

As some of our long-standing chairs are preparing for their well-deserved retirements, we are in the process of launching searches for new chairs in the departments of pediatrics, urology and otolaryngology, as well as a search to fill my former role as the Barbara and William Rosenthal Chairman of the Department of Medicine.

To enhance student life on campus, we have recently collaborated with the NYMC Student Senate to make some campus improvements. These include the addition of two privacy pods in Doc's Café for private calls and studying. We are also in the process of creating a new relaxation/meditation space,



introducing new seating options for the student lounge and adding more outdoor seating areas.

As dean, I want the SOM to be a place where students might not arrive fully understanding the breadth of opportunities medicine can offer them as a career but leave knowing that every door is open to them in any aspect of medicine they wish to pursue and that they can walk through that door with confidence and excitement for what their career will hold for them.

I look forward to seeing you around campus. Have a great year.

Sincerely,



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

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Dr. Robert Holland Appointed to Lead the Rehabilitation Medicine Program



Robert D. Holland, M.D., M.H.A., has been appointed the Catherine and Vladislav P. Hinterbuchner Professor and Chair of Rehabilitation Medicine at NYMC and director of rehabilitation medicine at NYC Health + Hospitals/Metropolitan, a major clinical affiliate of NYMC. Dr. Holland most recently served as medical director of Mount Sinai's Amsterdam Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Center in New York City. Dr. Holland will assume his new role in November.

"Dr. Holland will bring valuable expertise in rehabilitation medicine to his new role and I am confident he will be an exemplary clinician, educator and administrator for students, residents, faculty and patients," said Neil W. Schluger, M.D., SOM dean.

"We are excited to have Dr. Holland lead the physical medicine and rehabilitation program at NYC Health + Hospitals/Metropolitan," said Cristina Contreras, M.P.A., LMSW, FABC, chief executive officer, NYC Health + Hospitals/Metropolitan. "His appointment underscores

our commitment to enhancing our existing services and delivering the highest level of care to our patients. I'm confident the department will thrive under his leadership." [Read the full story on Dr. Holland.](#)

School of Medicine Class of 2027 Marks Start of Medical Education at White Coat Ceremony

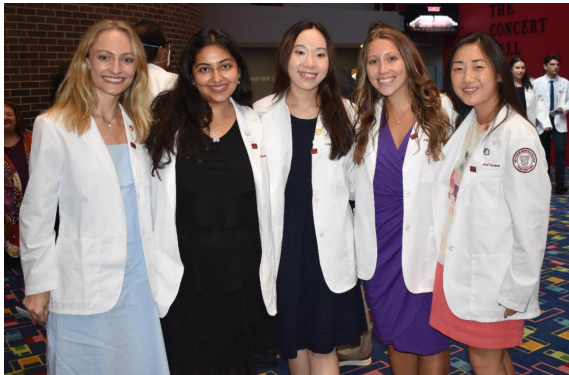
Members of the SOM Class of 2027 marked a milestone in their medical education as they donned their white coats for the first time during the White Coat Ceremony, which took place at SUNY Purchase on July 28. A long-held tradition at NYMC, the White Coat Ceremony began in 1993 at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons to emphasize the importance of professionalism and humanism in

medicine at the beginning of medical school.

The 219 members of the Class processed into the auditorium with their white coats draped over their arms as their families and friends looked on with pride. During the ceremony, several faculty and student speakers spoke of the enormous responsibility they would carry as physicians, symbolized by their white coats, and emphasizing the importance of maintaining their humanism throughout their careers.



“These white coats that you will soon receive symbolize the hard work and specialized knowledge that characterize us as physicians. But also remember the values that they represent: the dedication to your patients above all, and the commitment to excellence that is demanded by the path we have chosen,” said Neil W. Schluger, M.D., SOM dean. View the [photos](#) and [read the full story](#) on the White Coat Ceremony.



SOM Class of 2027 by the Numbers



10,655 total applications



219 students matriculated



23 U.S. States represented



55% females



91 undergraduate schools represented



12 international students



17% underrepresented in medicine

Dr. Pamela Ludmer Appointed Dean for Undergraduate Medical Education

Pamela Ludmer, M.D., M.M.E.L., associate dean for curriculum integration and clinical assistant professor of pediatrics and medicine, has been appointed as dean for undergraduate medical education in the SOM. Dr. Ludmer has served as interim dean for undergraduate medical education since July. She also serves as faculty lead for the SOM’s accreditation by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME).

Dr. Ludmer will lead the Office of Undergraduate Medical Education in the planning, implementation, evaluation and oversight of the M.D. curriculum. She will also head the SOM in ensuring that the medical education program meets the established standards by the LCME accreditation peer-reviewed process.



Dr. Ludmer joined the NYMC community in 2012 as director of the fourth-year curriculum and was promoted to her position as associate dean in 2019. Since her appointment to the faculty, Dr. Ludmer has distinguished herself as a leader and a role model. As chair of the Steering Committee on Curricular Redesign, she played and continues to play an integral role in the development of the new SOM medical education curriculum, which was launched last fall. Dr. Ludmer is also responsible for the creation of the fourth-year Specialty Track curriculum, the Transition to Fourth Year program and the new required curriculum in Health Systems Sciences. For her work on the curriculum, Dr. Ludmer was recognized with the SOM Dean's Award for Excellence in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in 2022.

SOM Establishes Psychiatry Residency Program at Saint Joseph's Medical Center

The SOM has expanded its NYMC-sponsored residency programs at Saint Joseph's Medical Center in Yonkers, New York, to include a new Psychiatry Residency Program. The program is offered jointly at Saint Joseph's and its St. Vincent's Hospital Westchester division in Harrison, New York. NYMC also sponsors the Family Medicine Residency Program at Saint Joseph's.



Saint Joseph's Medical Center, with its St. Vincent's Hospital Westchester division, is recognized as a major provider of quality psychiatric services in Westchester County. The hospitals have 182 inpatient beds, including specialized geriatric, adolescent, addiction rehabilitation and intermediate care units, and treat more than 4,000 patients in their outpatient mental health programs and over 500 patients in their outpatient substance use disorder programs.

As part of the Psychiatry Residency Program, residents will have clinical rotations in a broad range of areas, including addiction psychiatry, geriatric psychiatry, child and adolescent psychiatry and community psychiatry. Residents will have the opportunity to experience several unique community-based services as part of their required or elective rotations, including the recovery-oriented PROS program, the Crisis Prevention and Response Team and the short-term Intensive Crisis Residence.

Faculty Promotions

Congratulations to our faculty who have achieved promotion in rank.

Yangling Liao, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Pediatrics

Paul J. Mandaro, M.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

Sheila Nolan, M.D.

Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics

Dr. Tracey Milligan Receives Distinguished Neurology Teacher Award

Tracey A. Milligan, M.D., M.S., professor and chair of the



Department of Neurology, received the Distinguished Neurology Teacher Award at the 2023 Annual Meeting of the American Neurologic Association (ANA), which is the premier professional society of academic neurologists and neuroscientists. The award recognizes and rewards contributions by gifted and talented teachers of neurology with nominees selected from the entire field of clinical neurology and neuroscience.

SOM Student Thomas Gagliardi Awarded AMA Physician of Tomorrow Scholarship

Thomas Gagliardi, SOM Class of 2024, has been awarded the American Medical Association (AMA) Foundation Physician of Tomorrow Scholarship. The scholarship is presented to a deserving student in their final year of medical school. As a medical student, Gagliardi has distinguished himself both academically and in service to the community. While at NYMC, he has published and presented his research in academic journals and at national conferences. He has also published two textbook chapters on a developing model of health care coined "Direct Primary Care" that directly connects patients and providers for improved mutual satisfaction.



This year, he was inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) medical honor society in recognition of academic excellence, and into the Gold Humanism Honor Society for his commitment to humanism in medicine. Gagliardi continues to give back to the NYMC community, now serving as vice president of AOA and as a peer tutor for first- and second-year pre-clinical courses, third-year clerkship courses and the Step 1 United States Medical Licensing Exam (USMLE) and as a study coach for students seeking to improve their study habits and techniques. He also serves as vice president of the House of Representatives E-Board at NYMC and is co-education director of the 2023 SOM Pre-matriculation Program. [Read the full story on Gagliardi.](#)

SOM Student Madelaine McElrath Receives AOA Essay Award



Madelaine McElrath, SOM Class of 2025, was recognized with third prize in the Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) Helen H. Glaser Student Essay Competition for her essay "What TikTok Teaches: Women's Health and Medical Misinformation on TikTok."

"I believe that these conversations surrounding TikTok and health care are important ones and it was rewarding to be able to convey these points effectively enough to be recognized by AOA," said McElrath. "I wrote this essay because I noted the mistrust of health care providers on TikTok and thought that the development of this sentiment, particularly in view of how medical misinformation related to women's health spreads on TikTok, should be explored further in order to repair any damage in the relationship

between patients and physicians." [Watch video about McElrath's research.](#)

Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Awards Announced

Congratulations to the following residents who were recognized with the Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Awards for demonstrating exceptional humanistic qualities in the care of patients, including compassion, empathy, professionalism and service, as well as going above and beyond in role as teachers to medical students.

Sukhraj Singh Bains, M.D.

PGY-3, Psychiatry
NYC Health + Hospitals/Metropolitan

Joseph Samuel Quintas, M.D.

PGY-3, Internal Medicine
Westchester Medical Center

Jared Theriot, M.D.

PGY-5, Surgery
NYC Health + Hospitals/Metropolitan

Serena Wong, M.D.

PGY-4, Neurology
Westchester Medical Center

Emily Passarelli, M.D.

PGY-1, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Westchester Medical Center

Ponmali Le, MD

PGY-2, Pediatrics
Maria Fareri Children's Hospital

Pre-Matriculation Program Prepares Students for Success in Medical School

Members of the SOM Class of 2027 had the opportunity to ease their transition to medical school during the Pre-Matriculation Program, offered in July, just prior to orientation. The program, now in its third year, which included sessions on study techniques, personal wellness and careers and featured faculty and student speakers from across NYMC, has received high marks from students who have participated.



“When I started medical school I had no real guidance or mentors and I found the first year of medical school to be extremely difficult. This program allows for a relaxed introduction to some of the material students will learn in medical school, but more than anything, it provides a safe space to learn different study strategies, about resources that can be effective for individual learning styles and how to foster a sense of community and belonging,” said Maziyah Ogarro, SOM Class of 2024, the student director of the program.

The Pre-Matriculation Program, which is sponsored by the Office of Diversity and Inclusion in collaboration with academic support services, student affairs and undergraduate medical education, is open to all incoming medical students though non-traditional students and those from demographics underrepresented in medicine are especially encouraged to participate. During the two-week program, students explored a range of academic topics, including microbiology and anatomy, cultivated early interest in the specialties of emergency medicine, surgery and radiology and participated in sessions designed to promote good study habits and personal wellness. [Read the full story on the Pre-Matriculation Program.](#)

New Area in Concentration in Health Equity Leadership Introduced

The SOM has introduced a new area of concentration in health equity leadership this academic year to equip medical students with the leadership skills to combat health inequities, racism and bias within the health care system and society overall. The [Areas of Concentration](#)



Program is designed to provide elective opportunities for medical students who wish to pursue an area of personal interest in depth beyond the required medical school curriculum.

“In a world where health disparities often stem from deep-rooted structural inequalities, it is imperative that we nurture the next generation of physicians who will ensure equitable health care access for all, regardless of their background or circumstances,” said Pamela Ludmer, M.D., M.M.E.L., dean for undergraduate medical education.

As part of the course of study, students will promote diversity within health care teams and foster inclusivity; engage in practices to eradicate health care inequities; influence decision-makers to advance health equity; and advocate for inclusive health care teams.

Graduate Medical Education Hosts Boot Camp for Residency Program Directors

The Office of Graduate Medical Education (GME) hosted a Boot Camp for program directors and associate program directors of the NYMC-sponsored residency and fellowship programs on October 3, 2023. Over 40 program directors and associate program directors from across the College’s affiliate hospitals attended the day-long program that focused on best practices for residency and fellowship programs.

Jenna Iannuccilli, M.D., associate program director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program at Landmark Medical Center in Rhode Island, acted as emcee of the program, which featured several speakers on a range of topics, including Roger Chirugi, M.D., program director of the Emergency Medicine Residency Program at NYC Health + Hospitals/Metropolitan, who offered an ACGME overview and spoke on residency financing; **Jennifer Salcedo, M.D.**, associate dean for GME and designated institutional official, who addressed application season best practices and faculty management; Monica Glina, Ed.D., assistant dean for faculty development, who shared faculty development resources available at NYMC; Christina Ciraco, D.O., associate program director of the Emergency Medicine Residency Program at Metropolitan, who spoke on creating a residency curriculum; Frosso Adamakos, M.D., vice Chair of emergency medicine education and faculty development and medical education fellowship director at Metropolitan, and Robin Hershkowitz, M.S.W., senior director of NYMC’s Office of Student Mental Health and Wellness, who addressed how to work proactively with a challenging resident; and Theodore DaCosta, M.D., program director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program at St. Michael’s Medical Center, who spoke on running an effective clinical competency committee. Boot Camp programming was organized in collaboration with Drs. Iannuccilli and Adamakos.



Faculty Appointments (March 7, 2023 through September 6, 2023)

Welcome to our new faculty from across our affiliate sites.

NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE

Thomas Biuso, M.D., M.B.A.

Adjunct Associate Professor of Medicine

Shu-Chen Chang, B.S.

Instructor of Radiation Medicine

WESTCHESTER MEDICAL CENTER

Scott Barkstrom, Ph.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences

Andrew Bellantoni, M.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

Abdelfattah El Ouaamari, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Cell Biology and
Anatomy and of Pharmacology

Yamini Patel, Ph.D.

Adjunct Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology

Anthony Richardson, M.S.

Instructor of Pathology, Microbiology and
Immunology

CAREMOUNT MEDICAL

Pakeeza Alam, M.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and
Gynecology

Stephanie Gore, M.D., M.P.H.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and
Gynecology

GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL

Benson Babu, M.D., M.B.A.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine

Amanda Ganza, M.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and
Gynecology

Olanrewaju Olukitibi, M.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and
Behavioral Sciences

Michal Tracz, M.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of
Medicine

JAMES J. PETERS VA MEDICAL CENTER

Jessie Simantov, M.D.

Adjunct Assistant Professor of Rehabilitation
Medicine

LANDMARK MEDICAL CENTER

Altaf Girach, M.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine

NYC HEALTH +

HOSPITALS/METROPOLITAN

Alfonso Guerra, M.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine

Raisa Torres-Pena, M.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine

MIDHUDSON REGIONAL HOSPITAL

A. Leonard Teitz, M.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Emergency
Medicine

REGENERON PHARMACEUTICALS

Roberto Calle, M.D.

Adjunct Associate Professor of Medicine

Michael Dunn, Ph.D.

Adjunct Assistant Professor of Pharmacology

Elizabeth Brackis-Cott, Ph.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and
Behavioral Sciences

Tanvi Devi, D.O.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

Randi Dublin, Ph.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and
Behavioral Sciences

Jaishvi Eapen, M.B.B.S.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine

Janet Goff, Ph.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and
Behavioral Sciences

Kenneth Keplinger, Jr., M.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and
Gynecology

Carol Kessler, M.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and
Behavioral Sciences

Muhammad Khan, M.B.B.S.

Instructor of Surgery

Tomoko Kitago, M.D.

Assistant Professor of Neurology

Jhenette Lauder, M.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and
Gynecology

Lauren Matera, D.O.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

Jennifer McLevy-Bazzanella, M.D.

Clinical Associate Professor of Otolaryngology

Ryosuke Misawa, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Michael Moscovitz, M.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Surgery

Kenneth Oclatis, Ph.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and
Behavioral Sciences

Kenji Okumura, M.D.

Instructor of Surgery

Jonathan Potack, M.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine

Pearl Rosenbaum, M.D.

Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology

Sameh Said, M.B.B.Ch.

Professor of Surgery and of Pediatrics

SAINT JOSEPH'S MEDICAL CENTER

David Jerome, D.O.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Family and
Community Medicine

ST. MARY'S GENERAL HOSPITAL/ SAINT CLARE'S HOSPITAL

Michael Akerman, M.D.

Adjunct Associate Professor of Medicine

Rasha Batarseh, D.O.

Adjunct Assistant Professor of Medicine

Rina Kapadia, M.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine

Jonathan Ramharack, M.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of
Medicine

VA HUDSON VALLEY HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Rian Shah, M.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine

Latif Salam, M.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine

Laurie Sanchez, M.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Radiology

Jaya Save-Mundra, Psy.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and
Behavioral Sciences

Edo Schaefer, M.D.

Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and of
Medicine

Muhammad Shabsigh, M.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology

Junichi Shimamura, Ph.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Surgery

Andreas Smoller, Ph.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and
Behavioral Sciences

Tara Spruill, D.P.N., M.S.

Instructor of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Vishad Sukul, M.D.

Associate Professor of Neurosurgery and of
Neurology

Faculty Profile:

Fawaz Al-Mufti, M.D. — War, Migration and Perseverance

Fawaz Al-Mufti, M.D., associate professor of neurology, neurosurgery and of radiology, was one year out of medical school, without a chosen specialty, when war thrust him into emergency medicine. It was 2003 and senior staff at the Nahrain Teaching Hospital in Baghdad, Iraq, where Dr. Al-Mufti had just finished a transitional residency—including six months of surgical training—were fleeing, leaving him and junior colleagues to treat the surge of civilian casualties.

Two years later, Dr. Al-Mufti was delivering urgent care to people in conflict zones around the world for Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF). Despite all this experience, he would have to repeat his residency to practice emergency medicine in the United States. Instead, he chose not one but three new specialties, becoming a triple, board-certified neurologist, neurointensivist and neuroendovascular surgeon. “War makes life feel so unpredictable—too short to waste doing the same thing again,” Dr. Al-Mufti says. “I am who I am today because I did not choose the easier path but rather the road less traveled. Instead of considering adversity a problem, I saw it as an opportunity to overcome something to better myself.” [Read the full profile on Dr. Al-Mufti.](#)



SOM Welcomes Student Senate E-Board Officers

With the start of the new academic year, the SOM Student Senate is officially in session and ready to



tackle what the year has in store. The 21 peer-elected student representatives, which include five senators per class and the student senate president, collaborate with students, faculty and administrators throughout the year to ensure the success and holistic wellness of the entire NYMC community. This year's Executive Board (l to r) includes: **Katherine Lo**, SOM Class of 2024, president; **Doria Weiss**, SOM Class of 2025, vice president; **Lillian Huang**, SOM Class of 2026, secretary; **Audrey Huang**, SOM Class of 2026, treasurer; and **Alexander Park**, SOM Class of 2026, outreach coordinator. [Read the full story on the new E-Board Officers.](#)

Club Fair 2023: A Vibrant Showcase of Student Engagement and Diversity

Club Fair 2023 was another rousing success with students filling the halls of the Medical Education Center and Basic Sciences Building on August 30 to learn about the more than 100 student clubs and organizations at NYMC. The clubs focused on a range of areas, from career interest and advocacy to religious, cultural and recreational. New clubs this year included The Medihistorian Society, the Pickleball Club, the Birding and Nature Club and the Medical Spanish Club. [View the photo album.](#)



Medical Students Mark Transition to Clinical Practice



Members of the SOM Class of 2025 marked their transition from pre-clinical studies to full-time clinical practice and the start of their third-year clerkships during the Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS) Student Clinician Ceremony in Nevins Auditorium on June 29. The Student Clinician Ceremony was designed by the Gold Foundation to provide support for medical students as they begin their clinical years and emphasize the importance of providing compassionate, collaborative and scientifically excellent care to patients.

During the ceremony, students and faculty offered their guidance to the members of the Class of 2025. "At the forefront of your daily practice, let not only your medical knowledge and skills but also your

empathy guide you. Always remember that a kind word, a gentle touch or a listening ear can often be as important to healing as any medication or procedure,” said Jane Ponterio, M.D. '81, dean of students.

“Don't for a second think that as a student, your role is smaller than others. More often than not, you will be the one who has the time to spend with the patients and their friends and family and to track their progress physically, mentally and emotionally from admission to discharge,” said Ashley Sacks, SOM Class of 2024 and co-president of the NYMC Chapter of GHHS. [Read the full story on the Student Clinician Ceremony.](#)

Faculty, Resident 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](#).

Victoria Afolayan, SOM Class of 2024; **Maat Mack**, SOM Class of 2024; and **Angelica Sze, M.D.**, clinical assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology, published [“Cervical Varicosities, an Uncommon Cause of Third-Trimester Bleeding in Pregnancy: A Case Report”](#) in *Case Reports in Women's Health*.

Maria Castaldi, M.D., clinical professor of surgery; **Mathias Palmer, M.D. '21**; **Jorge Con, M.D.**, associate professor of surgery; and **Roberto Bergamaschi, M.D., Ph.D.**, professor of surgery, published [“Robotic-Assisted Surgery Training \(RAST\) Program: Module 1 of a Three-Module Program. Assessment of Patient Cart Docking Skills and Educational Environment”](#) in *Updates in Surgery*.

Ankita Das, SOM Class of 2024; **Sima Vazquez, M.S.**, SOM Class of 2024; **Jacob Greisman, M.D. '23**; **Tiffany Ming**, SOM Class of 2024; **Grigori Vaserman, M.D. '23**; **Eris Spirollari**, SOM Class of 2024; **Alexandra Naftchi**, SOM Class of 2024; **Simon Hanft, M.D.**, associate professor of neurosurgery; and **Merritt Kinon, M.D.**, associate professor of neurosurgery, published [“Disparities in Anterior Cervical Discectomy and Fusion Provision and Outcomes for Cervical Stenosis”](#) in *North American Spine Society Journal*.

Jaydev Dave, SOM Class of 2025; and **Malik Bisserier, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of cell biology and anatomy and of physiology, published [“Unraveling the Epigenetic Landscape of Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension: Implications for Personalized Medicine Development”](#) in the *Journal of Translational Medicine*.

Alis Dicipinigaitis, M.D. '22; **Rolla Nuoman, M.D.**, assistant professor of pediatrics; **Philip Overby, M.D., M.A.**, clinical associate professor of pediatrics and of neurology; **Gurmeen Kaur, M.B.B.S.**, assistant professor of neurology and of neurosurgery; **Ji Chong, M.D.**, assistant professor of neurology and of neurosurgery; and **Fawaz Al-Mufti, M.D.**, associate professor of neurology, neurosurgery and of radiology; published [“Intravenous Thrombolysis for Treatment of Pediatric Acute Ischemic Stroke: Analysis of 20 Years of Population-Level Data in the United States”](#) in the *International Journal of Stroke: Official Journal of the International Stroke Society*.

David Garber, M.D., clinical assistant professor of otolaryngology, published [“A Novel Grading System for Supraglottic Stenosis Based on Morphology and Functional Status”](#) in the *Laryngoscope*.

Banu Farabi, M.D., dermatology resident; **Alina Zufall, M.D.**, dermatology resident; and **Bijan Safai, M.D.**, professor and chair of Department of Dermatology, professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology, published [“Rapid Diagnosis and Clinical Management of Kerion in a Pediatric Patient With Reflectance Confocal Microscopy”](#) in *JAAD Case Reports*.

Stephen Ferrando, M.D., Har Esh Professor and chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences; **Sean Lynch, M.D. '21**; **Rhea Dornbush, Ph.D., M.P.H.**, professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences and of neurology; **Sivan Shahar, M.D. '22**; and **Lidia Klepacz, M.D.**, assistant professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences, published [“Anxiety and Posttraumatic Stress in Post-Acute Sequelae of COVID-19: Prevalence, Characteristics, Comorbidity, and Clinical Correlates”](#) in *Frontiers in Psychiatry*.

Mark Hurwitz, M.D., professor and chair of radiation medicine, published [“ACR-ARS Practice Parameter on Informed Consent Radiation Oncology”](#) in the *American Journal of Clinical Oncology*.

Madison Kasoff, M.D. '23; and **Kristina Petersen, Ph.D.**, associate professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, published "[A Peer-Led Kinesthetic Forearm and Wrist Anatomy Workshop: A Multiple Cohort Study](#)" in *Anatomical Sciences Education*.

Christy Kim, M.D., clinical assistant professor of pediatrics; **Sankaran Krishnan, M.D., M.P.H.**, associate professor of pediatrics; **John Welter, M.D.**, assistant professor of pediatrics; **Diane Lindsay-Adler, M.S.**, clinical assistant professor of pediatrics; and **Allen Dozor, M.D.**, professor of pediatrics, published "[Changes in Body Mass Index in Children and Adolescents With Asthma During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)" in *Pediatric Allergy, Immunology, and Pulmonology*.

Christopher Nabors, M.D., Ph.D., clinical assistant professor of medicine; **Abhay Dhand, M.D.**, associate professor of medicine; **Andrea Porrovecchio, M.D.**, clinical associate professor of medicine; **Melissa Gennarelli, M.D.**, clinical associate professor of medicine; and **William Frishman, M.D.**, professor of medicine and of pharmacology, published "[Not So Fast On Virtual Interviewing](#)" in *The American Journal of Medicine*.

Akiva Novetsky, M.D., associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology, published "[Use of Risk-Based Cervical Screening Programs in Resource-Limited Settings](#)" in *Cancer Epidemiology*.

Suguru Ohira, M.D., Ph.D., clinical associate professor of surgery; **Ramin Malekan, M.D.**, clinical associate professor of surgery; **Masashi Kai, M.D.**, clinical associate professor of surgery; **Joshua Goldberg, M.D.**, clinical associate professor of surgery; **Igor Laskowski, M.D., Ph.D.**, associate professor of surgery; **Ian Mason, M.D. '23**; **Steven Lansman, M.D., Ph.D.**, professor and chair of Department of Surgery; and **David Spielvogel, M.D.**, professor of surgery, published "[Aortic Reoperation After Prior Acute Type A Aortic Dissection Repair: Don't Despair the Repair](#)" in *The Annals of Thoracic Surgery*.

Chioma Okeoma, Ph.D., professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology, published "[Engineered extracellular vesicles \(EVs\): Promising diagnostic/therapeutic tools for pediatric high-grade glioma](#)" in *Biomedicine & Pharmacotherapy*.

Joshua Shin, M.D. '23 and **Sankara Mahesh, M.D.**, assistant professor of ophthalmology, published "[Deep Anterior Lamellar Keratoplasty \(DALK\) Interface Neovascularization: An Unusual Complication](#)" in the *Journal Francais D'ophtalmologie*.

Raj Tiwari, Ph.D., professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology and associate professor of otolaryngology; and **Jan Geliebter, Ph.D.**, professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology and associate professor of otolaryngology, published "[Interactome of Long Non-Coding RNAs: Transcriptomic Expression Patterns and Shaping Cancer Cell Phenotypes](#)" in the *International Journal of Molecular Sciences*.

Garret Weber, M.D., clinical associate professor of anesthesiology; **Apolonia Abramowicz, M.D.**, clinical professor of anesthesiology; and **Matthew Wecksell, M.D.**, associate professor of anesthesiology, published "[Morphine Overdose After an Anterior Cervical Discectomy and Fusion in a Patient With an Intrathecal Morphine Pump](#)" in the *Journal of Neurosurgical Anesthesiology*.

Christopher Whitehurst, Ph.D., assistant professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology and of biochemistry and molecular biology, published "[Incidence of Epstein-Barr Virus Reactivation Is Elevated in COVID-19 Patients](#)" in *Virus Research*.

Gary Wormser, M.D., professor of medicine, pharmacology and of pathology, microbiology and immunology; and **Tyler Morgan, SOM Class of 2024**, published "[A Prospective Study to Characterize Symptoms and Symptom Severity in Adult Patients with Extracutaneous Manifestations of Lyme Disease](#)" in *The American Journal of Medicine*.



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