



EINSTEIN GRADUATE PROGRAMS  
IN THE BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES  
BELFER INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED  
BIOMEDICAL STUDIES

SIXTY-FIFTH  
COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2023

DAVID GEFFEN HALL, LINCOLN CENTER  
NEW YORK, NY



## ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

### OPENING OF SIXTY-FIFTH COMMENCEMENT PROCEEDINGS

Dr. Amanda C. Raff '98  
Grand Marshal

### NATIONAL ANTHEM

### INVOCATION

Rabbi Shimmy Steinmetz  
Albert Einstein Synagogue

### OPENING ADDRESS

Dr. Philip O. Ozuah  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Montefiore Medicine

### WELCOME REMARKS

Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman  
President  
Yeshiva University

### GREETINGS FROM THE CLASS OF '73

Dr. Neal Flomenbaum

### WELCOME AND PRESENTATION OF ALUMNI AWARDS

Dr. Gordon F. Tomaselli '82  
The Marilyn & Stanley M. Katz Dean  
Albert Einstein College of Medicine

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*Dominick P. Purpura Distinguished  
Alumna Award*

Dr. Elizabeth M. McNally '90

*Distinguished Ph.D. Alumnus Award*  
Dr. John J. Foxe '99

*Distinguished Alumna / Clinical  
Practitioner Award*

Dr. Theresa M. Maresca '84

*Lifetime Achievement Award*

Dr. David Siegel '73

Dr. Yvette H. Calderon '90

*Lifetime Service Award*

Dr. Marjorie Werner Stein '85

*Einstein Honorary Alumna Award*  
Ms. Nilda I. Soto

*Rising Star—Clinical Practitioner Award*  
Dr. Cdr. Jennifer Eng-Kulawy '10

*Rising Star—Scientific Investigator Award*  
Dr. Evanthia Roussos Torres '12

### INTRODUCTION OF KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. Gordon F. Tomaselli '82  
The Marilyn & Stanley M. Katz Dean  
Albert Einstein College of Medicine

### KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Dr. Robert Marion '79  
Distinguished University  
Professor Emeritus  
Albert Einstein College of Medicine

### PRESENTATION OF FACULTY AWARDS

Dr. Joshua D. Nosanchuk  
Senior Associate Dean  
for Medical Education  
Albert Einstein College of Medicine

---

*Samuel M. Rosen Award for  
Outstanding Teaching (Clinical)*  
Dr. Noé D. Romo '08

*Samuel M. Rosen Award for  
Outstanding Teaching (Pre-Clerkship)*  
Dr. Angela Cheng-Lai

*Harry Eagle Award for  
Outstanding Pre-Clerkship Teaching*  
Dr. Adi Pinkas

*Harry H. Gordon Award for  
Outstanding Clinical Teaching*  
Dr. Staci E. Pollack

*Lifetime Achievement Award for  
Excellence in Teaching*  
Dr. Jay B. Dobkin '79

*LaDonne H. Schulman Award for  
Excellence in Teaching*  
Dr. Robert A. Coleman

*Saul R. Korey Award  
in Translational Science and Medicine*  
Dr. Kartik Chandran

## **ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS**

---

### **INTRODUCTION OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY CANDIDATES OF THE EINSTEIN GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN THE BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES**

**Dr. Gordon F. Tomaselli '82**

The Marilyn & Stanley M. Katz Dean  
Albert Einstein College of Medicine

### **OATH OF SCIENTISTS**

**Dr. Joan W. Berman**

Irving D. Karpas Chair in Medicine  
Senior Academic Advisor to the Graduate Division

### **PRESENTATION OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY CANDIDATES**

**Dr. Victoria H. Freedman**

Associate Dean for Graduate Programs in Biomedical Sciences

### **DECLARATION OF GENEVA**

**Dr. Amanda C. Raff '98**

Grand Marshal

### **INTRODUCTION OF DOCTOR OF MEDICINE CANDIDATES**

**Dr. Joshua D. Nosanchuk**

Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education  
Albert Einstein College of Medicine

### **PRESENTATION OF DOCTOR OF MEDICINE CANDIDATES**

**Dr. Allison B. Ludwig '04**

Associate Dean for Student Affairs

**Dr. Stephen G. Baum**

Senior Advisor for Student Affairs

**Dr. Mimoza Meholli**

Assistant Dean for Student Affairs

### **CLOSING OF SIXTY-FIFTH COMMENCEMENT PROCEEDINGS**

**Dr. Amanda C. Raff '98**

Grand Marshal

## CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES AND DIPLOMAS

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### EINSTEIN GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN THE BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

#### Doctor of Philosophy

as of September 30, 2022

---

##### Kiersten Patrice Carter

B.A., CUNY–Lehman College  
M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine

*Dissection of the EGF/EGFR Pathway in Tumor Cell Tunneling Nanotubes*

##### Vanessa J. Chilunda

B.S., St. Lawrence University  
M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine

*Mechanisms of Methamphetamine Mediated HIV Neuropathogenesis*

##### Mu Feng

B.S., Oregon State University  
M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine

*Therapeutic Applications of 5'-Methylthioadenosine Phosphorylase and 5'-Methylthioadenosine Nucleosidase Transition State Analogue Inhibitors*

##### Phillip Michael Galbo Jr.

B.S., Niagara University  
M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine

*Cancer Associated Fibroblasts: Functional Diversity Across Cancer Types and Roles in Glioblastoma*

##### George I. Georgiev

B.S., M.S., University of Arizona  
M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine

*Structure-Guided Protein Engineering of Flavivirus Immunotherapeutics*

##### Lindsay Meg Gurska

B.S., Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine

*Targeting Oncogenic Signaling Pathways in Myeloproliferative Neoplasms and Acute Myeloid Leukemia*

##### Zhixin Jing

B.A., Sichuan University (China)  
M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine

*Long-Lived Plasma Cell Fate Decision: From Germinal Cancer Selection to Bone Marrow Survival Niche*

##### Emilio Merheb

B.S., M.S., Lebanese American University (Lebanon)  
M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine

*Understanding the Pathogenesis of Pol III-Related Leukodystrophy*

##### Aniella Jean Murphy

B.S., Florida Atlantic University  
M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine

*Buprenorphine as a Therapy for Cognitive Impairment for People with HIV*

##### Cara Anne Reynolds

B.A., Rutgers University  
M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine

*Loss of Chaperone Mediated Autophagy with Age Contributes to T Cell Immunosenescence*

##### Yingjiao Xue

B.S., Dalian University of Technology (China)  
M.S., SUNY–Stony Brook  
M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine

*Cks1N45R KI Blocks Mouse Rb1/Trp53-Deficient Prostate Cancer Development and Reveals the p27-Dependent Skp2 Degradation*

#### Doctor of Philosophy

as of January 31, 2023

---

##### Jenna Barnes

B.S., University of Iowa  
M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine

*The Role of the ESCRT Apparatus in Alphaherpesvirus Envelopment, and Its Use as a Tool to Study Viral Envelopment and Anterograde Trafficking in Neurons*

##### Jesse Barnes

B.S., University of Iowa  
M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine

*Characterizing the Function of Neuronal Cells Derived from Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells Made from Patients with Lowe Syndrome*

##### Yacoba V. T. Minnow

B.S., University of Ghana (Ghana)  
M.S., Montclair State University  
M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine

*Purine Metabolism in Plasmodium falciparum as a Drug Target for Malaria*

#### Doctor of Philosophy

as of May 24, 2023

---

##### Robert Harry Bortz III<sup>+</sup>

B.S., University of Rochester  
M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine

*Antiviral Therapeutics Exploit Entry-Related Structural Changes in the Ebola Virus Glycoprotein*

##### Nadege Gitego

B.S., Spelman College  
M.S., Albert Einstein College of Medicine

*Modulation of Cytosolic Autoinhibited BAX Dimer as a Novel Strategy to Potentiate Apoptosis in Cancer*

## CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES AND DIPLOMAS

---

### **Natalia Guadalupe Herrera**

B.S., University of California–Santa Cruz  
M.S., Albert Einstein College  
of Medicine

*Development of Antigen-Selective  
Immunotherapeutic Approaches and  
Discovery of Novel Immune Pathways*

### **Xiaotong Jia**

B.S., China Agricultural University  
(China)

M.S., New York University  
M.S., Albert Einstein College  
of Medicine

*Bridging the Gap Between Apoptosis  
and Necrosis in MI/R—Understanding  
Procaspase-9 and Bak-mediated  
Necrosis in Myocardial Ischemia  
Reperfusion Injury*

### **Katherine Emily Kaugars<sup>+</sup>**

B.S., College of William and Mary  
M.S., Albert Einstein College  
of Medicine

*Using a Herpes Simplex Viral Vector to  
Generate Protective Vaccines Against  
Viral Pathogens*

### **Huizhi Liang**

B.S., George Mason University  
M.S., Albert Einstein College  
of Medicine

*TCF1 Orchestrates the Partial EMT  
Program in Basal-like Breast Cancer  
via a FOXC2-p63 Axis Leading to  
Stemness and Metastasis*

### **Yanyan Liu**

B.S., Sichuan University (China)  
M.S., University of Connecticut  
M.S., Albert Einstein College  
of Medicine

*Features and Protective Efficacy  
of Human Monoclonal Antibodies  
Targeting Mycobacterium tuberculosis  
Arabinomannan*

### **Aakash Mahant Mahant**

B.S., Universitat Rovira i Virgili (Spain)  
M.S., Universidad Francisco de Vitoria  
(Spain)

M.S., Albert Einstein College  
of Medicine  
*Humoral Immune Responses to HSV  
Infections and Placental Transfer of  
Protective Antibodies; Implications  
for HSV Vaccine and Monoclonal  
Antibody Development*

### **Ryan John Malonis<sup>+</sup>**

B.S., Boston College  
M.S., Albert Einstein College  
of Medicine

*Characterization of Antibody  
Responses to Emerging Alphaviruses  
and Flaviviruses*

### **Maxim Isaac Maron<sup>+</sup>**

B.S., Loyola University  
M.S., Albert Einstein College  
of Medicine

*Transcriptomic and Proteomic  
Regulation by Protein Arginine  
Methyltransferases*

### **Alexandra Quezada**

B.A., New College of Florida  
M.S., Albert Einstein College  
of Medicine

*An In Vivo Platform for Rebuilding  
Functional Neocortical Tissue*

### **Karishma Lees Smart**

B.A., Cornell University  
M.S., Boston University School  
of Medicine

M.S., Albert Einstein College  
of Medicine  
*Fidgetin-Like 2: Cutting Back on Cell  
Migration*

### **Hansoo Song**

B.S., New York University  
M.S., Albert Einstein College  
of Medicine

*The Early Shared Functions of Tbx2  
and Tbx3 in Murine Inner Ear and  
Craniofacial Development*

## CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES AND DIPLOMAS

---

### ALBERT EINSTEIN COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

#### Doctor of Medicine

as of May 24, 2023

---

**Arshia Aalami Harandi**  
B.S., M.S., Columbia University

**Joseph Abraham**  
B.H., Ner Israel Rabbinical College

**Eric Daniel Acosta**  
B.S., Canisius College

**Samuel Jack Ahmad**  
B.A., B.S., New York University

**Jayabhargav Annam**  
B.S., Emory University  
M.S., Pace University–New York

**Tori Brooke Aspir**  
B.S., University of Connecticut

**Michael Baron**  
B.A., CUNY–Queens College  
D.M.D., Harvard School of Dental  
Medicine

**Obioesio Edet Bassey**  
B.S., Georgia Institute of Technology  
M.H., Georgia State University

**Mia K. Bates**  
B.A., Oberlin College

**Kevin S. Batti**  
B.S., Boston College

**Moshe C. Beiser**  
B.A., Princeton University

**Hayley E. Berg**  
B.A., Trinity College  
M.H., Columbia University

**Michael Aamli Bergamini**  
B.S., University of Toronto

**Jordan Paul Berka**  
B.A., University of North Carolina

**Jessie A. Birnbaum**  
B.S., University of Massachusetts–  
Amherst

**Joshua Alan Bock**  
B.A., Yeshiva University

**Robert Harry Bortz III<sup>†</sup>**  
B.S., University of Rochester  
M.S., Yeshiva University

**Caroline Elizabeth Boyle**  
B.A., University of Pennsylvania

**Brandon Khang Bui**  
B.S., University of California–Davis

**Arjun Satya Byju**  
B.A., Harvard University

**Arianna J. Caradonna**  
B.A., SUNY-Binghamton

**Molly Faith Charney**  
B.A., Washington University

**Emily Min Chen**  
B.A., Northwestern University

**Tiffany Cheng**  
B.S., New York University

**Jong Hyun Choi**  
B.A. University of California–Berkeley

**Chloe Taylor Citron**  
B.S., Cornell University–Endowed  
Colleges

**Isaac Alan Dayan**  
B.A., University of Pennsylvania

**Alexandria Jeanette Debasitis**  
B.S., Boston College

**Junwen Deng**  
B.A., Columbia University

**Evan A. Der**  
B.A., Case Western Reserve University

**Samantha DiSalvo**  
B.S., SUNY–Stony Brook

**Jonathan Filipe Dos Reis**  
B.S., Manhattan College  
M.H., University of Medical and  
Dental–New York

**Elizabeth Elkins**  
B.A., Yeshiva University

**Hannah Epstein**  
B.S., University of Michigan

**Daniella Andrea Espinoza**  
B.A., Fordham University

**Nathan A. Feiertag**  
B.S., Bloomsburg University

**Daniela Rosaria Feingold**  
B.A., Harvard University

**Ariel Ethan Felman**  
B.A., Fairleigh Dickinson University

**José C. Fernandez**  
B.S., University of Florida

**Giuseppe Antonio Fiorica**  
B.S., CUNY–City College

**Valerie Judith Fong**  
B.S., University of California–  
Los Angeles

**Ashley Force**  
B.S., University of Florida

**Sana Fujimura**  
B.S., SUNY–Stony Brook

**Abigail Maureen Funari**  
B.S., Boston College

**James B. Gary**  
B.S., SUNY–Buffalo

**Sara Jenni Glickman**  
B.S., Cornell University–Endowed  
Colleges

**Alexandra Lowry Gordon**  
B.S., Johns Hopkins University

## CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES AND DIPLOMAS

---

**Rachel Yocheved Gozland**  
B.A., Yeshiva University

**Benjamin Weston Green**  
B.S., Ohio State University

**Thoran Gundala**  
B.S., Emory University

**Aryeh Gurvich**  
B.A., Yeshiva University

**James A. Hammock III**  
B.S., West Virginia University

**Vivian Sanway Hawn**  
B.S., Brown University

**John Christian Hein**  
B.S., Brigham Young University

**Sarah E. Hill**  
A.A., Bard College  
B.S., M.H., Tulane University

**Sophey Y. Ho**  
B.A., Columbia University

**Julia Pearl Holber**  
B.A., Washington University

**Daniel Huang**  
B.S., Cornell University–Endowed  
Colleges

**Errol Michael Hunte**  
B.S., CUNY–Brooklyn College

**Abel Infante**  
B.S., CUNY–City College

**Nathaniel S. Jackson**  
B.A., Occidental College

**Benjamin Jadow**  
B.A., Washington University

**Seth Sejin Jeong**  
A.A., Montgomery County Community  
College  
B.A., University of Pennsylvania

**Tina Tianyi Jing**  
B.S., Cornell University–Endowed  
Colleges

**Larisa Kamga**  
B.S, CUNY–City College  
Ph.D., University of Massachusetts

**Rohan Anil Kankaria**  
B.S., Virginia Commonwealth  
University

**Katherine Kaugars<sup>+</sup>**  
B.S., College of William and Mary  
M.S., Yeshiva University

**Esther Kaunga**  
B.S., Lincoln University  
M.S., University of Medical and  
Dental–New York

**Prannoy Kaushal**  
B.S., Loyola University Chicago

**Waqas Shakeel Kayani**  
B.S., San Diego State University

**Thomas J. Kennedy**  
B.S., Northeastern University

**Jasmine Kim**  
B.A., University of Southern California

**Joseph Ilmyung Kim**  
B.S., University of Pennsylvania

**Stanley Lee Kim**  
B.A., University of California–Berkeley

**Atsumi Kimura**  
B.A., Johns Hopkins University

**Daniel Michael Klyde**  
B.S., University of Pennsylvania

**Michelle Tova Kohansieh**  
A.A., B.A., Yeshiva University

**Yana Kost**  
B.A., Cornell University–Endowed  
Colleges

**Pankush Kumar**  
B.A., Cornell University–Endowed  
Colleges

**Kevin A. Kunz**  
B.S., SUNY–Stony Brook

**Victoria Enikő Kusztos**  
B.S., Tufts University

**Kevin Flavio Labagnara**  
B.A., B.S., Duke University

**Jacqueline Labins**  
B.S., University of California–Davis

**Sharon Lam**  
B.S., Johns Hopkins University

**Alexander Siporin Levine**  
B.A., Fordham University  
B.S., Bryn Mawr College

**Benjamin Levy**  
B.S., Ohio State University

**Jason Liang**  
B.S., CUNY–Brooklyn College  
O.T.R., Rutgers School of Dental  
Medicine

**Ryan Linzer**  
A.S., Nassau Community College  
B.S., SUNY–Stony Brook

**Robert Lis**  
B.S., Fordham University

**Bryce Lynch Liu**  
B.S., University of California–  
Los Angeles

**Vivian Lu**  
B.A., CUNY–Hunter College

**Steven M. Lundi**  
B.S., SUNY–Stony Brook

**Eric J. Macdonald**  
B.S., University of New Hampshire



## CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES AND DIPLOMAS

---

**Avinash Malaviya**  
B.A., B.S., University of California–  
Los Angeles

**Ryan Malonis<sup>+</sup>**  
B.S., Boston College  
M.S., Yeshiva University

**Noah Markewitz**  
B.A., SUNY-Geneseo

**Maxim Isaac Maron<sup>+</sup>**  
B.S., Loyola University  
M.S., Yeshiva University

**Gabriel Marx**  
B.A., Oberlin College

**Zaki Masoud**  
B.A., New York University

**Cynthia Matsumura**  
B.S., University of California–  
Los Angeles

**Jessica Emma Mayer**  
B.A., Yeshiva University

**John C. McCarthy**  
B.S., SUNY-Buffalo

**Kelsey Skyler McKenna**  
B.A., Harvard University

**Sara A. Meyer**  
A.A., B.A., Yeshiva University

**Anna B. L. Miller**  
B.S., Guilford College

**Carolyn Elizabeth Miller**  
B.A., Amherst College

**Raphael Miller**  
B.S., Touro College

**Daniel Aaron Mitchell**  
B.S., University of California–Davis

**Rakin Muhtadi**  
B.A., Amherst College

**Matthew Charles Muller**  
B.S., Cornell University–Endowed  
Colleges

**Ahava Muskat**  
A.A., B.A., Yeshiva University

**Bryan Douglas Musmacker**  
B.H., SUNY–Stony Brook

**Ishan Naidu**  
B.H., University of Michigan

**Ankita Naraparaju**  
B.A., Cornell University–Endowed  
Colleges

**Alison Winfree Neely**  
B.S., Santa Clara University

**Jason Ni**  
B.A., Rutgers University

**Tova Niderberg**  
A.A., B.A., Yeshiva University

**Avigdor Nosrati**  
B.S., Cornell University–Endowed  
Colleges

**Brooke Chanel Nosratian**  
B.A., Washington University

**Roxanne Oghaz**  
B.A., O.T.R., Columbia University

**Jessinta Temitope Oseni**  
B.A., SUNY-Binghamton

**Soaptarshi Paul**  
B.A., New York University

**Gabriella Peluso**  
B.A., Rutgers University

**Alexandra Perez**  
B.A., Harvard University

**Hadley Colette Pfalzgraf**  
B.A., Northwestern University

**Le'Shauna Y. Phinazee**  
B.A., Bowdoin College

**Ashley Aviva Radparvar**  
B.S., Cornell University–Endowed  
Colleges

**Anvit Rai**  
B.A., B.S., University of Pittsburgh

**Alexander Ramek**  
B.A., Harvard University

**Vindhya Juvvadi Rao**  
B.A., Cornell University–Endowed  
Colleges

**Fahmida Rashid**  
B.S., Cornell University–Endowed  
Colleges

**Alma Atara Rechnitzer**  
B.A., Franklin and Marshall College

**Aviva Rotlevi**  
B.S., CUNY–College of Staten Island

**Mariel Rubin-Norowitz**  
A.A., B.A., Yeshiva University

**Donald Mcgilvray Salisbury III**  
B.A., B.S., University of California–  
Santa Cruz

**Janaki Manasa Samavedam**  
B.S., University of California–Davis

**Lesly Sanchez Alvarez**  
B.S., Pace University–Pleasantville

**Jesse Nathan Schwalb**  
B.A., Yeshiva University

**Yonatan Uri Schwartz**  
B.A., Yeshiva University

**Christine Leinbach Seaton**  
B.A., New York University

**Kathryn R. Segal**  
B.A., Vanderbilt University

**Rie Julia Sato Seu**  
B.A., Cornell University–Endowed  
Colleges

## CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES AND DIPLOMAS

---

**Faraz Sewani**

B.A., Emory University

**Priyam Shah**

B.S., Brandeis University

**Michelle Ying Shi**

B.A., B.S., University of California–Davis

**Christina Shin**

B.A., University of Pennsylvania

**Nupur Shridhar**

B.A., Brown University

**Benjamin Shtaynberger**

B.A., Yeshiva University

**Niloofar Sima**

B.S., SUNY–Stony Brook

**Abigail L. Smith**

B.S., University of Wisconsin

**Moshe C. Spira**

B.A., Yeshiva University

**Grant Alexander Sprow**

B.A., Harvard University

**Miriam Rachel Stock**

A.A., B.A., Yeshiva University

**Jesse Suben**

B.A., SUNY-Albany

**Deepthisri Suresh**

B.A., University of California–Berkeley

**Anna Tarasova**

B.S., SUNY–Stony Brook

**Jill Catherine Taylor**

B.S., Towson University

**Inez Timoney**

B.A., Sarah Lawrence College

**Yuto John Tobin Miyaji**

B.S., SUNY-Binghamton

**Hajar Traiba**

B.S., University of Massachusetts–  
Amherst

**Katherine Valles**

B.S., Fordham University

**Juan Vazquez**

B.S., Florida International University

**Mitchell Veith**

B.A., Columbia University

**Jeeva Venkataraman**

B.S., University of Miami  
O.T.R., Columbia University

**John Vincent Venticinque**

B.S., Fordham University

**Devin Shayne Videlefsky**

B.S., Tulane University

**Aria Dominique Vitale**

B.A., Georgetown University

**Benjamin Israel Lefko Wajsberg**

B.A., Yeshiva University

**Fei Wang**

B.A., Northwestern University

**Sarah Huishan Wang**

B.S., University of California–  
Los Angeles

**Yedidyah Ephraim Weiss**

B.A., Yeshiva University

**Kimberly M. Whitney**

B.S., University of Massachusetts–  
Amherst

**Emily Alice Williams**

B.A., Skidmore College

**Jeffrey Wu**

B.A., Princeton University

**Angell Xiang**

B.A., Hofstra University

**Elizabeth Yakubova**

B.A., CUNY–Queens College

**Michael W. Yang**

B.A., Middlebury College

**Joseph Keunhong Yi**

B.A., Dartmouth College

**Lily Cutler Young**

B.A., University of Pennsylvania

**Nick Changhao Yu**

B.S., Boston College

**Dong Jun Yun**

B.S., SUNY-Buffalo

**Samir Zaman**

B.A., University of Pennsylvania

**Jessica Zhang**

B.A., University of Virginia

**Xueting Zhang**

B.A., Vanderbilt University

**Nina Wu Zhu**

B.S., Cornell University–Endowed  
Colleges

## CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES AND DIPLOMAS

### Master of Science in Clinical Research Methods (CRTP)

as of May 30, 2023

#### Francesco Castagna

M.D., Università degli Studi di Milano  
Bicocca Facoltà di Medicina e  
Chirurgia, Milan, Italy  
*Predicting Hemodynamic Changes  
during Intra-Aortic Balloon Pump  
Support with a Longitudinal Evaluation*

#### Jennifer Ciuchta

D.O., Edward Via College of  
Osteopathic Medicine,  
Blacksburg, VA  
*Children with Acute, Uncomplicated  
Appendicitis from Lower Opportunity  
Neighborhoods Are More Likely to  
Have Prolonged Hospitalizations and  
Increased Healthcare Utilization*

#### Meghan Davitt

M.D., Lewis Katz School of Medicine at  
Temple University, Philadelphia, PA  
*Impact of Race/Ethnicity and  
Language Preferences on Pediatric  
ALL Survival Outcomes*

#### Chanelle Diaz

M.D., University of Miami Miller School  
of Medicine, Miami, FL  
*From Invisibility to Insight: Measuring  
the Impact of Anti-Immigrant Policies  
on Primary-Care Utilization by  
Undocumented Immigrants*

#### Bianca Hall

D.O., Rowan-Virtua School of  
Osteopathic Medicine, Stratford, NJ  
*Perceived Healthcare Quality and  
Contraception Utilization among  
Persons Recently Incarcerated*

#### Stella Kilduff

D.O., San Juan Bautista School of  
Medicine, Caguas, PR  
*Metabolic Acidosis in Pediatric Kidney-  
Transplant Recipients*

#### Jimin Lee

M.D., School of Medicine, Queen's  
University, Kingston, Ontario  
*The Association between Discharge  
Time of Day and Discharge Outcomes  
at an Academic Children's Hospital*

#### Kerry Morrone

M.D., Albert Einstein College  
of Medicine  
*Prevent Acute Chest Syndrome  
Checklist-(PACSccheck): QI Initiative to  
Reduce Acute Chest Syndrome*

#### Caroline Mullis

M.D., New York Medical College,  
Valhalla, NY  
*Clinical Presentations and Treatment  
Outcomes of Mycoplasma genitalium  
Infections at a Large New York City  
Healthcare System*

#### Sumeet Singh-Tan

D.O., A. T. Still University School of  
Osteopathic Medicine, Mesa, AZ  
*Addiction Consult Service and  
Inpatient Outcomes among Patients  
with Alcohol-Use Disorder*

#### Mengyang Sun

M.D., Washington University School of  
Medicine, St. Louis, MO  
*Modified Early Obstetric Warning  
System—A Validation and Optimization  
Study*

#### Juan Vazquez

M.D./M.S. Track, Albert Einstein  
College of Medicine  
*Imaging Markers of Cerebral Small-  
Vessel Disease Are Associated with  
Slow Gait and Cognitive Complaints in  
Older Adults*

#### Fei Wang

M.D./M.S. Track, Albert Einstein  
College of Medicine  
*Rectus Plication Does Not Increase  
Risk of Thromboembolic Events  
Following Abdominal Body  
Contouring: A Matched Case-  
Control Analysis*

#### Christina Yang

M.D., Northwestern University  
Feinberg School of Medicine,  
Chicago, IL  
*Implementation and Comparison  
of Tracheostomy Care Curricula for  
Pediatric Residents*

## CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES AND DIPLOMAS

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### Master of Science in Bioethics

as of April 5, 2023

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#### Sweta Chekuri

*Compensation for Organ Donation*

#### Matilda Garrido

*Is Medical Nudging Ethical?*

#### Jessica A. Rosh, J.D.

*Medicine and Law: Partners in Crimes  
against Humanity—Bioethics, Law, and  
the Holocaust*

#### Genna Schlicht

*Applying Principles of Justice to AI in  
Healthcare*

#### Iris Wertheim

*Perceptions of Medical Ethics at a  
Community Hospital*

### BELFER INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED BIOMEDICAL STUDIES

---

#### Kristina Ames, Ph.D.

Research Fellow  
Department of Cell Biology

#### Ayana K. April-Sanders, Ph.D.

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Department of Medicine/Cardiology

#### Asma Beiraghi Salek, Ph.D.

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of Neuroscience

#### Airton Da Cunha Martins Jr., Ph.D.

Research Fellow  
Department of Molecular  
Pharmacology

#### Christopher De Bono, Ph.D.

Research Fellow  
Department of Genetics

#### Claudia De Sanctis, Ph.D.

Research Fellow  
Dominick P. Purpura Department  
of Neuroscience

#### Drishya Diwaker, Ph.D.

Research Fellow  
Department of Developmental and  
Molecular Biology

#### Mohammad Reza Jabal-Ameli Foreooshani, Ph.D.

Research Fellow  
Department of Genetics

#### Elena Guevara Talarico, Ph.D.

Research Fellow  
Department of Biochemistry

#### Luong Do Huynh, Ph.D.

Research Fellow  
Department of Developmental and  
Molecular Biology

#### Claire Launay, Ph.D.

Research Fellow  
Department of Systems &  
Computational Biology

#### Huihui Li, Ph.D.

Research Fellow  
Department of Systems &  
Computational Biology

#### Adrian Martin Segura, Ph.D.

Research Fellow  
Department of Developmental and  
Molecular Biology

#### Samuel A. Martinez Meza, Ph.D.

Research Fellow  
Department of Pathology

#### Francisco Juan Martinez Navarro, Ph.D.

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Molecular Biology

#### Yuta Matsuno, Ph.D.

Research Fellow  
Department of Genetics

#### Gustavo Henrique Oliveira de Paula, Ph.D.

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Department of Medicine/Cardiology

#### Morgan W. Porch, Ph.D.

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of Neuroscience

#### Marcos Schaan Profes, Ph.D.

Research Fellow  
Dominick P. Purpura Department  
of Neuroscience

#### Dongze Qin, Ph.D.

Research Fellow  
Department of Medicine/Cardiology

#### Aurora Scrivo, Ph.D.

Research Fellow  
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Molecular Biology

#### Shixiang Sun, Ph.D.

Research Fellow  
Department of Genetics

#### Satya Surabhi, Ph.D.

Research Fellow  
Department of Developmental and  
Molecular Biology

#### Ying Hong Tham, Ph.D.

Research Fellow  
Department of Genetics

#### Sebastian E. Rojas Villa, Ph.D.

Research Fellow  
Department of Genetics

#### Junichi Yoshida, Ph.D.

Research Fellow  
Dominick P. Purpura Department of  
Neuroscience

#### GuoJun Yu, Ph.D.

Research Fellow  
Department of Cell Biology



# ALBERT EINSTEIN COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

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Terri L. Goldberg  
Gregory Gonzalez  
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\*Deceased

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ALUMNI AND FACULTY AWARDS

**2023 AWARDEE BIOGRAPHIES**

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## 2023 AWARDEE BIOGRAPHIES

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### Dominick P. Purpura Distinguished Alumna Award Elizabeth M. McNally, M.D., Ph.D. '90

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Dr. Elizabeth McNally is the director of the Center for Genetic Medicine, the Elizabeth J. Ward Professor of Genetic Medicine, and a professor of medicine and of biochemistry and molecular genetics at the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University, where she leads the Center for Genetic Medicine. A board-certified cardiologist, she heads the cardiovascular genetics program at the Bluhm Cardiovascular Institute. Her work focuses on the genetic mechanisms responsible for inherited human diseases such as heart failure, cardiomyopathy, muscular dystrophy, arrhythmias, and aortic aneurysms. She has discovered genes and genetic variants that cause such diseases and has worked to implement genetic analysis into clinical practice. She also advises on the development of new genetic-correction therapies. Dr. McNally is a member of the National Academy of Medicine and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and was named a Distinguished Scientist by the American Heart Association. She has served as president of the American Society of Clinical Investigation and of the Association of American Physicians, and is the first woman to serve as editor in chief of the *Journal of Clinical Investigation*. Dr. McNally earned her bachelor's degree at Barnard College of Columbia University and her M.D. and Ph.D. degrees at Einstein. She did postgraduate training at Brigham and Women's Hospital in internal medicine and cardiovascular medicine, and she was a postdoctoral fellow in genetics at Children's Hospital, Boston.

### Distinguished Ph.D. Alumnus Award John J. Foxe, M.S. '96, Ph.D. '99

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Dr. John Foxe is a professor of neuroscience and psychiatry at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, where he holds the Kilian J. and Caroline F. Schmitt Chair in Neuroscience and serves as chair of the department of neuroscience. He is also the director of the Ernest J. Del Monte Institute for Neuroscience, director of the University of Rochester Institute for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research, and director of the University of Rochester Center for Advanced Brain Imaging and Neurophysiology. Formerly professor of pediatrics and in the Dominick P. Purpura Department of Neuroscience and research director of the Children's Evaluation and Rehabilitation Center at Einstein, he is now an adjunct professor at Einstein and a number of other institutions. At the Frederick J. and Marion A. Schindler Cognitive Neurophysiology Laboratory, he employs an integrated, multimethodological approach to investigate the neural bases of sensory-perceptual and cognitive functions, specializing in autism and schizophrenia. Dr. Foxe received the Distinguished Investigator Award from Neuroscience

Ireland and was a McDonnell-Pew Research Fellow at the Oxford University Centre for Cognitive Neuroscience. He also competed internationally for Ireland in track. Dr. Foxe is editor in chief of the *European Journal of Neuroscience* and chair of the Neuroscience Peer Review Consortium. He received his bachelor's degree from Iona College and his M.S. and Ph.D. from Einstein.

### Distinguished Alumna / Clinical Practitioner Award Theresa M. Maresca, M.D. '84

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Dr. Theresa (Terry) Maresca is a clinical professor of family medicine at the University of Washington School of Medicine in Seattle. Her clinical practice focuses on American Indian / Alaska native healthcare at urban Indian, tribally run, and federal Indian Health Service sites. She works to reduce health disparities by integrating Indigenous cultural safety practices into Western healthcare. One of only 30 doctors of American Indian / Alaska native descent in the nation to have achieved the rank of professor, she has received numerous awards, including recognition for educational excellence from the University of Washington School of Medicine and being named American Indian Physician of the Year. She also received the Adeline Garcia Award from the Seattle Indian Health Board for career community service and earned a faculty development fellowship from the University of Washington School of Medicine. A former president of the Association of American Indian Physicians, she is on the executive committee of the Pacific Region Indigenous Doctors' Congress. For the Einstein Alumni Association, Dr. Maresca has mentored students from groups traditionally underrepresented in medicine and sponsored a student stethoscope gift. Dr. Maresca earned her bachelor's degree at Vassar College. Following graduation from Einstein, she completed her internship and residency in family medicine at the Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound, a University of Washington affiliate.

### Lifetime Achievement Award David Siegel, M.D. '73, M.P.H.

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Dr. David Siegel is a professor emeritus and former vice chair of medicine at the University of California (UC) Davis School of Medicine. He was also chief of medicine at the VA Northern California Health Care System; a professor of medicine and of epidemiology and biostatistics at UC San Francisco (UCSF), where he received the National Institutes of Health's Preventive Cardiology Academic Award; and the founder and director of the Preventive Cardiology Clinic at San Francisco General Hospital. Dr. Siegel's research focused on infectious-disease epidemiology and cardiovascular-disease prevention; he has more than 100 publications in peer-reviewed journals, including three first-author publications in *JAMA*. In the



## 2023 AWARDEE BIOGRAPHIES

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1980s, Dr. Siegel was a visiting professor at the Autonomous Nicaraguan School of Medicine and investigated Geneva Convention violations of medical neutrality during the war in Nicaragua. He worked for the World Health Organization's Global Program on AIDS in Tanzania and developed an AIDS-prevention program for the Oakland public schools. He is a fellow of the American College of Physicians and the American Heart Association. Dr. Siegel received a B.A. with high honors from Wesleyan University, where he later served on the board of trustees, and a master's degree from UC Berkeley. After graduating from Einstein, he did his residency at Harvard Medical School, an infectious-disease fellowship at Mount Sinai, and an Andrew W. Mellon clinical-epidemiology fellowship at UCSF. He's been on the board of governors of the Einstein Alumni Association since 2013. Currently, Dr. Siegel is a commissioner of Recreation and Parks in Davis, CA, and is on the board of directors of UC Davis Hillel.

### Lifetime Achievement Award

Yvette H. Calderon, M.D. '90

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Dr. Yvette Calderon is a professor of emergency medicine and the dean and vice president for equity in clinical care at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and the Mount Sinai Health System, and chair of the David B. Kriser Department of Emergency Medicine at Mount Sinai Beth Israel. Her clinical research focuses on major health disparities in the treatment of patients with HIV and hepatitis C. She developed the first multimedia-based HIV testing and counseling program, and her work has received funding from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. She is a member of the National Academy of Medicine and on the board of the American Board of Emergency Medicine. She also is a member of the board of Mentoring in Medicine. Dr. Calderon has served as the director of the Urgent Care Clinic at Jacobi Medical Center, as chief of emergency services and the interim chief medical officer at North Central Bronx Hospital, and as Einstein's associate dean of diversity enhancement. She received her bachelor's degree in neuroscience from Brown University and her M.D. and an M.S. in clinical research methods from Einstein. Dr. Calderon completed her internship at Beth Israel Medical Center and a residency in emergency medicine at Jacobi Medical Center, where she served as chief resident.

### Lifetime Service Award

Marjorie Werner Stein, M.D. '85

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Dr. Marjorie Stein is a professor of clinical radiology at Einstein and an attending radiologist at Montefiore. She became the first radiology clerkship director at Einstein and its affiliate hospitals. In her work at Montefiore, she specializes in body

imaging with a clinical focus on ultrasound of the abdomen and pelvis, including in patients with renal and liver transplants. She interprets sonograms of adults from the emergency room as well as inpatients and outpatients as part of an academic radiology practice in an urban setting. She is also active in the education and mentoring of medical students, radiology residents, and ultrasound technologists. The radiology curriculum she developed incorporates didactic lectures, state-of-the-art interactive teaching methods, and hands-on learning. She is committed to promotion of the radiology department as a vital part of all physicians' clinical armamentarium for diagnosis and treatment. Dr. Stein has published 37 articles in peer-reviewed journals and has given 55 presentations at major radiologic meetings. She is a fellow of the American College of Radiology and of the Society of Abdominal Radiology. In recognition of her excellence in the teaching of medical students, Dr. Stein was elected to the Leo M. Davidoff Society in 2007. She earned her bachelor's degree at Cornell University and her M.D. at Einstein. She did a radiology residency at Montefiore and a fellowship at Northwell.

### Einstein Honorary Alumna Award

Nilda I. Soto, M.S.Ed.

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Nilda I. Soto retired as assistant dean of diversity enhancement in September 2022. She has continued to offer assistance part-time during the search for, and in welcoming, her successor. Her legacy of leadership inspired the establishment of the Nilda I. Soto Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Scholarship. Throughout 33 years at Einstein, Ms. Soto oversaw outreach to and recruitment, retention, and mentoring of students from groups traditionally underrepresented in medicine. She directed the Einstein Enrichment Program offered to Bronx high school students aspiring to careers in the health professions and successfully secured funding for it from New York State for more than 30 years. She directed the Diversity Student Summer Research Opportunity Program, coordinated Einstein's Project 3000 by 2000 initiative for the Association of American Medical Colleges, and was an integral member of Einstein's Hispanic Center of Excellence. Ms. Soto was the chair of the New York State Department of Health's Minority Health Advisory Council—a role appointed by the governor—and the Minority Affairs Advisory Board of the Associated Medical Schools of New York. Her numerous awards include acknowledgment from the Association for Program Administrators of CSTEP and STEP for work with those seeking careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, and from the National Association of Medical Minority Educators. She also served as vice president of the Association of Hispanic Healthcare Executives. Ms. Soto earned her B.A. and her M.S. in education from Fordham University.

## 2023 AWARDEE BIOGRAPHIES

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### Rising Star / Clinical Practitioner Award

Cdr. Jennifer K. Eng-Kulawy, M.D. '10

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Dr. Jennifer Eng-Kulawy is a commander in the United States Navy and the pediatric consultant to the Navy's surgeon general. She is an assistant professor of pediatrics at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences and heads the Directorate of Education, Training, and Research at Fort Belvoir Community Hospital. Her clinical practice focuses on hospital medicine, leadership, and advocacy for pediatricians in Navy medicine and throughout the Department of Defense. She presented her paper "Improving Care for Individuals with Down Syndrome in the Military Health System" at multiple research symposiums and at the American Academy of Pediatrics National Conference. She served as a general pediatrician on two navy hospital ships, the USNS Mercy and the USNS Comfort, in support of humanitarian missions in Central and South America and the Indo-Pacific region. Dr. Eng-Kulawy received the Meritorious Service Medal for Navy-wide contributions to the Navy Medical Corps. She was named to the list of "Top 40 under 40" by the Stony Brook Alumni Association and was chosen as the Navy Uniformed Services West chapter's "Pediatrician of the Year." Dr. Eng-Kulawy has volunteered as a mentor for the Einstein Alumni Association. She received her B.S. in biochemistry from Stony Brook University, her M.D. from Einstein, and a graduate certificate in global health from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.

### Rising Star / Scientific Investigator Award

Evanthia T. Roussos Torres, M.D., Ph.D. '12

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A graduate of Einstein's Medical Scientist Training Program, Dr. Evanthia Roussos Torres is an assistant professor of medicine (oncology) at the University of Southern California's Keck School of Medicine. She is also an adjunct assistant professor of oncology at Johns Hopkins University. She investigates the translation of breast-tumor immunology from lab to clinic. Her bench research uses mouse models of primary and metastatic breast cancer to understand how immune-suppressive components of the tumor microenvironment influence response to immune-checkpoint inhibition. Through her translational research, Dr. Roussos Torres seeks to identify therapies that could improve patients' survival. She also studies how race affects levels of immune suppression and responses to new immunotherapies. As a Ph.D. student at Einstein in the laboratory of Dr. John Condeelis, she worked on identification of biomarkers of intravasation in breast cancer; her work illuminated the tumor microenvironment for the metastasis "doorway," associated with an increased risk of distant metastasis, which provided the foundation for development of a novel magnetic resonance imaging methodology, now approaching clinical trials. Since graduating, she has reconnected

with the team to further develop this technology. Dr. Roussos Torres has published 24 papers in peer-reviewed journals. She earned her B.S. and B.A. from the University of California at Los Angeles and her M.D./Ph.D. from Einstein. She completed her residency at the University of Pennsylvania and a fellowship in hematology/oncology at Johns Hopkins University.

### Samuel M. Rosen Award for Outstanding Teaching (Clinical)

Selected by the students in the College of Medicine

Noé D. Romo, M.D. '08, M.Sc.

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Dr. Noé Romo is an assistant professor of pediatrics at Einstein and the medical director of the pediatrics inpatient service at NYC Health + Hospitals / Jacobi. As site leader of the pediatrics acting internship for Einstein medical students, Dr. Romo has made providing competent and compassionate pediatric patient care in the public-hospital system the core of his teaching. His focus on understanding morbidity and mortality from pediatric injury related to violent trauma led to the creation of innovative hospital-based violence-prevention programs, including Stand Up to Violence (SUV) at Jacobi and the NYC Health + Hospitals Violence Intervention Program; Dr. Romo serves as medical director of both. These initiatives have improved both patient and community outcomes related to gun violence. He is widely published and gives frequent academic and public presentations on violence prevention in academic, community, and media settings and was featured in *GSW* (short for "gunshot wound"), a documentary about gun violence. In 2008 he received the Dr. Isadore Rossman Memorial Award for Commitment to Community Health Care. In 2022, he was awarded a congressional proclamation recognizing his contributions to combating gun violence. That year he was inducted into the Leo M. Davidoff Society, which recognizes excellence in the teaching of medical students. Dr. Romo earned his undergraduate degree at the University of California, Riverside, and his medical degree at Einstein. He completed a pediatrics residency at NYC Health + Hospitals / Jacobi, a primary-care research fellowship in community health at Columbia University, and an M.Sc. in epidemiology at Columbia's Joseph L. Mailman School of Public Health.

### Samuel M. Rosen Award for Outstanding Teaching (Pre-Clerkship)

Selected by the students in the College of Medicine

Angela Cheng-Lai, Pharm.D.

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Dr. Angela Cheng-Lai is an associate professor of medicine in the division of cardiology. She joined the Einstein faculty in 1999 and is the first pharmacist to have been promoted to senior rank at Einstein. She also serves as a clinical pharmacy manager for cardiology and as a co-chair of the Cardiometabolic Council at

## 2023 AWARDEE BIOGRAPHIES

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Montefiore. In 2019, Dr. Cheng-Lai's excellent contributions to teaching in Einstein's pre-clerkship curriculum resulted in her election to the Leo M. Davidoff Society. She also was the recipient of the prestigious President's Award from Montefiore in 2018 and was awarded fellowship in the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists in 2023. A prolific author of over 60 book chapters, research papers, and review articles, Dr. Cheng-Lai is a co-editor of *Current Cardiovascular Drugs*, third and fourth editions, a contributing author of the textbook *Cardiovascular Pharmacotherapeutics*, and a pharmacology section editor for the journal *Cardiology in Review*. Currently she serves as president of the New York State Council of Health-System Pharmacists. Dr. Cheng-Lai is a graduate of New York University and earned her B.S. in pharmacy at the Arnold and Marie Schwartz College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences of Long Island University. After completing a pharmacy practice residency at Montefiore, she received her doctorate in pharmacy from the University at Buffalo School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences in 1995.

### Harry Eagle Award for Outstanding Pre-Clerkship Teaching Adi Pinkas, Ph.D.

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Dr. Adi Pinkas, assistant professor of pathology, joined the Einstein faculty in 2018; he now serves as co-director of the Clinical and Developmental Anatomy course for first-year medical students as well as co-director of the Nervous System and Human Behavior course for second-year students. Together with his colleagues, he has made significant revisions to both courses and currently serves as a foundational block leader for the new medical-education curriculum launched recently at Einstein. Students have described him as "a phenomenal course director and lecturer" and his lectures as "engaging" and "highly informative," earning him excellent evaluation scores, two Teaching Star commendation letters, the Samuel M. Rosen Award in 2022, and election to the Leo M. Davidoff Society that year. Dr. Pinkas's enthusiasm for teaching was already evident during his postdoctoral studies at Einstein. From 2016 to 2018, he served as a lab instructor for students in the Anatomy course, presented cadaver-based workshops for Einstein's Summer Undergraduate Mentorship Program, and taught in the Montefiore Health Opportunities Program, designed for students from backgrounds underrepresented in medicine who are interested in pursuing health careers. Dr. Pinkas is a graduate of Israel's Haifa University, and earned his M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in neurobiology at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He completed postdoctoral studies at Hebrew University in 2015 and in the department of molecular pharmacology at Einstein in 2018.

### Harry H. Gordon Award for Outstanding Clinical Teaching Staci E. Pollack, M.D., M.S.

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Dr. Staci Pollack is a professor of obstetrics & gynecology and women's health in the division of reproductive endocrinology and infertility and is the department's director of undergraduate medical education. She joined the Einstein faculty in 1998, and has served as a clerkship director and subinternship director since 2014 and the director of the Reproductive Systems course since 2011. Dr. Pollack has been the president of the Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology Special Interest Group of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM), the president of its Menopause and Ovarian Insufficiency Special Interest Group, and a co-chair of the annual-meeting program committee for the North American Society for Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology. A national oral board examiner for the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology, she also served on its Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology Focused-Practice Committee Board. Dr. Pollack presents frequently on topics in her field and on medical student education. In 2010, she was named the Gold Humanism Honor Society faculty advisor; in 2017 she received the ASRM Service Award, and is also a member of Einstein's Leo M. Davidoff Society. A Cornell University graduate, Dr. Pollack earned an M.S. at the State University of New York at Buffalo and her M.D. at the State University of New York at Brooklyn. She completed ob/gyn residency training at Yale–New Haven Hospital and a fellowship in reproductive endocrinology and infertility at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

### Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Teaching Jay B. Dobkin, M.D. '79

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Currently an associate professor of medicine in the division of pulmonology, Dr. Jay Dobkin has spent the better part of his medical career at Einstein. After joining the faculty in 1985, he became a site co-director of Montefiore's intensive care unit at the Jack D. Weiler Hospital a year later, a position he held until 2001. His clinical interests include general pulmonary medicine with a focus on interstitial lung disease, chronic lung infections, and pulmonary-function testing, and he now directs the pulmonary-function laboratories of the pulmonary division and is the site director for pulmonary medicine at Weiler. A consummate educator, Dr. Dobkin served as faculty for Einstein's second-year course in respiratory physiology from 1984 to 1998 and has been a site director for the medicine acting internship at the Weiler Division since 2001. He cites as his proudest accomplishment "the students whom I have had the privilege to teach." Long a member of the Leo M. Davidoff Society, which recognizes excellence in the teaching of medical students, he was named Outstanding Attending for

## 2023 AWARDEE BIOGRAPHIES

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1998–99 at Jacobi Medical Center’s internal medicine residency program and was honored with the department of medicine’s Distinguished Clinician Award in 2022. Dr. Dobkin received his B.A. summa cum laude from Yeshiva College and his M.D. from Einstein in 1979. He completed his residency in medicine and a fellowship in pulmonary medicine, both at the Bronx Municipal Hospital Center.

### **LaDonne H. Schulman Award for Excellence in Teaching** **Robert A. Coleman, Ph.D.**

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Dr. Robert Coleman is an associate professor of cell biology and has been a member of the Einstein faculty since 2010. His research involves using cutting-edge live-cell, single-molecule imaging and structural determination of proteins involved in gene regulation and chromatin biology to study tumor suppression and development. He has published nearly two dozen papers in peer-reviewed journals, including numerous articles in *Science*, *Science Translational Medicine*, *Molecular Cell*, *Genes & Development*, and *Cell Reports*. Dr. Coleman worked on a team at the University of California, Berkeley, with Robert Tjian, president of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, and Nobel laureate Steven Chu to establish the first in vitro, single-molecule imaging system to study eukaryotic transcription. He has developed single-molecule microscopes and systems that probe how transcription factors, tumor suppressors, and oncogenes dynamically seek out target genes and regulate transcription in vitro, in live cells, and in tissues. His lab is currently using this information to identify novel therapeutics targeting cancer. Dr. Coleman received his B.S. degree in biochemistry and Ph.D. in biochemistry and molecular biology from the Pennsylvania State University. He did postgraduate work at ETH Zürich in Switzerland and at the University of California, Berkeley, studying the structural biology and biophysics of the factors involved in gene regulation.

### **Saul R. Korey Award** **in Translational Science and Medicine** **Kartik Chandran, Ph.D.**

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Dr. Kartik Chandran is a professor of microbiology & immunology, the Gertrude and David Feinson Chair in Medicine, and the Harold and Muriel Block Faculty Scholar in Virology at Einstein. His lab focuses on identifying and understanding the molecular warfare between viruses and cells to help develop antiviral treatments. A goal of the lab’s work is to enhance preparedness for pandemics involving threats such as the Ebola virus, the Sin Nombre virus, SARS-CoV-2, and other viruses that may cause future outbreaks. Working collaboratively with partners on three continents, Dr. Chandran and his colleagues have helped uncover critical host factors required for viral infection. They are also doing translational studies to develop small-molecule- and antibody-based therapeutics. Dr. Chandran has 154 peer-reviewed publications, including three book chapters. He helped create and leads the Prometheus Center of Excellence in Translational Research, an international consortium funded by the National Institutes of Health that has spearheaded development of a pan-ebolavirus antibody cocktail, for which a human phase 1 clinical trial was recently completed. Prometheus is also developing human antibody-based therapeutics against lethal emerging bunyaviruses, a family of viruses often transmitted by arthropods, including ticks and mosquitoes, that cause serious human disease. Dr. Chandran earned his B.S. at Lafayette College and his Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He did research fellowships in microbiology and molecular genetics at Harvard Medical School and in medicine at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston.



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**2023 GRADUATION AWARDS**

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## 2023 GRADUATION AWARDS

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### ALPHA OMEGA ALPHA

Student Inductees  
Class of 2023

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Michael Baron  
Michael Bergamini  
Caroline Boyle  
Arjun Byju  
Molly Charney  
Tiffany Cheng  
Junwen Deng  
Daniela Feingold  
Ariel Felman  
Giuseppe Fiorica  
Valerie Fong  
James Gary  
Rachel Gozland  
James Hammock III  
Rohan Kankaria  
Daniel Klyde  
Yana Kost  
Victoria Kusztos  
Ryan Linzer  
Robert Lis  
Eric Macdonald  
Maxim Maron  
Cynthia Matsumura  
Daniel Mitchell  
Matthew Muller  
Ishan Naidu  
Hadley Pfalzgraf  
Ashley Radparvar  
Kathryn Segal  
Benjamin Shtaynberger  
Miriam Stock  
Devin Videlefsky  
Benjamin Wajsberg  
Fei Wang  
Jeffrey Wu  
Joseph Yi  
Lily Young  
Jessica Zhang  
Xueting Zhang

### GOLD HUMANISM HONOR SOCIETY

Student Inductees  
Class of 2023

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Joseph Abraham  
Moshe Beiser  
Molly Charney  
Samantha DiSalvo  
Julia Holber  
Tina Jing  
Sharon Lam  
Alexander Levine  
Zaki Masoud  
Jessica Mayer  
Raphael Miller  
Anvit Rai  
Benjamin Shtaynberger  
Deepthisri Suresh  
Hajar Traiba  
Benjamin Wajsberg  
Fei Wang  
Yediyah Weiss  
Kimberly Whitney  
Michael Yang  
Lily Young  
Jessica Zhang

### STUDENT AWARDS

Dean's Recognition Award  
Class of 2023

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Tori Aspir  
Mia Bates  
Hayley Berg  
Jordan Berka  
Jessie Birnbaum  
Emily Chen  
Alexandria Debasitis  
Samantha DiSalvo  
Elizabeth Elkins  
Abigail Funari  
Sara Glickman  
Alexandra Gordon  
Benjamin Green  
Aryeh Gurvich  
John Christian Hein  
Sarah Hill  
Julia Holber

Tina Jing  
Thomas Kennedy  
Jacqueline Labins  
Sharon Lam  
Benjamin Levy  
Noah Markewitz  
Jessica Mayer  
Carolyn Miller  
Ahava Muskat  
Bryan Musmacker  
Ankita Naraparaju  
Alison Neely  
Tova Niderberg  
Avigdor Nosrati  
Mariel Rubin-Norowitz  
Yonatan Schwartz  
Rie Seu  
Faraz Sewani  
Michelle Shi  
Nupur Shridhar  
Grant Sprow  
Jesse Suben  
Jill Taylor  
Hajar Traiba  
Michael Yang  
Samir Zaman

### MEDICAL STUDENT AWARDS

Class of 2023

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Tamara L. Bolin, M.D., Memorial  
Award for Medical Excellence  
Le'Shauna Phinazee

Jean L. Cook, M.D., Memorial  
Award for Medical Excellence  
Errol Hunte

Medical Society of the State of New  
York Community Service Award  
Eric Acosta

Andrew Doyle Award for Excellence  
in Neurology  
Benjamin Jadow

American Academy of Neurology  
Student Prize for Excellence in  
Neurology  
Molly Charney

## 2023 GRADUATION AWARDS

American Medical Women's Association Glasgow-Rubin Achievement Citation  
Ankita Naraparaju

Ralph Ger Award in Clinical Anatomy  
Zaki Masoud  
Nupur Shridhar  
Jesse Suben

Maurice Greenhill Memorial Award in Psychiatry  
Jayabhargav Annam

Albert S. Kuperman Award for Field Work in Global Health  
Sarah Hill

Excellence in Obstetrics and Gynecology & Women's Health Award  
Hadley Pfalzgraf

Dr. Leonard J. Mogilner Memorial Award for Excellence in Pediatrics and Community Service  
Valerie Fong

Dr. Edward Padow Award for Excellence in Pediatrics and Community Service  
Mia Bates

Dr. Isadore Rossman Memorial Award for Commitment to Community Health Care  
Alexandria Debasitis  
Lily Young

Social Justice Award  
Alexander Levine

Society for Academic Emergency Medicine Award for Excellence in Emergency Medicine  
Michael Bergamini

Gary Lombardi Excellence in Emergency Medicine Award  
Abel Infante

The Harold and Muriel Block Institute for Clinical and Translational Research Award for Excellence  
Molly Charney  
– Clinical Research  
Gabriel Marx  
– Translational Research

Dr. Evelyne Schwaber Award for Excellence in Communication Skills  
Samantha DiSalvo

The Gertie Marx, M.D., Prize for Most Outstanding Student in Anesthesiology  
Xueting Zhang

Dr. James and Ruth Scheuer Award for Outstanding M.D./Ph.D. Student Who Will Continue in Internal Medicine  
Maxim Maron

The Einstein Innovation and Citizenship Award  
Arianna Caradonna  
Rohan Kankaria

Ruth L. Gottesman Award for Excellence in Medical Education  
Abigail Funari

### GRADUATION WITH DISTINCTION IN RESEARCH

Arshia Aalami Harandi  
Jayabhargav Annam  
Tori Aspir  
Michael Baron  
Mia Bates  
Kevin Batti  
Moshe Beiser  
Jessie Birnbaum  
Caroline Boyle  
Brandon Bui  
Arjun Byju  
Arianna Caradonna  
Molly Charney  
Emily Chen  
Tiffany Cheng  
Chloe Citron  
Alexandria Debasitis  
Junwen Deng  
Hannah Epstein  
Daniela Feingold  
Giuseppe Fiorica  
Ashley Force  
Abigail Funari  
Benjamin Green  
Vivian Hawn  
John Hein  
Sarah Hill  
Sophey Ho  
Julia Holber  
Benjamin Jadow  
Seth Jeong  
Tina Jing  
Rohan Kankaria  
Atsumi Kimura  
Yana Kost  
Victoria Kusztos  
Jacqueline Labins  
Sharon Lam  
Bryce Liu  
Vivian Lu  
Eric Macdonald  
Avinash Malaviya  
Gabriel Marx  
Cynthia Matsumura  
Jessica Mayer  
Anna Miller  
Carolyn Miller  
Raphael Miller  
Rakin Muhtadi  
Ahava Muskat  
Ishan Naidu  
Ankita Naraparaju  
Avigdor Nosrati  
Jessinta Oseni  
Soaptarshi Paul  
Alexandra Perez  
Hadley Pfalzgraf  
Vindhya Rao  
Alma Rechnitzer  
Mariel Rubin-Norowitz  
Donald Salisbury III  
Yonatan Schwartz  
Christine Seaton  
Kathryn Segal  
Rie Seu  
Faraz Sewani  
Christina Shin  
Nupur Shridhar  
Benjamin Shtaynberger  
Grant Sprow  
Miriam Stock  
Deepthisri Suresh  
Anna Tarasova  
Hajar Traiba  
Juan Vazquez  
Mitchell Veith  
John Venticinque  
Devin Videlefsky  
Aria Vitale  
Benjamin Wajsberg  
Fei Wang  
Sarah Wang  
Kimberly Whitney  
Joseph Yi  
Lily Young  
Nick Yu  
Samir Zaman  
Jessica Zhang  
Nina Zhu

## DECLARATION OF GENEVA

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AS A MEMBER OF THE MEDICAL PROFESSION:

I SOLEMNLY PLEDGE to dedicate my life to the service of humanity;

THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF MY PATIENT will be my first consideration;

I WILL RESPECT the autonomy and dignity of my patient;

I WILL MAINTAIN the utmost respect for human life;

I WILL NOT PERMIT considerations of age, disease or disability, creed, ethnic origin, gender, nationality, political affiliation, race, sexual orientation, social standing, or any other factor to intervene between my duty and my patient;

I WILL RESPECT the secrets that are confided in me, even after the patient has died;

I WILL PRACTICE my profession with conscience and dignity and in accordance with good medical practice;

I WILL FOSTER the honor and noble traditions of the medical profession;

I WILL GIVE to my teachers, colleagues, and students the respect and gratitude that is their due;

I WILL SHARE my medical knowledge for the benefit of the patient and the advancement of healthcare;

I WILL ATTEND TO my own health, well-being, and abilities in order to provide care of the highest standard;

I WILL NOT USE my medical knowledge to violate human rights and civil liberties, even under threat;

I MAKE THESE PROMISES solemnly, freely, and upon my honor.

## OATH OF SCIENTISTS

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As I embark on my career as a biomedical scientist, I will strive to incorporate into my research and professional life the goals and moral principles required for the behavior of a true scientist.

I therefore pledge

To recognize and respect without bias the contributions of scientists who preceded me, and of fellow scientists and students;

To be open to new ideas regardless of my perspective;

To commit to work with the highest standards of academic honesty, scientific integrity, and ethical practice;

To use my training and creativity to seek and disseminate truth, and to use my knowledge to assist others, thereby advancing the progress of biomedical science, to benefit all humanity.







Albert Einstein College of Medicine

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ONLY A LIFE LIVED FOR OTHERS  
IS A LIFE WORTHWHILE.

*Albert Einstein*

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*Affiliated with:*

**Montefiore**



Yeshiva University



