

## In This Issue...

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- ▶ **Dominick P. Purpura – An Appreciation (p.66)**  
 Chancellor Norman Lamm appointed Dominick P. Purpura as Dean of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine (AECOM) 22 years ago. In his piece, he describes how invaluable Dom Purpura has been to the medical school and Yeshiva University.
- ▶ **Genes are Not Destiny (p.68)**  
 Attending a conference entitled “The Jewish Genome: Fact or Fancy,” President Richard M. Joel not only learned about the issues involved with examining the Jewish Genome, but also gained some insight from Dominick Purpura.
- ▶ **Contribution to the Festschrift Honoring Dominick P. Purpura (p.69)**  
 As the President of the Montefiore Medical Center, Spencer Foreman has had the opportunity to work closely with Dominick Purpura for 20 years. He highlights the essential role Dom Purpura has played in the partnership between Einstein and Montefiore.
- ▶ **In Appreciation of Dom Purpura (p.70)**  
 Ernst Jaffé first met Dominick Purpura 53 years ago when they were both part of the Presbyterian Hospital house staff. He summarizes the progression of Dominick Purpura’s career, from Professor and Chairman of Anatomy to Chairman of the Department of Neuroscience, and ultimately to Dean of the College.
- ▶ **The Young Dom Purpura as an Inspirational Mentor: Personal Reminiscences (p.71)**  
 A brief six-month elective period in medical school working with Dominick Purpura forever changed Eric Kandel’s career. Here he recounts how Dom’s mentorship inspired him to become a scientist starting with their early work on lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) in the brain.
- ▶ **Meganeurites and the Man (p.74)**  
 Steve Walkley chronicles Dominick Purpura’s discovery of “large bananas” inserted in neuronal cell bodies, the first description given to the neurons in Tay-Sachs disease or GM2 gangliosidosis. These “bananas” ultimately became known as meganeurites and resulted in a series of ground-breaking papers.
- ▶ **Dom Purpura: An Unscientific View (p.77)**  
 Former Associate Dean Deborah Kligler-Krasnow’s tribute to Dominick Purpura was first given as a speech on May 3, 2006. She provides another glimpse into this multi-faceted man, from his endless acts of empathy to his constant desire to help and mentor.
- ▶ **On the Road to Divine Inspiration with Dom: A Thirty Year Retrospective and Tribute (p.79)**  
 As a medical student, Mark Mehler took Dominick Purpura’s visionary neuroscience course and also constantly engaged in varied and wide-ranging conversations with him. Here he discusses how Dom Purpura has continued to serve as his mentor, giving advice and guidance through numerous insights and enlightened observations.
- ▶ **Coming to Einstein, an Odyssey with Dom Purpura (p.82)**  
 Michael Bennett recalls his earliest days with Dominick Purpura at Columbia’s College of Physicians and Surgeons. In his piece, he highlights their earliest days at Einstein, from time spent establishing the Department of Anatomy to their move to the then newly established Rose Kennedy Center.
- ▶ **A Question from Emilio: Hypotheses, Hope, and the Legacy of Dominick P. Purpura (p.84)**  
 As a medical student, Steve Waxman first became inspired by Dominick Purpura’s constant lessons in humanity, encouragement, and hope. He describes an e-mail he received from a tetraplegic boy and how Dom Purpura has provided him with the inspiration and perspective to become an effective clinician-scientist.
- ▶ **Dominick P. Purpura, M.D.: A Contemporary’s Reminiscences (p.86)**  
 A contemporary of Dominick Purpura, Isabelle Rapin first met Dom as a resident about 50 years ago. She reminisces about the numerous contributions he has made, from his discovery of an atypical variant of Tay Sachs disease to his tireless devotion to teaching and mentoring.
- ▶ **Dom Purpura’s Contributions to Education (p.88)**  
 Albert Kuperman, Associate Dean for Educational Affairs, provides a look into Dominick Purpura’s contributions to the Einstein academic education, which includes founding a ground-breaking neurobiology course, one of the very first of its kind, and also the Division of Education.
- ▶ **Q&A with Dominick P. Purpura (p.90)**  
 This interview with Dominick Purpura provides a unique and rare look into this beloved man. Manuela Polydoro and Rachel Ross had an opportunity to interview him, and this account, from that interview, is also interspersed with a timeline in prose of his career.
- ▶ **Dominick P. Purpura’s Neuroanatomy Course: A Brief Reminiscence (p.94)**  
 Howard Dean’s brief piece, an excerpt from a 2003 Einstein Commencement, provides a look back at Dominick Purpura’s Neuroanatomy course.
- ▶ **A New Life (p.95)**  
 Richard Hays recounts a humorous yet tremendously insightful anecdote about an occurrence in the life of Dominick Purpura.
- ▶ **Following in the Footsteps of a “Neuroscience” Giant (p.96)**  
 Dean Allen M. Spiegel closes this issue by marveling at the large shoes left behind by Dominick Purpura. The new Dean points out that the Michael F. Price Center for Genetic and Translational Medicine/Harold and Muriel Block Research Pavilion, currently under construction, will be a lasting piece of tangible evidence embodying Dean Purpura’s vision for the future of medicine.
- ▶ **Assorted Pictures of Dominick P. Purpura (p.97)**