

GRAPEVINE

THE ALUMNI MAGAZINE
OF NYU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
SPRING 2017 | VOL. 17, NO. 1

Life Changer

*The power of NYU School
of Medicine to inspire
great discovery*

PAGE 12





LET'S NAME 175 ROOMS IN HONOR OF OUR 175TH!

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With Pride and Gratitude



I know that NYU School of Medicine's recent accomplishments are particularly meaningful to you. So when you learned that *U.S. News & World Report* recently ranked us #12 for research on its Best Graduate Schools list—up from #34 just 10 years ago—you must have felt a special swell of pride in your alma mater.

It's a feeling we've become well acquainted with, as the School and NYU Langone Medical Center have consistently exceeded our lofty hopes over the past decade. Consider these milestones and accolades from the past year:

- Our students are at the front of the pack, tied with Harvard for #1 in the country with a median GPA of 3.91 for matriculated first-year students and tied with three other schools for #2 in median MCAT scores.
- Thanks to our philanthropic partners—including many of you—we significantly strengthened our scholarship funding so we can continue attracting a gifted and diverse student body.
- As we further reimagine medical education, our innovative Three-Year Accelerated MD Pathway graduated its debut class in May 2016.
- Our research enterprise is thriving despite increased competition for federal dollars, placing #3 in average National Institutes of Health research grants per faculty member.
- Further attesting to the talent of our faculty, *U.S. News* placed us in the top 10 of its Best Hospitals Honor Roll for the first time ever, while nationally ranking 12 of our specialty areas, including seven in the top 10 and two in the top 5.
- By forging a strategic partnership with Long Island's Winthrop-University Hospital and increasing our presence in Brooklyn with NYU Lutheran, we

significantly expanded our ambulatory care network and saw more than 5 million patient visits in 2016.

- Our ambitious institution-wide transformation has produced more than 7 million square feet of growth since 2007. And we're now a year away from cutting the ribbon on the crown jewel of this effort, the Helen L. and Martin S. Kimmel Pavilion, which will be New York City's first and only hospital with all single-bed inpatient rooms.

Taken together, these achievements make one thing absolutely clear: Never in the 175 years since NYU School of Medicine's founding has our outlook been brighter.

We have many reasons to feel proud of our institution, but none is greater than our alumni. Since graduating, you've built on the education you received here to touch countless lives around the world, and your successes continue to inspire our current students to aim as high as they possibly can. You are such an integral part of the NYU Langone family, and I cannot thank you enough.

We are delighted to share the School's recent highlights with you in this issue of the freshly designed and relaunched *Grapevine*. I hope you take as much pride in them as I do.

ROBERT I. GROSSMAN, MD
THE SAUL J. FARBER DEAN AND CEO

“NEVER IN THE 175 YEARS SINCE NYU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE'S FOUNDING HAS OUR OUTLOOK BEEN BRIGHTER.”

GRAPEVINE

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Illustration of Jedd D. Wolchok '94, PhD (GSAS '93) by Jasu Hu

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CELEBRATIONS

2016 Dean's Honors Day

Dean Grossman honors faculty members for lifetime achievements

AT THE 15TH ANNUAL Dean's Honors Day ceremony in October, three faculty members were recognized for their work in clinical excellence, education, and science with Master Scholar Awards.

"These individuals perfectly embody our mission to serve, teach, and discover," said Robert I. Grossman, MD, the Saul J. Farber dean and CEO. "Through their passion, service, and innovation, our institution continues to soar."

David E. Cohen, MD, MPH, the *Charles C. and Dorothea E. Harris Professor of Dermatology* and director of occupational environmental and allergic dermatology, was named "master clinician." Molly Poag, MD, clinical associate professor and director of medical student education in the Department of Psychiatry, was named "master educator." Richard Tsien, DPhil, the director of the Neuroscience Institute, chair of the Department of Neuroscience and Physiology, *Druckenmiller Professor of Neuroscience*, and scientific director of the Marlene and Paolo Fresco Institute for Parkinson's and Movement Disorders, was named "master scientist." Trustee Fiona Druckenmiller was also honored with the Valentine Mott Founders Award.

Pictured below, left to right: Kenneth G. Langone, Molly Poag, Fiona Druckenmiller, Richard Tsien, David Cohen, and Dean and CEO Robert I. Grossman



RANKINGS

Front of the Pack

OUT OF 170 medical schools nationwide, NYU School of Medicine was rated #12 in the nation and #2 in New York City in *U.S. News & World Report's* 2018 Best Medical Schools for Research. The ranking represents a gain from 2016, when NYU School of Medicine was rated #14 (breaking the top 15 for the first time), and a dramatic leap from 2007. That year, the School was ranked #34.

U.S. News & World Report uses a range of statistical factors to evaluate a school's research enterprise, including assessments by deans and residency directors.

"All these recognitions—and more—are an affirmation of the hard work and commitment of everyone at NYU Langone," said Dr. Grossman. "We thank everyone—faculty, students, and staff—who make valuable contributions every day. I'm grateful to all of you."

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT RATED NYU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE #12 IN THE NATION ON ITS LIST OF 2018 BEST MEDICAL SCHOOLS FOR RESEARCH.

#12

Want more news about the school?

MED.NYU.EDU



New Library Focuses on Digital Resources

THE SID AND RUTH LAPIDUS

Health Sciences Library opened in June 2016 on the ground floor of the Medical Science Building, in approximately the same space as the previous library, which was destroyed by Hurricane Sandy in 2012.

“Sandy gave us the opportunity to design and build a completely new library fit for the digital age,” said Vicki Match Suna, AIA, senior vice president and vice dean for real estate development and facilities.

Named for its benefactors,

NYU Langone Trustee Sid Lapidus and his wife, Ruth, the new library was designed to offer openness and accessibility to the entire Medical Center community. Although the library still houses a small browsing collection of printed books, its focus is on providing digital access through some 30 workstations to nearly 175,000 e-books, 15,000 e-journals, and 250 databases. It also has 3D printers, a data visualization station, and a large classroom where courses and workshops on information discovery and knowledge

management are taught, incorporating innovative technologies. Recent workshops have included a discussion of general principles related to data visualization, an overview of programs that can help researchers produce basic visualizations, and an introduction to 3D printing.

“It’s not typical yet for medical schools to offer 3D printing services,” said Jeff Williams, deputy director of the library, “but it’s becoming more common. We’re excited to be on the forefront of the trend.”

While focusing on the



Above: The two-story-high display wall in the lounge at the Sid and Ruth Lapidus Health Sciences Library, which showcases rotating exhibits

digital age, the library also pays tribute to the past. One of its most striking features is a two-story-high display wall that showcases rotating exhibits of rare books, archival documents and photographs, antique medical instruments, and other artifacts relating to the School's 175-year history and the history of the medical profession.

"While students are learning about medicine for the future," said Neil Rambo, library director, "the display reminds us all of this institution's great history."

Photo: Rene Perez



Lutheran Leadership

IN RECENT MONTHS, three NYU School of Medicine graduates have been named to leadership roles at NYU Lutheran Medical Center, an acute care teaching hospital in Brooklyn's Sunset Park that joined NYU Langone's integrated health network. They are dedicated to transforming the hospital's level of care, quality, and safety metrics—and the early results are impressive.

JOSEPH WEISSTUCH '85, chief medical officer of NYU Lutheran, oversees advanced practitioners, chiefs of service, graduate medical education, medicine quality, medical staff, medical students, research, and risk management. He also remains a practicing physician at NYU Langone Medical Center.

NICK GAVIN '09, BA (CAS '05), chief of services of the NYU Lutheran Emergency Department, runs the department's daily operations. Already, he and his team have reduced the emergency department's average wait time by nearly 30 percent.

CHARLES OKAMURA '04, director of the hospitalist program at NYU Lutheran, is building a robust, team-oriented system, focused on delivering culturally sensitive care with the highest degree of safety to all patients.

Since the beginning of 2016, NYU Lutheran has hired more than 90 new physicians and expanded a wide array of clinical services. The hospital now has the most advanced surgical robot in Brooklyn, and plans are under way for a massive campus transformation, including a new hospital pavilion with a state-of-the-art mother/baby center, an ambulatory surgery center, a new Laura and Isaac Perlmutter Cancer Center, and more.

COLLABORATIONS

Bio-Tech Partnerships

IN DECEMBER 2016, NYU School of Medicine and NYU Tandon School of Engineering co-sponsored an event designed to identify opportunities for partnerships between biologists and engineers from the two campuses.

"We discussed transdisciplinary approaches to tackling biomedical challenges," said Dafna Bar-Sagi, PhD, senior vice president and vice dean for science and chief scientific officer of NYU Langone Medical Center, "and several new projects are now under way as a result."

Virtually Amazing

ANATOMY LABS look pretty different today. With virtual patients, virtual microscopes, and just the swipe of a fingertip across an iPad mini, first-year medical students now have access to a vast amount of information and technology. To ensure that they can navigate the appropriate resources, the Institute for Innovations in Medical Education (IIME) recently launched a pilot program with Bluetooth transmitters known as iBeacons in the anatomy labs. These devices are able to precisely sense a user's smart-

“THE iBEACONS PROJECT DEMONSTRATES ONE OF THE EXCITING WAYS WE’RE PIONEERING THE MOST ADVANCED TECHNOLOGICAL TOOLS IN OUR CLASSROOMS.”

MARC TRIOLA '98

phone or iPad location and transmit personalized messages to the device. The iBeacons sense when students enter a lab, and send them the materials they will need for that session—for example, PDFs, web pages, or videos. The devices can also direct students to explore specific areas of the body using 3D models of cadavers or pathology specimens, depending on the students' physical location within the lab and where they are in their coursework. In the past year, under the leadership of its director, Marc Triola '98 associate professor of medicine and associate dean for educational informatics, the IIME has piloted several tools that are bringing computer-assisted instruction, student evaluation and assessment, and learning analytics to the next level. The iBeacons project is being driven by Jake Sippel, an education technology analyst at the IIME. The institute is now one of the nation's largest medical innovation education groups, comprising educators, education scientists, informaticians, and developers who collaborate on ways to transform teaching and learning. It combines advances in education strategies with new informatics solutions in order to connect the three missions of NYU Langone—patient care, research, and education.

For more information, visit med.nyu.edu/iime.

phone or iPad location and transmit personalized messages to the device.

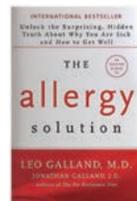
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A student exploring the BioDigital Human on an anatomy lab iPad

BOOKS



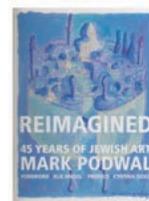
In the international bestseller *The Allergy Solution: Unlock the Surprising, Hidden Truth about Why You Are Sick and How to Get Well* (Hay House, 2016), Leo

Galland '68 and his son, Jonathan Galland, suggest steps people can take to rebalance their immunity through nutrition and lifestyle. Dr. Galland is a world leader in integrative medicine and a founder of functional medicine.



Radiant Skin from the Inside Out: The Holistic Dermatologist's Guide to Healing Your Skin Naturally (Picture Health Press, 2015),

by Alan Dattner '69, won the 2016 National Indie Excellence Award in the alternative medicine category and was chosen as the IndieFab finalist and the International Book Awards finalist in alternative medicine and health.



Reimagined: 45 Years of Jewish Art (Glitterati, 2016) showcases the work of Mark Podwal '70, a celebrated artist and a clinical associate profes-

sor of dermatology at NYU School of Medicine. While he was a student at NYU School of Medicine, he created political drawings that were published in *The New York Times*, and he has produced meaningful work as an author and illustrator ever since.

Class of 2020



7,300+

applications for 132 positions

20%

underrepresented minorities

46%

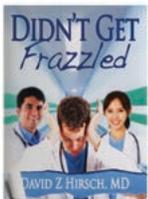
women

3.91

median GPA

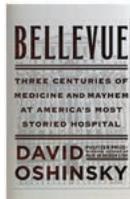
98%

median MCAT percentile



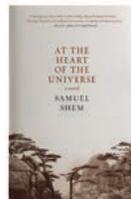
Didn't Get Frazzled (Amazon Digital, 2016), by David Naiman '96 (under the pseudonym David Z. Hirsch, MD), was called "the best fictional portrayal

of med school since ER" by BlueInk Review. This debut novel is a rousing, provocative tale about four years in the life of an intrepid medical student, set in the grueling world of an elite NYC medical school.



In his riveting new book, **Bellevue: Three Centuries of Medicine and Mayhem at America's Most Storied Hospital** (Doubleday, 2016), David Oshinsky,

PhD, Pulitzer Prize-winning author and director of the Division of Medical Humanities at NYU School of Medicine, illuminates some of American medicine's greatest accomplishments and biggest challenges.



At the Heart of the Universe (Seven Stories Press, 2016), by Steve Bergman, MD, DPhil (under the pseudonym Samuel Shem), a clinical professor of medicine in the

Division of Medical Humanities at NYU School of Medicine and author of *The House of God*, explores the journey of a mother who lived in communist China during the 1990s and had to give up her daughter for adoption.



Above: NYU School of Medicine's commencement ceremony on May 18, 2016, in the Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center

Congratulations to 2016 Graduates

177 students, including the first graduates of our Three-Year Accelerated MD Pathway, received MD degrees

LAST MAY, during the commencement ceremony in the Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center, 177 students graduated and received doctor of medicine degrees from NYU School of Medicine. The class included 15 students graduating from the three-year MD program, a key initiative in NYU School of Medicine's curriculum for the 21st century, which allows students to create individualized pathways to medical education.

Additionally, 22 students received dual degrees, including six MD/MS degrees, one MD/MPH degree, three MD/MPA

degrees, seven MD/MBA degrees, and five MD/PhD degrees. Nine degrees were conferred with honors, and 29 members of the class were inducted into *Alpha Omega Alpha*, the national medical honor society.

The evening's keynote speaker was Judy Faulkner, founder and CEO of Epic Systems, a leading platform for electronic medical records worldwide. NYU Langone Medical Center began implementing Epic in its facilities in 2012.

Before introducing Faulkner, Robert I. Grossman, MD, the Saul J. Farber dean and CEO of NYU Langone,

outlined 10 traits essential to physicians, including empathy, professionalism, willingness to take risks, and compulsive thoughtfulness.

"The very best physicians and surgeons are the most meticulous," he said. "Details matter, and for just that reason, there is no substitute for thoughtfulness!"

Sumit R. Kumar '16, MPA (WAG '16), who gave the valedictory speech, illustrated his understanding of Dr. Grossman's point when he reminded his classmates of the night, during their first year of medical school, when Hurricane Sandy swept in, devastating NYU Langone's



Gerardo Velez '20

A Night of Inspiration and Gratitude

Scholarship donors and recipients share their experiences at NYU School of Medicine

“I WANT TO THANK NYU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND ALL OF THE PEOPLE HERE FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART FOR INVESTING IN ME.”

GERARDO VELEZ '20

main campus. Sandy necessitated the evacuation of patients from Tisch Hospital, an effort in which the medical students provided many helping hands.

“It was on that night I learned the meaning of teamwork,” said Dr. Kumar. “On that night, I truly realized we are part of something bigger than our individual selves.... That experience taught me that in this profession, we can accomplish more together than by ourselves.”

The graduation ceremony concluded with a time-honored tradition for newly minted medical doctors as Dr. Grossman administered the Hippocratic Oath. Then graduates filed out to celebrate with their classmates, mentors, and loved ones, before embarking on the next phase of their careers.

AT THE 2016 SCHOLARSHIP and Alumni Appreciation Dinner in November, more than 100 scholarship recipients and donors came together at the Water Club to celebrate the impact of philanthropy. The event’s honorees, recognized for their generous contributions, were Jerome Lowenstein ’57, who received the Jerome S. Coles Award; Andrew J. Manganaro ’72, who received the Samuel D. Leidesdorf Award; and Marcia D. Miller and Sanford M. Miller, MD, who received the Raymond J. Brienza Award.

“Because of NYU, I got to spend nearly 40 years of my life doing what I loved so much,” said Dr. Manganaro. “I met my giants, my heroes. They taught far more than technical and intellectual skills. They taught us to respect, comfort, and care about and for our patients. By sharing now with future generations, through a donation to our alma mater, I hope you can become a true hero to our cause.”

Gerardo Velez ’20, one of the scholarship recipients, followed Dr. Manganaro’s remarks with an emotional speech. “Just a few years ago,” he said, “I was mixing concrete, unclogging toilets, and mowing lawns. I was born and raised in a household of Spanish-speaking undocumented immigrants. Neither of my parents made it past high school, and they divorced when I was around 5 years old. I want to thank NYU School of Medicine and all of the people here from the bottom of my heart for investing in me. You have shown me a kindness I never knew existed. You have made my entire education possible and have changed the trajectory for me and my family. I’m excited for what the future holds, and I can’t wait to be able to do the same for others.”

REUNIONS



Right: Alumni reconnecting at our annual reunion weekend in April 2016; the Class of 1966 (pictured, bottom left) raised more than \$100,000 to create a named endowed scholarship fund in honor of their 50th anniversary

Alumni Celebrate 175th Anniversary

AT OUR ANNUAL reunion weekend in April 2016, more than 300 alumni, students, faculty, and friends celebrated a milestone for NYU School of Medicine—its 175th anniversary—and reconnect with one another. During

a full day of activities on campus and a special night of dinner and dancing at the Ritz-Carlton New York in Battery Park, attendees shared their personal memories and thoughts, saluted the winners of the Alumni

Achievement Awards, and took an up-close look at the School's campus during tours led by current students.

"I'm so honored to spend this day with you," said Anthony J. Grieco '63, BS (ARTS '60), associate dean for

From New England to California

IN THE FALL OF 2016, Anthony J. Grieco '63, BS (ARTS '60), associate dean of alumni relations, traveled from coast to coast, reconnecting with alumni and updating them on school news.



At a New England alumni event in September at the Boston Harbor Hotel, NYU School of Medicine honored Marc Jared Homer '71, professor of radiology emeritus at Tufts University School of Medicine (above, right).



In October, Dr. Grieco headed to northern California, where Jan K. Horn '76, emeritus professor of clinical surgery at the University of California San Francisco (above, left), was honored during an alumni event at the Four Seasons in San Francisco.



Later in October, in Los Angeles, the School honored Amy H. Porter '87, pediatrician at Kaiser Permanente (above, right), during an alumni event at the Peninsula Beverly Hills. Rafael Rivera Jr., MD, MBA (STERN '15), associate dean of admissions and financial aid, joined Dr. Grieco in California, sharing updates on new initiatives at the School.



alumni relations. "It's your achievements, integrity, and commitment to help people and make a difference that make NYU School of Medicine proud."

The recipients of the 2016 Alumni Achievement Awards were Ann Rebecca Garment '08, who received the Julia Zelmanovich Young Alumni Award; Richard W. Gross '76, PhD, who received the Solomon A. Berson Award in Basic Science;

Glenn D. Steele Jr. '70, PhD, who received the Solomon A. Berson Award in Health Science, Medicine, and the Arts; and Jedd D. Wolchok '94, PhD (GSAS '93), who received the Solomon A. Berson Award in Clinical and Translational Science (see page 12).

Beatrice W. Welters, one of NYU Langone's most generous and committed supporters, was made an honorary alumna in recognition of her philanthropic leadership.

Photos (right, top to bottom): David Fox Photography; Gustavo Fernandez Photography; Curtis Dahl Photography



Jedd D. Wolchok on Immunotherapy

One of the world's leading physician–scientists, who specializes in caring for patients with melanoma, explains what he learned about innovation at NYU School of Medicine.

BY JEN SWETZOFF

At the American Society of Clinical Oncology's annual meeting in June 2015, Jedd D. Wolchok '94, PhD (GSAS '93), presented a remarkable breakthrough for patients with advanced melanoma. He showed how two different immune therapies—ones that are in the same family of medicines, but that affect different pathways regulating the immune system—could be used successfully together to produce a rate of tumor regression with a degree of durability never seen before.

“I BELIEVE THAT INNOVATION STARTS WITH HAVING GOOD MENTORS—PEOPLE WHO ALLOW YOU TO THINK CREATIVELY, AND WHO ESSENTIALLY GIVE YOU A LONG ENOUGH LEASH TO RUN ON, BUT WHO ALSO WILL NOT LET YOU GO ASTRAY. I HAD A NUMBER OF EXTRAORDINARY MENTORS AT NYU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.”

“We were accustomed to seeing small numbers of people respond to similar treatment,” Dr. Wolchok said, “but we were not accustomed to seeing 60 percent of people responding. It was a huge change in just a few years. When you’re a physician, nothing is more gratifying than being able to give someone their life back after cancer.”

Previously, only about 10 percent of people diagnosed with advanced melanoma would survive more than two years.

But now, thanks to Dr. Wolchok’s research and the FDA approval of the immunotherapy combination his work identifies—nivolumab plus ipilimumab—the most recent data show that more than 60 percent of those people are living three years or longer, with a very good quality of life.

Dr. Wolchok credits his team of colleagues, including Michael Postow ’07, who is this year’s chair of his class’s 10th NYU School of Medicine reunion and recipient of the 2017 Julia Zelmanovich Young Alumni Award, as being an integral part of the discovery.

“In many ways, our achievement has a lot of ties back to NYU School of Medicine,” he said.

A lifelong New Yorker, Dr. Wolchok grew up on Staten Island and worked in a lab at New York Hospital during high school. After his undergraduate studies at Princeton University, he moved to Manhattan—graduating from NYU School of Medicine with his MD and PhD, then completing his residency at Bellevue. He did his fellowship at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, where he has remained for the past 20 years.

Today, Dr. Wolchok serves as the Lloyd J. Old/Virginia and Daniel K. Ludwig Chair in Clinical Investigation, chief of the Melanoma and Immunotherapeutics Service, director of the Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy, and associate director of the Ludwig Center for Cancer Immunotherapy at Memorial Sloan Kettering. He is also a professor of medicine at Weill Cornell Medical College. In honor of his innovative work, he has won numerous awards, including two prestigious ones from NYU School of Medicine: the Solomon A. Berson Medical Alumni Achievement Award in Clinical and Translational Science in 2016, and the Julia Zelmanovich Young Alumni Award in 2014. He was the first alumnus to receive both awards.

Dr. Wolchok and his wife, Karen Popkin, who works as a music therapist, live in Manhattan with their 17-year-old daughter. During a recent conversation with *Grapevine*, he discussed his passion for oncology, research, and classical music.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO BECOME A DOCTOR?

My grandmother died of pancreatic cancer when I was 16, and that planted the seed in my mind that maybe I wanted to go to medical school. When I went off to college, I still wasn’t sure. But then I started doing research in immunology and that solidified my interest. Each summer during college, I actually worked in the same laboratory at Memorial Sloan Kettering that I now run.

HOW DID YOU CHOOSE NYU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE?

I knew I wanted to be in New York, and I was lucky enough to get into my top three choices there. When I toured them again, I felt most drawn to NYU; there was something very warm and welcoming about it. Then I asked Dr. Alan Houghton—the principal investigator in the lab where I worked, and one of my greatest mentors—for his opinion. He said, “NYU is the most New York of the New York medical schools.”

And that’s how I made my decision. NYU School of Medicine was a wonderful place for me. I felt a closeness to so many people there. For instance, I remember when my cell biology professor Dr. Gert Kreibich called me the summer after my first year. The first thing I thought was, oh my God, I failed cell biology. But fortunately, no, he was calling to say he had an opening in the MD/PhD program, and he had heard I was research-inclined, so he thought of me. He asked if I would be interested in taking that spot. That opportunity changed my life.

WHAT DREW YOU TO RESEARCH?

I wanted to be part of the solution to a problem. I wanted to be part of moving the needle forward. I wanted to play an active role in innovation and discovery.

When I started my career, melanoma was a bad problem. The standard approaches to cancer treatment at the time were chemotherapy and radiation—and they were not successful in treating melanoma. So the problem was sort of thrown to the immunologists to think about.

WHAT DO YOU THINK BREEDS INNOVATION?

I believe that innovation starts with having good mentors—people who allow you to think creatively, and who essentially give you a long enough leash to run on, but who also will not let you go astray. I had a number of extraordinary mentors at NYU School of Medicine, including Dr. Tony Grieco and Dr. Jan Vilcek.

Dr. Grieco, aside from being my family doctor, is the clinician’s clinician. He is the

most rigorous academic physician. He is also compassionate, thoughtful, and attentive. He taught me how to think critically in the wonderful world of NYU and Bellevue. In fact, I applied to only one program for residency, and that was Bellevue. That experience shaped who I am as a doctor. It taught me to do things myself, to not depend on others; that the patient is the center of what we're here to do; and to think creatively. And, with all due respect to other top programs, I think everybody knows that it's the Bellevue/NYU-trained docs who are the ones they can depend on in a pinch.

Dr. Vilcek, my other mentor, is truly heroic. In my opinion, he is one of the most humble visionary scientists and humanitarians in the world. He's not an oncologist; he's an immunologist and a virologist. But when I came to work in his lab, he listened to me talk about what was driving me, question-wise. I came to him with some very specific ideas about how some of the things he was working on could be applied to cancer, and he said, great, do it. And we found a way to design a project together.

This sort of style—hands on/hands off, push a little/pull a little, but let someone run—it's how I run my group now. I try to emulate what I learned from my mentors. I try to make people feel welcomed. I try to give them direction, but also give them plenty of freedom. I want the younger folks to succeed, and I think that feeling came from Dr. Vilcek. I feel fortunate that some very important people taught me some very important lessons. They have shaped how I conduct myself.

WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER YOUR GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT?

I'm proud of successfully working on a new way to treat cancer, and of putting immunotherapy on the list of conventional approaches to cancer treatment—not just for melanoma but for other diseases. It's been incredibly rewarding to have led some of the clinical trials that resulted in the approval of the first immunotherapy treatment. I'm also proud of how our team has worked with colleagues in the pharmaceutical industry and government regulators to define new ways of judging the activity of immune therapies, so their true impact could be captured in a more scientific way.

HOW DO YOU HANDLE CHALLENGES AND DISAPPOINTMENTS?

That's a good question. When I first decided I wanted to go into oncology, I thought I'd

never have to tell someone they had cancer, because someone else would have already told them. But that turns out to have been remarkably naive.

I try to keep in mind something Dr. Frank Spencer—the former head of the surgery department at NYU Langone and one of the pioneers of open-heart surgery—once told me. He sat down with me in his office when I was a third-year medical student and, in his Texas drawl, he said, “If you remember nothing else of what I tell you, remember this: Treat every patient like they're your aunt or uncle, assuming you like your aunt or uncle. If you do that you will never, ever go wrong.”

I tell people the truth with an ounce of hope. I tell them that this is not what we were looking for. It could have been worse because of X, Y, and Z. And I find a way forward. I never give bad news without a plan.

WHAT'S NEXT FOR YOU?

Well, we haven't cured cancer yet. Sixty percent of people with melanoma respond to this treatment. But 60 percent is not 100 percent. We need to understand more about what that other 40 percent of people need—and why other cancers that respond to the same treatment don't respond as often. What is it about some people's tumors with melanoma that make them extraordinarily interesting to the immune system, whereas other aren't? I think this is a good place to start to understand what we need to examine next, but it's not the whole story.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU OFFER TO ASPIRING PHYSICIAN-SCIENTISTS?

Make sure that you love the idea of doing this, because it's hard work. I'm not just talking about the hours. It's frustrating. You're constantly looking for funding. You're constantly undergoing peer review. There's a lot of additional regulation and documentation. There are a lot of failures and a few successes. There's a lot of human suffering. And it's a busy life. But if you love it, if it's something that drives you, it's the best career ever.

HOW DOES NYU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE STILL PLAY A PART IN YOUR LIFE?

I'm still close with many of the folks I first bonded with during my anatomy lab. My friends from medical school have had a tremendous influence on my life, and it was great to see so many people at the reunion last year. I continue to be really proud of where I come from, and of all that NYU has continued to do for me over the years. I'm a very grateful and proud alum.

OUTSIDE THE OFFICE

WHEN ARE YOU HAPPIEST?
We have a house up in the Catskills, so I am happiest on my deck—maybe doing some work, or reading a paper, surrounded by trees and crisp mountain air.

WHO OR WHAT DO YOU MOST ADMIRE?
I admire human courage. I admire my patients and their families.

WHO OR WHAT IS THE GREATEST LOVE OF YOUR LIFE?
My wife and my daughter, no doubt. No hesitation.

WHAT'S SOMETHING PEOPLE MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT YOU?
My wife and I play in an all-volunteer wind band called the Grand Street Community Band in Williamsburg. I play the tuba and she plays the euphonium. Our daughter is also passionate about music. She's a violist.

WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST EXTRAVAGANCE?
I seem to be developing a weakness for classic cars. Up in the Catskills, I have an '88 Porsche 911 that was a Hurricane Sandy rescue and I'm learning how to repair it.

WHAT COULD YOU LIVE WITHOUT?
Stress.

WHAT IS YOUR MOST MARKED CHARACTERISTIC?
Balance.

WHAT DO YOU VALUE MOST IN YOUR FRIENDS?
Making me laugh.

WHAT IS THE MOST OVERRATED VIRTUE?
Success.

Faces of the Future

SCHOLARSHIPS, MADE POSSIBLE BY GENEROUS DONORS LIKE LARRY AND KLARA SILVERSTEIN, INSPIRE NYU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE GRADUATES TO START CAREERS THAT FOCUS ON MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE.

MORE THAN FOUR YEARS AGO, Yijie (Angela) Xu '16 was writing a paper in her dorm room at Johns Hopkins University when Rafael Rivera, MD, associate dean of admissions and financial aid at NYU School of Medicine, called her. "He asked me how I'd feel if he told me I could come to med school for free," Dr. Xu recalls. "I said I'd feel great—and then I waited for the punch line. I thought it was a joke."

Fortunately for Dr. Xu and the other NYU medical students featured in these pages, the *Silverstein Scholarship* is no joke. In 2012, NYU Langone Medical Center Trustees Larry and Klara Silverstein established the *Silverstein Scholarship Fund*, which provides full-tuition scholarships for five students each year. These scholarship awards are based largely on academic merit, although financial need is also considered.

"It is our hope," said Mr. and Mrs. Silverstein, "that this gift will allow talented and hardworking NYU School of Medicine students to realize their dreams of careers in medicine as well as foster advances in healthcare."

By graduating with zero debt, *Silverstein Scholars* don't need to make professional decisions based primarily on financial considerations. They can take risks in their work that will likely transform the world of medicine and the way it's administered. As you'll see in the following pages, these aspiring physicians embody the creativity and ingenuity that will drive the future of healthcare.

In May 2016, the inaugural *Silverstein Scholars* graduated from NYU School of Medicine. Here, in their words, is the impact that the Silversteins' generosity has had.

IN GRATITUDE

We are deeply grateful to all the donors who make scholarships available to our students. Every dollar given to scholarships directly contributes to reducing the burden of debt students face. Thanks to generous gifts from our alumni and other supporters, our scholarship endowment has increased fourfold in the last decade.

This is the first story in a series focusing on our generous supporters and the lives they touch. Please look for other articles in future issues of Grapevine.



SALMA ABDOU '18



HON CHAU '17



TOBY TERWILLIGER '17



MICHAEL MOSES '17



HELEN STANLEY '18



MATT KINGERY '19



JESSICA PERFETTO '18



NATHANIEL TRACER '19



AUDREY ZHANG '19



NICOLE TOPILOW '17



CHERUB KIM '17



LUKE HARTSTEIN '19



RHODES HAMBRICK '18



EMMA KURZ '19



GRETL LAM '17



ALYSSA COFFIN '17

Photos: Sasha Nialla

A close-up portrait of Yijie (Angela) Xu, a young woman with long dark hair, wearing a purple top. She is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is a soft, out-of-focus purple and white gradient.

YIJIE (ANGELA) XU

“The scholarship is part of the reason I chose to specialize in primary care, because it’s an area where you may not get compensated really well, but you can really get to know people and make a difference in their lives. Giving me the ability to choose what I want to do is a reflection of just how committed the Silversteins are to education.”

**YIJIE (ANGELA) XU '16,
PRIMARY CARE INTERNAL MEDICINE RESIDENT
AT YALE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**

EARLY YEARS:
SHANGHAI, CHINA, AND NEW JERSEY

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION:
JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY;
STUDIED BIOMEDICAL
ENGINEERING AND SPANISH

DECIDED TO BECOME A DOCTOR:
AFTER VOLUNTEERING AS AN
EMT WITH HER HOMETOWN'S
AMBULANCE CORPS DURING
HIGH SCHOOL

A close-up portrait of a young man with short brown hair and light brown eyes, looking slightly to the right with a gentle smile. The lighting is soft and warm, highlighting his features. He is wearing a white collared shirt and a red tie.

IVAN DE KOUCHKOVSKY

“To me, one of the strengths of NYU is the patient interaction. You know, there’s the science and theory, and then there’s the art of medicine. I plan to do something with the gift the Silversteins have given me—not just care for patients, but also give back in a broader way to the field of medicine.”

**IVAN DE KOUCHKOVSKY '16,
INTERNAL MEDICINE RESIDENT AT UNIVERSITY
OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO**

EARLY YEARS:
NANTERRE, FRANCE, AND SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION:
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY;
STUDIED PHILOSOPHY

DECIDED TO BECOME A DOCTOR:
AFTER COMPLETING A RESEARCH PROGRAM
IN THE SUMMER OF HIS FRESHMAN YEAR
IN HIS UNIVERSITY’S PEDIATRIC MULTIPLE
SCLEROSIS CENTER



KEN ZHOU

“I’m proud to say that I decided to stay at NYU for my residency. After spending four years here in med school, I felt at home with the fantastic people and culture. Now that I’m in the most rigorous part of my training, the impact of my scholarship is even more pronounced. Being debt-free has given me financial freedom to care for myself—which means I can better care for my patients, and continue to learn and grow as a young doctor. The Silversteins truly provided me with a life-changing gift. I strive every day to take advantage of the opportunities they have given me to be the best doctor I can be.”

KEN ZHOU '16, INTERNAL MEDICINE RESIDENT AT NYU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

EARLY YEARS:
TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION:
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY;
DEGREE IN MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

DECIDED TO BECOME A DOCTOR:
AFTER TEACHING TWO SEMESTERS OF AN
UPPER-DIVISION HUMAN ANATOMY LAB COURSE
AS AN UNDERGRADUATE AT BERKELEY



“With medicine, you have really robust professional interactions and, at the same time, you treat people from all different backgrounds and economic strata. Something that I really appreciate about NYU is the diversity of the clinical sites: Tisch, Bellevue, and the VA. I love talking to the veterans. They have such interesting stories, and they’re so appreciative of everything you do for them. That type of good feeling is not necessarily something you find in a lot of other careers. To do work I’m passionate about, and not have debt weighing on me when starting a family—it’s tough to describe how meaningful that is.”

DEVON RYAN

DEVON RYAN '16, GRADUATE OF NYU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE'S THREE-YEAR DEGREE PROGRAM; ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY RESIDENT AT NYU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

EARLY YEARS:
BEDFORD, MASS.

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION:
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY:
DEGREE IN ECONOMICS

DECIDED TO BECOME A DOCTOR:
AFTER WORKING IN FINANCE AND POLITICS, WANTED TO RETURN TO HIS PASSION FOR MEDICINE

Heard

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Please share your news with us.

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alumnirelations@nyumc.org
med.nyu.edu/alumni

'60s



FREDERICK S. CRISAFULLI '69 received the Irving A. Beck Memorial Award from the Rhode Island Chapter of the American College of Physicians in 2016. He and his wife, who have four children and 11 grandchildren, recently celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary.

NEIL DASHKOFF '69, BA (WSC '65), has been named medical director of the new \$2.2 million cardiac catheter laboratory at Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center, expected to open in the spring of 2017. Previously, he served as director of the cardiac catheterization laboratory at Erie County Medical Center.

'70s

TADATAKA (TACHI) YAMADA '71, a scientist and venture partner at Frazier Healthcare Partners, was named honorary citizen of the year for his

contributions to Singapore's biomedical sciences sector. This award, presented by President Tony Tan Keng Yam, is the highest recognition bestowed by the Singapore government on foreigners who have contributed to the country's growth.



RICHARD I. LEVIN '74, president and CEO of the Arnold P. Gold Foundation and professor emeritus of medicine at NYU School of Medicine and McGill University, received an honorary degree from Wake Forest University during its 2016 commencement ceremony for "his belief that medicine transcends treatment and becomes care, for his service to the people of the United States and Canada, and for his mentorship and education of generations of physicians."

SHELDON M. FELDMAN '75, chief of breast surgery at NewYork-Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center and the Vivian L. Milstein Associate Professor of Clinical Surgery at Columbia University Medical Center, was recently named president of the American Society of Breast Surgeons (ASBrS).

ASBrS now has more than 3,000 members throughout the United States and in 35 countries around the world.

MARC S. ERNSTOFF '78 has been appointed professor and chief of the division of hematology and oncology in the department of medicine at the University of Buffalo's Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. Ernstoff will also serve as senior vice president of clinical investigation and chair of the department of medicine at the Roswell Park Cancer Institute.

JONATHAN WOODSON '79 leads the new Institute for Health System Innovation and Policy at Boston University. He also holds appointments as a Boston University School of Medicine professor of surgery and a School of Public Health professor of health law, policy, and management. Previously, he was appointed by President Barack Obama and served as assistant secretary for health affairs at the U.S. Department of Defense.

'80s

EMILY A. BLUMBERG '81, an infectious disease specialist at the University of Pennsylvania (pictured on the next page, top, left), was inducted into the University of Pennsylvania Academy of Master Clinicians.



MARIE M. GLEASON '81, director of cardiac outpatient operations at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (above, right), was inducted into the University of Pennsylvania Academy of Master Clinicians.



MICHEL C. NUSSENZWEIG '82, professor and head of the laboratory of molecular immunology at Rockefeller University, and director of the Christopher H. Browne Center for Immunology and Immune Diseases, received the 2016 Robert Koch Award, given by the Robert Koch Foundation of Germany, for his outstanding achievements in immunology. Dr. Nussenzweig's research has led to the development of innovative new vaccines against pathogens and to new treatments for autoimmunity. He is a member of the U.S. National Academy of Science and the National Academy of Medicine.

LLOYD B. GAYLE '83, director of plastic surgery at Maimonides Medical Center and attending surgeon at NewYork-Presbyterian, was recently honored by Healing the Children of New Jersey with the Sue Tiger Memorial Award for his outstanding volunteer support. Healing the Children is a national organization that provides medical care to children in need.

SARALYN MARK '88 EXAMINES THE IMPACT OF GENDER ON INNOVATION

The former White House policy advisor's new nonprofit, iGIANT, has already seen its work accelerate new policies, protocols, and products.

SARALYN MARK '88, president of SolaMed Solutions LLC, which advises government agencies and organizations on medical and scientific policy issues, recently started a nonprofit known as iGIANT (impact of Gender/Sex on Innovation and Novel Technologies). In March 2016, she returned to NYU Langone Medical Center for an iGIANT-sponsored roundtable about the impact of gender/sex on innovation.

Dr. Mark developed iGIANT while serving as a senior policy advisor for the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy and launched it at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). The nonprofit supports a series of roundtables, summits, innovation prizes, and scholarships to accelerate the translation of research into gender/sex-specific design elements such as programs, policies, protocols, and products for the health, IT, transportation, and retail sectors.

"In just a short time," Dr. Mark said, "we have seen new inclusion policies for R&D, engineering and medical school curricula examining the impact of gender/sex on design elements, data mining of ER records by the auto industry to examine the severity of injuries among men and women and its impact on vehicle designs, and a new IT platform developed by the MIT/Cambridge Innovation Center. I think that once we see the world through this gender/sex lens, we will see more progress toward improving the quality and safety of lives, including work performance, for men and women."

In addition to founding iGIANT, running her own company, and serving as a senior medical advisor to NASA, Dr. Mark is an endocrinologist, geriatrician, women's health specialist, and professor. Previously, she served as the first senior medical advisor to the DHHS Office on Women's Health, where she was responsible for the development and analysis of policies and programs on emerging technologies, public health preparedness, physician workforce issues, sex- and gender-based medicine, and women's health on Earth and in space. She also is the author of *Stellar Medicine: A Journey Through the Universe of Women's Health*.





CHARLES BUTLER '10 LEADS NEW TELEMEDICINE COMPANY

The former ice skating champ takes his training and passion to a new playing field.

IN 2016, SALUS TELEHEALTH, INC., NAMED CHARLES BUTLER '10 chairman of the board and acquired one of the companies he founded, VideoMedicine, which allows doctors and patients to connect by video chatting through mobile devices. Together, Salus Telehealth and VideoMedicine will offer comprehensive telemedicine device and software solutions, including a direct-to-consumer healthcare application. The company strives to use technology to reduce the overall cost of healthcare as well as have a significant role in improving health outcomes for patients.

“We’re ready to turn the telehealth world on its head,” said Dr. Butler, “whether in a hospital, clinic, rural medivan, ambulance, pharmacy chain, corporate environment, or home.”

Dr. Butler’s spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship flourished while he was at NYU School of Medicine. As a medical student, he started Butler Enterprises, LLC, which he continues to lead. His other businesses include a sports video production company and a high-end jewelry company.

Before medical school, Dr. Butler was an award-winning U.S. Olympic figure skater. He and his ice dancing partner, Jessica Joseph, were the 1998 world junior champions and competed in the 1998 Olympics. He says the hard work he did as a skater prepared him for success in medical school and in the business world.

“Anytime you have to train for something when you’re young,” Dr. Butler said in a recent interview, “you learn exactly how to work for a goal.”

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LISA M. WONG '83, assistant professor of pediatrics at Harvard Medical School, received an honorary degree from Wheelock College in Boston and served as the 2016 graduate commencement speaker.

BRIAN P. GOLDSTEIN '88 has been named vice president for medical affairs at the University of Washington (UW) and chief health system officer for UW Medicine. Previously, he served as the executive vice president and chief operating officer for the University of North Carolina Hospitals.

MICHAEL G. NEWMAN '88 has been named president of Hallmark Health Medical Associates and system vice president of Hallmark Health System, the premier charitable provider of vital health services to Boston's northern communities and the official healthcare partner of the Boston Bruins.



ALEJANDRO BADIA '89, founder of the OrthoNOW network of orthopedic urgent care centers, was a finalist in the healthcare professional category for the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce's annual Health Care Heroes Awards.

'90s



ARMIN M. TEHRANY '94 served as an executive producer for *The Birth of a Nation*, a historical drama focusing on Nat Turner. The film won the Grand Jury Prize and the Audience Award for drama at the Sundance Film Festival.

W. JAMES CHON '96 has been named medical director of the Renal Transplant Program and associate professor at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS). Formerly, Dr. Chon was an assistant professor and the medical director of the living donor transplant program at the University of Chicago Department of Medicine Section of Nephrology.



GARY D. BRESLOW '98 was recently featured in *The New York Times* for founding Zwivel, an online cosmetic consultation resource that offers an easier and more efficient way to connect doctors with new patients seeking plastic surgery.

'10s



CHRISTIAN J. ZAINO '10, BA (CAS '06) recently completed a two-week mission trip to Lima, Peru, at the National Children's Hospital. He performed surgery on young people with complex congenital hand deformities.

KIMBERLY W. KEEFE '12, the chief administrative resident in obstetrics and gynecology at Yale New Haven Hospital, received the Betsy Winters House Staff Award in May 2016 for making the most significant contribution to the education of medical students.

RACHEL L. REED '12, a first-year neonatology fellow at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center, married Brett Scott Shorestein, MD, in August 2016 at the Garrison in New York.

NATALIE K. SMITH '13, chief resident in anesthesiology at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai Hospital, married Michael Petrone in November 2016 at the New York Botanical Garden. Dr. Smith is the daughter of Robert L. Smith, MD, associate professor of medicine at NYU School of Medicine and chief of pulmonary, critical care, and sleep medicine at the Veterans Affairs Hospital.

JULIA ANN ROBERTS '15, a medical intern at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, married Prateesh Maheshwari in May 2016 at the Kingsmill Resort in Williamsburg, Virginia.

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION DISCOUNT

Alumni are eligible for continuing medical education programs at reduced costs. To learn more, please email us or visit our website.

cme@nyumc.org
med.nyu.edu/cme



Above: NYU School of Medicine Alumni Association President Nancy Coles '85 (right), with her mother, Roberta Goldring, MD, Professor Emerita of Medicine, NYU School of Medicine, at the 2016 NYU School of Medicine Scholarship and Alumni Appreciation Dinner

NANCY COLES '85 BELIEVES IN GIVING BACK

The president of the NYU School of Medicine Alumni Association discusses her career, family, and commitment to supporting education for future generations.

WHAT WERE YOUR EARLY YEARS LIKE?

I grew up on the Upper East Side in New York City, where I still live, and I come from a long line of physicians. I have a grandfather, a father, and a mother who were all physicians. I have two older brothers who refused to take the mantle. One is a lawyer and the other is a movie director. Somebody had to be a doctor. So somewhere in my sophomore year of college at Tufts University, I decided I was go-

ing to do it. I loved science and I turned my focus to medicine. After graduating from NYU School of Medicine, I did my internship at Washington University in St. Louis and then I did my residency at New York Eye and Ear.

HOW DID YOU DECIDE TO SPECIALIZE IN OPHTHALMOLOGY?

I love to operate, and ophthalmology allows me to operate. But also, my father was an ophthalmologist. While I was in medical

school, he got sick with cancer. And I thought, there's probably no better gift to give to a parent than to choose the same profession. Unfortunately, we never got to practice together. He passed away six months before I finished my residency. But I took over his practice and I still work in his office.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE NYU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE?

My grandfather went to NYU, my father went to NYU, and my mother was

Interview by
Jen Swetzoff

a professor at NYU at the time. I grew up in Manhattan. It didn't seem like there was any other option for me. So it worked out well that they accepted me.

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR EXPERIENCE AS A MEDICAL STUDENT?

Thrilling, challenging, and humbling. NYU School of Medicine touched me in a way that really galvanized me and made me the physician that I am today.

WHAT WAS IT LIKE TO HAVE YOUR MOTHER, ROBERTA GOLDRING, MD, ON THE FACULTY?

My mom wasn't my day-to-day professor, but she did teach my pulmonary physiology lecture, which was a very big lecture. I was immensely proud of her, and of the job she did. She was a tremendous role model for me.

WHAT LESSONS DID YOU LEARN FROM YOUR FATHER?

I learned so much from him, but I often think about something in particular he said. I went to medical school planning to become a psychiatrist, but then my father would say, every patient coming, even for a routine eye exam, is nervous, until you tell them everything's OK. Remember that you will practice psychiatry on every patient who walks through your door.

DO YOU HAVE CHILDREN?

Yes, my husband, Jeffrey Alan Goldstein, and I have three children, Joshua, Jeremy, and Lauren, who are all grown up now but still usually come home for Sunday dinner.

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOURSELF IN THREE WORDS?

High-energy, feisty, and compassionate.

WHAT STANDS OUT AS A PARTICULARLY MEANINGFUL MOMENT IN YOUR PRACTICE?

In the last year of my residency, I performed cataract surgery on a 92-year-old grandmother who couldn't see anything. Afterward, when she saw her grandchildren and great-grandchildren for the first time, that was my first real "wow" moment as a physician. Even though I've had many meaningful experiences since then, that remains a special one.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR WORK NOW?

I love everything about what I do. It's super fantastic. Taking over my father's practice was amazing, especially since I didn't get to work with him. The patients who stayed were patients who loved him. They all gave me little vignettes of their experiences with him, and I've incorporated those little vignettes into who I am and how I practice. My patients are just the nicest people. In general, my work is very rewarding, and there are very few emergencies, which also allowed me to have the lifestyle that I want. It's allowed me to have three children. I'm my own boss, which is quite special. I really feel I've been able to have it all.

AS PRESIDENT OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, WHAT INSPIRES YOU TO STAY INVOLVED WITH NYU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE?

First, I believe that the more you get involved, the more you know about something and the more interesting it is. After serving as a board member for many years, I was thrilled to take on the role of president. It's an absolute pleasure for me to share with people how great I feel about having had the opportunity to go to medi-

cal school at NYU. Second, I think that if you give back, you pay it forward.

Our family has always believed in giving back. When my father passed away, it was a very untimely and early death. My mother and I endowed a scholarship, the *Dr. Robert S. Coles Scholarship Fund*, as a way to keep his memory real, and I think it's something that he would have been so proud of. I'm thrilled that we've been able to contribute to the School. Making a difference in even one person's life makes a huge difference in a community.

HOW CAN FELLOW ALUMS GET MORE INVOLVED?

The Vilcek Hall Campaign is an incredible opportunity to give or to fundraise as classes. My class of 1985, for example, is joining together to raise \$30,000 for scholarships. Once we reach our goal, a dorm room at Vilcek Hall will be named in honor of our class. We've already had an outpouring of support and a tremendous number of donations, but we're looking for 100 percent participation. No matter how small or how big, anything you can give makes a difference.

When I come home at the end of the day, I feel like I've made a difference. I've done good. And I couldn't have done that without my education. I believe that NYU School of Medicine gave us an opportunity to make a difference in the world. By giving back, we make sure that NYU stays strong and continues to educate generation after generation.

To learn more about getting involved and giving back, please visit our website.

med.nyu.edu/alumni

"NYU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE TOUCHED ME IN A WAY THAT REALLY GALVANIZED ME AND MADE ME THE PHYSICIAN THAT I AM TODAY."



Ira J. Laufer '53 with his wife Barbara

IRA J. LAUFER '53, BA (WSC '48), an internal medicine physician and a clinical associate professor of medicine at NYU School of Medicine, died Aug. 31, 2016, at age 88. In his book, *Diabetes Explained: A Layman's Guide* (Saturday Review Press, 1976), he and one of his patients detailed the social, geographic, economic, and physical factors of diabetes; information needed by people with diabetes and those apt to develop it; and prospective treatments.

Before serving on the faculty at NYU, Dr. Laufer served as president of the medical staff at Cabrini Medical Center, as president of the NYU School of Medicine's Alumni Board of Governors, and as a member of the American Diabetes Association. He is survived

by his son, David; daughter, Tina; and grandchildren, Iain, Ruby, Tess, and Faye.



JAY L. GROSFELD '61, BA (WSC '57), a pediatric surgeon who served the children of Indiana for more than 40 years, died Oct. 19, 2016, at the age of 81. Best known for his expertise in neonatal surgery, pediatric surgical oncology, and surgical education, he most recently served as the Lafayette E. Page Professor

and chairman emeritus in the department of surgery at Indiana University School of Medicine.

After graduating from NYU School of Medicine, Dr. Grosfeld trained at NYU and Bellevue, was a captain in the U.S. Army Medical Corps (1966–68), and returned to NYU as assistant professor of surgery in 1970. In 1972, he was appointed professor and director of pediatric surgery at Indiana University and the first surgeon-in-chief at Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis, Ind., where he built one of the top pediatric surgery training programs in the country. In 1985, he was appointed chairman of the department of surgery at Indiana University School of Medicine.

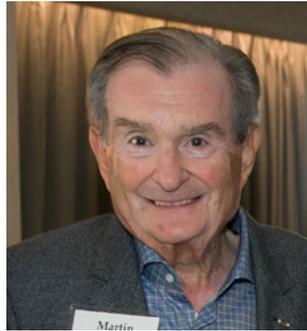
Dedicated to public service, Dr. Grosfeld served in high-level positions on numerous boards of prominent organizations and associations. Throughout his career, he was honored with many awards, including the Solomon A. Berson Medical Alumni Achievement Award in Clinical and Translational Science from NYU School of Medicine. In addition to publishing nine textbooks, nearly 500 scientific articles, and 135 book chapters, he was editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Pediatric Surgery*, *Seminars in Pediatric Surgery*, and the two-volume textbook *Pediatric Surgery*. Dr. Grosfeld is survived by his wife of 54 years, Margie; his sister, Claire Zucker; his children, Alicia Thorne, Dalia Maheu, Janice Kaefel, Jeffrey Grosfeld, and Mark Grosfeld; and 17 grandchildren.

Our condolences to the families and friends who have recently lost loved ones. Please notify us of alumni and faculty passings, so that we may recognize and honor our community members in future issues.

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MARTIN S. BEGUN, a senior associate dean and vice president for external affairs at NYU School of Medicine, died May 21, 2016, at age 85. A lifelong New Yorker, Begun had a distinguished career in medicine, public service, and community relations. He spent more than 35 years at NYU School of Medicine, where he was a trusted advisor and confidant to Dean Saul J. Farber, MD.

Begun was involved with many boards and civic organizations, including the NYC Economic Development Corporation, the New York State Hospital Review and Planning Council, Governor George Pataki's Commission on Health Care Facilities in the 21st Century, and the New York City Korean War Veterans 50th Anniversary Commemorative Commission.

He served as chairman of the community services board of the NYC Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, and president of the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York. Before his tenure at NYU School of Medicine, Begun served in the U.S. Army National Guard.

Begun was active in his career up until the time of his death, as a partner in Reiter/Begun, a private-sector consulting marketing and management firm for government and community relations. He also served

as president and founder of MSB Strategies, a public policy planning consulting firm. He is survived by his wife, Louise Sunshine; his stepchildren, Suzanne, Samuel, and Paul Sunshine; and his stepgrandchildren, Alexa and Marc Mendel and Arielle Sunshine.



HARRIET HARRIS, MD, the first female chief resident in dermatology at NYU School of Medicine, died Sept. 5, 2016, at the age of 80. She remained on the faculty until her death and continued to run her private practice in Staten Island, which she had established in 1968, until she retired in June. Dr. Harris was raised in Brooklyn and received her medical degree in 1961 from SUNY Downstate in Brooklyn, where she was one of only five women in a class of 100. She was an accomplished painter and had a great fondness for the arts throughout her life. She was a member of Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, and many museums in New York City. She was also a world traveler who loved exploring new places as well as spending time at her family farm in East Hoosick, New York. She is survived by her husband of 57 years, Stuart Winston; her daughter, Blair Winston, Esq.; her son, Brion Winston, MD; and her grandchildren, Helen Primack, Ezra Winston, and Willa Winston.

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Look Back

MAY EDWARD CHINN '26

Dr. Chinn (1896–1980) was the first African-American woman to graduate from University and Bellevue Hospital Medical College. During her career, she was the first African-American woman to hold an internship at Harlem Hospital; she opened her own family practice in Harlem; and she worked at the Strang Cancer Clinic, an affiliate of Memorial Hospital and New York Infirmity, where she was a tireless advocate for access to early cancer screening in low-income communities.



Photo courtesy of the Lillian and Clarence de la Chapelle Medical Archives at NYU

THANK YOU

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We are grateful to all the alumni members of our **John Revere Society**—who have generously included NYU School of Medicine in their estate plans and become committed partners in supporting world-class medical education.

To learn more about joining the **John Revere Society**, please contact the Office of Development Planned Giving Team at 212.404.3653 or plannedgiving@nyumc.org.

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For this issue's class notes, see page 22.
Submissions are edited to include as
many as possible.