

**Icahn School of Medicine  
at Mount Sinai**

# **Achievement Ceremony**

Thursday, May 12, 2016  
Leo C. Stern Auditorium 3:00 pm



**Icahn School  
of Medicine at  
Mount  
Sinai**



# Icahn School of Med Achievement Cerem

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at Mount Sinai  
Achievement Ceremony**

**THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2016**

**LEO C. STERN AUDITORIUM ♦ 3:00 pm**

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## Opening Remarks

Peter Gliatto, MD

*Senior Associate Dean  
for Undergraduate Medical Education  
and Student Affairs*

## Welcome

Dennis S. Charney, MD

*Anne and Joel Ehrenkranz Dean,  
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai  
President for Academic Affairs,  
Mount Sinai Health System*

# STUDENT AWARDS RECOGNITION

## ALPHA OMEGA ALPHA MEDICAL HONOR SOCIETY, LAMBDA CHAPTER

Gal Barak	Sonia Yen Jarrett
Ilana Ramer Bass	Masha Gregory Jones
Julien Beattie-Lanoue	Renita Suhyun Kim
Andrew Eskay Becker	Emmett Alexander Kistler
Joseph Morgan Blankush	Arielle Louisa Klepper
Aleksandra Sarah Dain	Jonathan Reed Komisar
Rajan Paul Dang	William Jacob Levine
Jenny Dworzak	Jake Goldman Prigoff
Adam C. Fields	Jacquelin Michele Rankine
Kathyrn Friedman Flack	Jamie Rosen Manning
Laura Beth Maurer Goldstein	Paymon Sanati-Mehrizy
Erden Goljo	Joshua Harris Uhr

## DELTA OMEGA, BETA OMICRON CHAPTER

Noareen Zaheer Ahmed	Johanna Thekla Kaminer
Raymond Amirian	Alejandro Manuel Negrete
Cassie Wallace Burley	Vivian Le Nguyen
Alexandra Welch Douglas	Jasleen Kaur Salwan
Hillary E. Jenny	

## GOLD HUMANISM HONOR SOCIETY

Kelms Amoo-Achampong	Sonia Yen Jarrett
Yotam Arens	Emmett Alexander Kistler
Eric Max Bortrnick	Laura Meyerson Krinsky
Kamini Doobay	William Jacob Levine
Adam C. Fields	Kate Elizabeth Mayans
Nathaniel Glasser	Ebiere Okah
Jacqueline Cherry Hairston	Vir Patel
Edwin Alexander Homan	Marit Anne Pearlman Shapiro

## **GOLD HUMANISM HONOR SOCIETY Continued**

Priya Sehgal	Kathryn Elyse Taylor
David Michael Shore	Alison Ilana Thaler
Gabrielle Naomi Surick	Prashant Vempati
Sonali Tatapudy	

## **DISTINCTION IN MEDICAL EDUCATION**

Lianna Rebecca Lipton	Christian Alexander Pean
Nikhil Ryan Menon	Jacquelin Michele Rankine

## **DISTINCTION IN RESEARCH**

Ilana Ramer Bass	Emmett Alexander Kistler
Julien Beattie-Lanoue	David Lai Ku
Joseph Morgan Blankush	Lianna Rebecca Lipton
Eric Max Bortnick	Jamie Rosen Manning
Heidi Adlman Browne	Brett St. John Marinelli
Martin Francis Casey	Alexa Maureen Mieses
Sumedha Vinod Chablani	Jeremy D. Nathaniel
Aleksandra Sarah Dain	Jamie Sungmin Pak
Justin C. De Biasio	Christian Alexander Pean
Adam C. Fields	Philip Anthony Petrou
Kathryn Friedman Flack	Christopher Douglas Pool
Kenji Fujitani	Jake Goldman Prigoff
Erden Goljo	Jacquelin Michele Rankine
Jocelyn Michelle Jiao	Paymon Sanati-Mehrziy
Andrew Alan Johnstone	Benjamin Oren Spieler
Masha Gregory Jones	Joshua Harris Uhr
Tahsin Muhammad Khan	
Renita Suhyun Kim	



# STUDENT AWARDS PRESENTATION

## EXCELLENCE IN BIOSTATISTICS

Naomi Alpert

Naomi began working at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai after graduating with general honors from Vassar College, where she majored in Mathematics. She joined the Department of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine in 2012 as a grants manager, where she has continued throughout her graduate education.

In 2015, Naomi joined the first cohort of the Master of Science in Biostatistics program at the School. While in her program, Naomi has had the privilege of working with excellent mentors and hopes to continue working as a biostatistician in academic medical research after graduating.

Naomi would like to thank her family for all of their love and support. Additionally, she would like to thank Dr. Siu in the Brookdale Department of Geriatrics and Palliative Care for his support, and her program directors, Dr. Bagiella and Dr. Benn in the Department of Population Health Science and Policy for their guidance and encouragement.

## DR. HAROLD LAMPORT BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH PRIZE

### Ilana Ramer Bass

Ilana Ramer Bass came to Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai (ISMMS) through the Humanities and Medicine program after graduating with a degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders from Northwestern University. While at ISMMS, she simultaneously completed a master's degree in Public Health. She wrote her thesis on racial disparities in the incidence of human papillomavirus (HPV)-associated oropharyngeal cancer. This research also resulted in an oral presentation at the American Academy of Otolaryngology.

Ilana feels very fortunate to have worked in Dr. Steven Witkin's Immunology and OB/GYN laboratory at the Weill Cornell Medical College during her scholarly year. She conducted several studies evaluating potential biomarkers in maternal serum as predictors of in vitro fertilization outcome. This work resulted in several publications including a first-author manuscript in the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*. She will be graduating with Distinction in Research.

Ilana was inducted into the Gold Humanism Honor Society and the *Lambda* Chapter of *Alpha Omega Alpha*. She is also being granted an award for leadership from the Mount Sinai Alumni Association. Ilana is especially proud of her leadership role in the Tell Me More project, in which non-medical characteristics about each patient were displayed behind the patient's bed and incorporated on rounds. The goal was to learn about the people occupying our hospital beds and to promote humanistic care.

She would like to thank her loving husband, parents, family and friends for their unwavering support throughout medical school. Additionally she would like to thank her mentors and advisors Dr. Steven Witkin, Dr. Steven Spandorfer, Dr. Andrew Sikora, Dr. Elizabeth Garland, Dr. Craig Katz, Dr. Katherine Chen, Dr. Peter Gliatto, Dr. Laura Gelfman, Dr. Reena Karani, and Dr. Karen Zier. Ilana will continue her training at ISMMS next year in Internal Medicine.



## MOUNT SINAI ALUMNI STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD

### Ilana Ramer Bass

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## HAROLD ELSTER MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR HIGHEST ACADEMIC STANDING

### Julien Beattie-Lanoue

Julien Beattie-Lanoue came to the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai after attending the University of Pennsylvania, where he majored in Biology and minored in Chemistry. Julien graduated *summa cum laude* in 2012 and received honors in his major with a Distinction in Research. During his time at the Icahn School of Medicine, Julien has been actively involved in community health education, student council, peer mentoring, and tutoring. He has received several recognitions for his volunteer work and roles in medical education.

Additionally, Julien is graduating with a Distinction in Research for his work in the field of Dermatology. He has published over 10 peer-reviewed publications as first author, including a Continuing Medication Education article of the month, co-authored several other publications, and has given four presentations at national conferences. Julien will be continuing his training with an internship year in medicine at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center before heading to Stanford for a residency in Dermatology.

Julien would like to thank his parents, sister, roommates, and friends for their unwavering support on his journey through life and medical school. He would also like to thank his mentors, Dr. Robert Phelps and Dr. Gary Goldenberg, for the guidance and opportunities they provided.

## BELA SCHICK PEDIATRIC SOCIETY PRIZE

### Andrew Becker

Andrew Becker graduated from Brown University with a degree in Economics and was admitted to the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai by way of the Humanities and Medicine program.

Andrew is most proud of the time he has spent working with other students. At the School, he was an enthusiastic teaching assistant, senior tutor, and peer advisor and was recognized with a Medical Student Excellence in Teaching Award in 2015 from the Institute of Medical Education. In the East Harlem community, he helped to run the Health Education Initiative, teaching healthy habits at local elementary schools; he also mentored local middle and high school students through the student-run MedStart and MedDOCS programs.

During his time in medical school, Andrew was also involved in scholarship, contributing to research in pediatric neurology, medical education, and pancreatic cancer. He was inducted to the AOA honor society during his fourth year.

Andrew would like to thank his parents immensely for their unwavering support over the last 26 years, as well as the numerous physicians he was lucky enough to call his mentors. Andrew will continue his training as a Child Neurology resident at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

## TERRY ANN KRULWICH DOCTORAL DISSERTATION PRIZE

### James Brewer

Ricky Brewer earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Gettysburg College. During this time he began his scientific training working with Dr. Steven James on DNA damage repair and cell cycle control mechanisms using the genetic model *Aspergillus nidulans*.

At the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, Ricky completed his doctoral dissertation in the laboratory of Dr. Philippe Soriano. His work utilized genetic and biochemical approaches to better understand how the Fgf family of receptor tyrosine kinases function during murine embryonic development. This was supported by the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award, provided by the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research.

His work has been featured in the journal *Genes & Development* as well as at several national and international conferences. Ricky will continue to pursue his interests in cellular signaling and mouse molecular genetics as a postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of Dr. Richard Flavell at The Yale School of Medicine at Yale University.

## DR. M. RALPH KAUFMAN PSYCHIATRY PRIZE

### Heidi Adlman Browne

Heidi Browne came to the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai after graduating from Brown University in 2008, where she majored in Neuroscience. After college she spent two years studying the genetics of inhibitory neural synapse development in mouse hippocampi, resulting in a paper in *Nature*. While at the School, Heidi has continued to pursue research in neuroscience and psychiatry, contributing to work published in *Nature Neuroscience* and *JAMA Psychiatry*. She will graduate with Distinction in Research.

Heidi dedicated much of her extracurricular time during medical school to providing psychiatric care to the local community at the East Harlem Health Outreach Partnership (EHHOP), where she has served as the Chief Mental Health Teaching Senior for the past two years. Outside of medical school, Heidi enjoys running, baking, and spending time with her one-and-a-half-year-old daughter Madison.

She would like to thank her husband, Andy, parents Lauri and Joe, sisters Kim and Becca, and Madison's nanny Annie for their love and support. She would also like to thank her research mentor, Dr. Dorothy Grice and her EHHOP mentor Dr. Craig Katz in the department of Psychiatry. Heidi is excited to begin her Psychiatry residency at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

## MOUNT SINAI AUXILIARY BOARD PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE STUDY OF HEALTH CARE DELIVERY SERVICES

### Sumedha Chablani

Sumedha graduated *magna cum laude* from Columbia University in 2011, where she majored in Philosophy. She was accepted to the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai through the Humanities and Medicine Early Assurance Program. Sumedha has been an active member of Students for Integrative Medicine, EHHOP at the Greenmarket, and Students for Students, through which she has helped to incorporate mindfulness, yoga, nutrition, and reflection into the medical school curriculum and her care of patients.

As a recipient of the Digestive Disease Research Foundation Fellowship, Sumedha completed a scholarly year of research between her third and fourth years of medical school. She was awarded a blue ribbon for her poster at Medical Student Research Day 2015. Recently, Sumedha and three physicians at the School of Medicine received the Department of Medicine's Advancing Idealism in Medicine Advocacy Grant to study the effect of mindfulness on physician wellness. Sumedha is graduating with Distinction in Research.

Sumedha is grateful for her loving family, vibrant friends, and supportive mentors, including Dr. Bloom, Dr. Chang, Dr. Geer, Dr. Itzkowitz, Ms. Jandorf, Dr. Nguyen, and Dr. Zier. Sumedha will complete her residency training in Internal Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

## DR. MILTON BROTHERS MEMORIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ENDOCRINOLOGY

### Nadim Choudhury

Nadim Choudhury came to the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai after graduating *Phi Beta Kappa* from the University of Florida in 2011, where he majored in Neurobiology. While at the Icahn School of Medicine, Nadim has been extensively involved in leadership roles in student organizations such as the East Harlem Health Outreach Partnership and MedStart.

During his scholarly year, he coordinated a surgical mission trip to Mongolia through work with the Virtue Foundation. He has also been an active member of the High Value Care Committee, SinaInnovations, the Internal Medicine Interest Group, and the Community Health Fair.

Nadim feels very proud of the research he has been involved in while at the School of Medicine. He had the privilege of working with excellent mentors in multiple disciplines and has contributed to two papers and seven abstracts.

He would like to thank his family for their support on his journey through medical school. Additionally, he would like to thank his mentors, especially Dr. Levine in the Department of Endocrinology and Dr. Chari in the Department of Hematology and Oncology. Nadim will be continuing his education at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University before pursuing residency training in Anesthesiology.

## MOUNT SINAI ALUMNI STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD

### Carine Davila

Carine Davila came to the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai after graduating with honors from Princeton University in 2009, where she studied in the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. After Princeton, she spent three years working in management consulting at Bain & Company in New York City. During her time at the School of Medicine, Carine received several honors, including an award for Outstanding Service to Fellow Students and recognition as a Seymour Kaplan Scholar, National Medical Fellowships Scholar, and a National Hispanic Health Foundation Scholar. She has been actively involved in Student Council, the Latino Medical Student Association, the Admissions Committee, and as a teaching assistant in the Art and Science of Medicine.

Carine feels incredibly honored to have had the opportunity to lead as part of Student Council during her years at Icahn, culminating in her fourth year as President. She had the privilege of working with many student and faculty leaders throughout the institution in this role. She was also fortunate to work with Drs. Ula Hwang and Corita Grudzen to conduct research in the Geriatric Emergency Department, culminating in an oral presentation at the American Geriatrics Society conference and publication in *Health Affairs*.

She would like to thank her parents, Ana and Norbil, and brother and sister-in-law, Wes and Lindsey, for their endless support throughout medical school. She would also like to thank her mentors, in particular Drs. Muller, Karani, Truglio, and Campbell in the Department of Internal Medicine. Carine will continue her residency training at the University of California in San Francisco in Internal Medicine.



## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN GENETIC COUNSELING THESIS AWARD

### Anna Eames

Anna Eames came to the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai after graduating in 2013 from Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota, where she majored in Biology. Before graduate school, she worked for Genetic Alliance and Baby's First Test in Washington, DC, and conducted newborn screening education research with the Minnesota Department of Health. During this time, Anna continued to compete for the United States Paralympic Swim Team, where she currently holds eight Pan-American and American records and is a gold, silver and bronze medalist from the Beijing and London Paralympic Games.

While at the Icahn School of Medicine, Anna has been co-leader of Together Educating and Mentoring Genetic Counseling Students (TEAM GCS), co-chair of the Genetics Interest Group and volunteered with Meds Visit Peds, Project Sunshine and the Health Education Initiative. She was also a teaching assistant for the medical school class Molecular, Cellular and Genomic Foundations.

Anna would like to thank her family, program directors, and thesis advisors for all of their support. She would also like to thank the MS Genetic Counseling Class of 2016 for their encouragement, support and friendship over the past two years. Anna will be working next year as a genetic counselor and will continue her involvement in newborn screening research and advocacy.

## JAMES FELT MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR HIGHEST OVERALL STANDING

### Adam Fields

Adam Fields came to the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai after graduating *summa cum laude* in 2012 from Yale. At Yale, he was captain of the Division I Varsity Sabre Fencing Team, named a Rhodes Scholar Finalist, inducted into *Phi Beta Kappa*, and awarded for highest scholarship of any student athlete. At the Icahn School of Medicine, he was inducted into *Alpha Omega Alpha* and the Gold Humanism Honor Society and is graduating with Distinction in Research. Adam served as Co-President of both the Surgery and Orthopedic Surgery Interest Groups, Director of Operations of Medstart, Chronic Care Senior at EHHOP, and AAMC/Executive Curriculum Committee Representative for his class.

Adam is extremely proud of his research accomplishments while at the School of Medicine. He has published over 13 peer-reviewed journal articles and 23 abstracts and presentations. He was the lead author of a three-year clinical trial assessing pain outcomes in ventral hernia repair. Adam was awarded second Best Poster Presentation at the Annual American College of Surgeons National Meeting in 2015.

He would like to thank his parents for their utmost support as well as his mentors Celia Divino, MD, the Stanley Edelman Professor of Surgery, Vice-Chair of Surgery, and Program Director for Icahn School of Medicine's Residency Program in General Surgery and Calin Moucha, MD, Chief of Adult Reconstruction and Joint Replacement Surgery. Adam will continue his training at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston for his General Surgery residency.

**MRS. DAVID A. DREILING SURGERY PRIZE IN MEMORY OF  
HER MOTHER, FLORENCE L. OPPENHEIMER**

Adam Fields

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## DR. MORRIS B. BENDER AWARD IN CLINICAL NEUROLOGY

### Joshua Friedman

Joshua Friedman came to the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai after graduating from Harvard University, where he majored in Neurobiology. He has been a leader of the Student Interest Group in Neurology and MedDOCs teaching heart anatomy to underserved local middle school students.

Joshua is proud of the research he has been involved with at the Icahn School of Medicine's Neurology Department. He has worked with excellent mentors and during his time has contributed to three abstracts.

He would like to thank his parents, wife, and sister for their support throughout this journey. Additionally, he would like to thank his mentors, especially Dr. Krieger and Dr. Motiwala in the Department of Neurology for their guidance. Joshua will continue his residency training at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in Neurology.

## BURTON DRAYER PRIZE IN RADIOLOGY AND BIOMEDICAL IMAGING

### Jason Gruener

Jason Gruener came to the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai after graduating in 2012 from New York University where he majored in mathematics. Prior to matriculating at the Icahn School of Medicine, Jason spent five months in Israel conducting research at the Terem urgent care center and presented his findings at the 2013 American Public Health Association annual meeting.

While at the School of Medicine, Jason performed research on the use of Yttrium-90 radioembolization to treat neuroendocrine tumors. He also had an abstract published by the American Society of Clinical Oncology in 2014. He is a four-year member of Society for Interventional Radiology's (SIR) and the Radiological Society of North America and received a scholarship to attend the annual meeting. He has also been a dedicated peer tutor, teaching assistant, and co-leader of the Icahn School of Medicine's Medical Spanish program.

Jason would like to thank his family, friends, and classmates for their support during medical school. Additionally, he thanks his mentors, especially Dr. Nowakowski and Dr. Stern in the Department of Radiology. Finally he thanks the patients who allowed him to care for and learn from them throughout his journey. Jason will do his internship in Surgery at Mount Sinai West and Mount Sinai St. Luke's followed by residency in Radiology at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

## THE LEONARD TOW HUMANISM IN MEDICINE STUDENT AWARD

### Jacqueline Hairston

Jacqueline Hairston was born at the Mount Sinai Hospital and raised in Jersey City, New Jersey. After graduating from Harvard College with a Bachelor of Arts in Statistics, Jackie participated in the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai's Post-Baccalaureate Research Education Program (PREP). Since matriculating, Jackie has been active in medical education, serving as course and clerkship representatives, a teaching assistant and senior tutor. She has championed diversity in her roles as admissions representative and co-president of Students for Equal Opportunity in Medicine (SEOM).

Jackie also had the pleasure of traveling to South Africa and the Dominican Republic for global health work. She is a 2016 United Health Foundation/National Medical Fellowships Diverse Medical Scholar and in recognition of her compassionate care, she was nominated by her peers for induction into the Gold Humanism Honor Society.

Jackie is proud of her role as a contributing author for *First Aid for the USMLE Step 1 2016*, a textbook used by thousands of medical students. Jackie will continue her medical training as an Obstetrics and Gynecology resident at Northwestern University. She would like to thank her parents, Deborah and Rodney Hairston and brother, James, for always being there. Additionally, she would like to thank her friends and extended family for their continued support.

## OUTSTANDING CULMINATING EXPERIENCE – MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH THESIS/MANUSCRIPT

Janey James

Janey James came to the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai after graduating from the Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, where she majored in Pharmaceutical Sciences. Over the past two years, Janey has been an active member in the Master of Public Health program. She has contributed to six abstracts and has presented at several conferences this past year.

Recently, she presented her poster about the impact of cancer stress on diabetes self-management at the Cancer Survivorship Symposium in San Francisco. Janey feels very proud of the research she has been involved in while at the Icahn School of Medicine. She had the privilege of working with excellent mentors in multiple disciplines and is currently working on publishing her thesis.

She would like to thank her father, mother, and sister for their endless support. Additionally, she would like to thank her mentors, especially Dr. Jenny Lin in the Samuel Bronfman Department of Medicine for guiding and advising in her graduate career. Janey will begin medical school at New York College of Osteopathic Medicine in August.

## DR. HOWARD RAPPAPORT PEDIATRIC AWARD

### Sonia Jarrett

Sonia Jarrett graduated from Cornell University in 2012 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature. She came to the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai (ISMMS) through the early acceptance Humanities and Medicine program. While at ISMMS, she was involved in global health, participating in two medical missions to the Dominican Republic. She also became an active volunteer at the East Harlem Health Outreach Partnership (EHHOP), the School's student-run free clinic for uninsured patients.

She worked in progressively more senior leadership roles at the clinic, serving on the Executive Steering Committee and taking on a clinical teaching position in her fourth year. She is a member of the *Alpha Omega Alpha* Medical Honor Society and the Gold Humanism Honor Society.

Sonia is immensely grateful to her parents and sister, as well as her friends for their support throughout medical school. She would also like to thank her mentors, especially Drs. Gibbs, Hammond, and Posada in the Department of Pediatrics as well as Dr. Meah at EHHOP. Sonia will pursue her residency in Pediatrics at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.



## THE JUDITH AND NATHAN KASE HUMANITIES IN MEDICINE PRIZE

### Masha Jones

Masha Jones graduated from the University of Pennsylvania where she studied Public Health. Before matriculating at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, Masha worked at a community health center in Massachusetts and participated in a Spanish immersion program in Guatemala. At the School, Masha has been actively involved in the East Harlem Health Outreach Partnership (EHHOP), where she has served as a Clinic Co-Chair, Operations Director, and Teaching Senior.

Clinically, Masha was fortunate to follow patients longitudinally at outpatient sites through the Interclerkship Ambulatory Care Track (InterACT) and Chronic Care Program. She also had the privilege of conducting research with the Mount Sinai Visiting Doctors Program throughout medical school. She presented abstracts at the American Geriatrics Society Annual Meeting in 2014 and has a manuscript under review. She is graduating with Distinction in Research and was inducted into the *Alpha Omega Alpha* Medical Honor Society.

Masha thanks her parents, Gregory and Nina Jones, and her grandmother Ella Iones, for the sacrifices they have made to advance her education. She is grateful to her mentors at EHHOP, InterACT, and Visiting Doctors for their guidance. Masha will continue her training in Internal Medicine at the New York Presbyterian Hospital-Weill Cornell Medical Center, in the Primary Care Track.

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES THESIS AWARD

### Timothy Kenny

Timothy Kenny graduated from Bucknell University with a bachelor's degree in Biology. As an undergraduate, Tim completed basic biology research on avian endocrinology and performed clinical research at Geisinger Medical Center. In the Department of Surgical Oncology at Geisinger, Tim generated a database of breast cancer patients to study trends in the surgical management of the axilla. After his experiences in both basic and clinical research, Tim enrolled in the Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences (MSBS) program at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai to begin his training in translational biomedical research.

As a MSBS student at the School, Tim completed his thesis work in the lab of Doris Germain, PhD, in the Departments of Medicine, Hematology, and Medical Oncology of the Tisch Cancer Institute. During his thesis work, Tim used post-surgical fluid derived from the surgical drains of breast cancer patients treated with mastectomy to understand the role that post-surgical inflammation plays in disease recurrence and progression. Tim was able to analyze the electronic medical records of patients from whom the post-surgical fluids were collected and correlate primary disease characteristics with in vitro and in vivo results obtained in his work to identify an intrinsic susceptibility to the development of aggressive breast cancer.

Tim will continue his education at the Icahn School of Medicine, matriculating as a PhD student in the Cancer Biology multidisciplinary training area this fall.

## JEFFREY MODELL CLINICAL IMMUNOLOGY PRIZE

### Andrew Kent

Andrew Kent majored in biology at the University of Chicago, and after graduating in 2008 researched IBD there with Bana Jabri for an additional year before matriculating at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. At the School, he has found a passion for tumor immunology and hopes to pursue this avenue of research in both clinical and academic settings. Andrew has been supported by a one-year T32 training grant as well as a three-year F30 training grant from the National Cancer Institute during his PhD years. Andrew has contributed to three publications and looks forward to several more first author papers from his thesis work.

In addition to his research, Andrew has also been heavily involved in the Mount Sinai community serving as co-editor of the MSTP Newsletter, applicant tour guide and interviewer, and chair of the MSTP retreat planning committee for three years, and received the Bluestein Award for his commitment to the School.

Andrew would like to thank his parents and brothers for their constant encouragement and support, his girlfriend for her patience during these challenging years, his PI, Dr. Julie Blander for believing in his scientific vision, and all the professors, educators, fellow students, and support staff at the Icahn School of Medicine for all the friendship, help, and good memories along the way.

## THE EUGENE W. FRIEDMAN, MD, PRIZE FOR CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

### Tahsin Khan

Tahsin Khan graduated *cum laude* from Williams College, where he majored in Biology and Chemistry. Between college and medical school, he spent two years performing translational oncology research before matriculating in the MD program at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

At the School, Tahsin has been an active member of the student-run clinic where he has contributed through various leadership, managerial, and clinical positions over three years. He has also achieved research recognition in the form of competitive awards from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and the North American Neuroendocrine Tumor Society. These awards enabled Tahsin to conduct basic and clinical research during medical school.

Tahsin is graduating with Distinction in Research, which was awarded on the basis of a first-author manuscript published in the peer-reviewed journal *Pancreas*. This research was conducted under the mentorship of Celia Divino, MD, the Stanley Edelman Professor of Surgery, Vice-Chair of Surgery, and Program Director for Icahn School of Medicine's Residency Program in General Surgery.

Tahsin would specifically like to thank Dr. Divino for her mentorship and guidance over the past several years, and is delighted to be continuing his residency training in General Surgery at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. He would also like to thank his parents for their unwavering support of his academic pursuits.

## DR. ALAN F. GUTTMACHER OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY PRIZE

Renita Kim

Renita Kim came to the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai after graduating from the University of Southern California, where she majored in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Studies. While at the School, Renita pursued the MD/MPH dual degree program and has received several recognitions. She has been inducted into *Alpha Omega Alpha* Medical Honor Society, will be graduating with Distinction in Research, and received the 2015 Award for Outstanding Mentorship in the field of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

During medical school, Renita worked on research projects resulting in publications in peer-reviewed journals and presentations at national conferences. She was also actively involved in several women's health and professional organizations within the Mount Sinai and greater New York community, including the American Medical Women's Association and Planned Parenthood of New York City.

She would like to thank her family and friends for their invaluable support on her journey through medical school. Additionally, she would like to thank her mentors, especially Dr. Katherine Chen in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Science. Upon graduation, Renita will begin her residency at the Brigham and Women's Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital in Obstetrics and Gynecology.

## MILTON C. ENGEL, MD, AWARD IN GERIATRIC MEDICINE

### Emmett Kistler

Emmett Kistler grew up in New Jersey and graduated in 2011 from Harvard College where he was a Comparative Religion major. Following medical school, he spent one year as a Patient Advocate connecting patients with social services and running the food pantry at a community health center in South Boston. While at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, Emmett was an active member of Student Council, co-led the Human Rights and Social Justice Scholars program, and served as a didactic leader for the Interclerkship Ambulatory Care Track. During his fourth year he was selected for the *Alpha Omega Alpha* Medical Honor Society as well as the Gold Humanism Honor Society.

Over the course of medical school, Emmett conducted research evaluating the impact of early palliative care consults in the Emergency Department. With the excellent guidance of his research advisor, Dr. Corita Grudzen, Emmett contributed to several papers and abstracts, and will graduate with Distinction in Research.

He is grateful to his mother, Linda, and step-father, Dan, for their constant support and never-ending supply of bad jokes. He would also like to thank his mentors, in particular Dr. Corita Grudzen, Dr. David Muller, Dr. Laurie Edelman, Dr. Yasmin Meah, Dr. Allison Gault, and Dr. Rainier Soriano for all of their help. This summer, Emmett will return to Boston to start his Internal Medicine residency at Massachusetts General Hospital.

## DR. BARRY STIMMEL RENAISSANCE SCHOLAR AWARD

### Laura Krinsky

Laura Krinsky graduated from Pomona College, where she was awarded the Latin American Studies Prize in her major. Prior to matriculating at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, she researched women's barriers to contraception. While at the School, Laura's commitment to understanding and serving vulnerable populations unified her service, research, and clinical experiences. She was a Human Rights and Social Justice Scholar, and co-founded courses on race in medicine and social justice in clinical practice.

Laura led the student-run global health organization, researched kidney disease in Nicaragua and co-authored the first publication by a student in *Kidney International*. She taught Icahn School of Medicine students as a co-founder of Primary Care Progress' local chapter, served as a senior clinician at the student-run clinic, and was an inaugural didactic leader for Icahn's Interclerkship Ambulatory Care Track. In recognition of excellence in clinical care, leadership and service, Laura was inducted into the Gold Humanism Honor Society.

Laura would like to thank her parents and partner, Martin Wintz, for their support, and her mentors, especially Dr. Muller and InterACT Clerkship Directors Drs. Gault and Meah. Laura will continue her training at Swedish Family Medicine Residency Cherry Hill at the Carolyn Downs Clinic.

Yonit Lavin

Yonit Lavin graduated *cum laude* in Biochemical Sciences with an honors thesis as an undergraduate at Harvard University. Her research experiences include studying antigen presentation at the Whitehead Institute of MIT before starting her MD/PhD at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. Yonit's PhD thesis in the laboratory of Dr. Miriam Merad sought to determine the mechanisms of macrophage regulation by the tissue.

She has revealed the critical role of the tissue microenvironment in determining the macrophage enhancer landscape. She is currently studying the immune microenvironment in early stage lung cancer patients. Her work has been published in *Cell* and *Nature Reviews Immunology*. She has won presentation awards at a number of international meetings including EMBO: next-gen immunology, Singapore NIF winter school as well as the Elkes foundation scholarship for the macrophage and dendritic cell keystone symposia meeting. Her studies aim to reveal novel aspects of macrophage biology and seek to find innovative targets for cancer immunotherapy.



## THE MEDICAL SOCIETY'S COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

### Lianna Lipton

Lianna Lipton graduated *magna cum laude* and with Honors in Human Biology from Brown University in 2010. She spent a year before medical school as a research assistant in the Emergency Department at Rhode Island Hospital in Providence. She matriculated to the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in the MD/Masters in Clinical Research program (PORTAL), through which she took a research year in Pediatrics.

While at the Icahn School of Medicine, she has received several recognitions. She is graduating with Distinction in Medical Education and Distinction in Research, and she was awarded a Blue Ribbon for her poster at the Institute for Medical Education's Education Research Day in 2015. She also received the Award for Teamwork in 2014. She has been an active member of the Women's Network, the Students as Patient and Community Educators group, and the Mentoring Database committee.

She would like to thank her family, friends, and husband for their support. Additionally, she would like to thank her classmates at the Icahn School of Medicine and her mentors in the Departments of Pediatrics and Medical Education. Lianna will continue her training at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in the Pediatrics Research Residency.

## OUTSTANDING CULMINATING EXPERIENCE – MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH CAPSTONE

Alexandre Ly van mah

Alexandre is a first-generation Vietnamese born in Aix-en-Provence, France. In 2010, he came to the United States to embark on his undergraduate career at St. Francis College. While pursuing a major in Chemistry, Alexandre joined a research study which led to a publication for the *International Journal of Physical Sciences*. In his free time, he developed a passion for helping others in need at New York Cares where he became a team leader for various projects. Alexandre joined the Master of Public Health program at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai (ISMMS) in the spring of 2014, as he desired to become more familiarized with the healthcare Industry.

Through all the experiences he gained in the Healthcare and Management track, he feels especially grateful for the internship experience at New York Eye and Ear Infirmary of Mount Sinai (NYEEIMS), where he earned the Outstanding Culminating Experience – Capstone Award for his work on Patient Flow optimization. At NYEEIMS, Alexandre not only worked with dedicated professionals but also gained lifelong mentors.

He would like to thank his parents and his mentors, especially his advisor, Dr. Rosenberg and Johanna Sica, Division Director of the Ambulatory Care Service at NYEEIMS for the continual support.

## STEVEN B. TAMARIN, MD, MEMORIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN FAMILY MEDICINE

### Alexa Mieses

Alexa Maureen Mieses graduated from the City University of New York with a Bachelor of Science in Biology in 2011. She completed a research fellowship at the National Institutes of Health before matriculating at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in 2012. Alexa will graduate with a combined MD/MPH degree with a concentration in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention. She is also graduating with Distinction in Research. Alexa previously received the prestigious AAMC Nickens Award, the Center for Multicultural and Community Affairs Gelernt Scholarship, and the Mount Sinai Scholars as Leaders Merit Scholarship.

Alexa helped increase interest in Family Medicine at the School of Medicine as President of the Family Medicine Interest Group. The group received the AAFP Program of Excellence Award, and Alexa received the Family Medicine Leads Scholarship. She also served as Student Delegate for the New York State Academy of Family Physicians. Over three years she filled three roles at the student-run clinic, serving marginalized patients in East Harlem.

In her spare time, Alexa mentors underrepresented minority students. Combining her passion for mentoring and writing, she published a medical school admissions guide called, “The Heartbeat of Success.” She also writes regularly for *Medscape*, was editor-in-chief of a medical education newsletter, and published in the peer-reviewed *American Medical Student Research Journal*.

Alexa will begin training in family medicine at Duke University Medical Center. She would like to thank her family as well as Dr. Gary Butts, Dr. Ann-Gel Palermo, Dr. Alexander Kolevzon, Dr. Allison Gault, Dr. Irwin Dannis, and Dr. Lynne Holden for their support.

## EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE AWARD

### Alejandro Negrete

Alejandro Negrete came to the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai after graduating from the University of Pittsburgh, where he majored in Psychology. Alejandro will be graduating with the Excellence in Public Health Practice Award. While at the School of Medicine, he was selected for the Jose “Pepe” Morales, Jr. Mentorship Program at the Association of Hispanic Healthcare Executives. He has also been an active member of East Harlem Health Outreach Partnership Community Outreach Committee.

Alejandro feels very proud of the research he has been involved in while at the School. He had the privilege of working with excellent mentors in multiple disciplines, and has contributed to one paper, three abstracts, and gave a platform presentation at the Eastern Society for Pediatric Research.

He would like to thank his parents for their support of his journey through graduate school. Additionally, he would like to thank his mentors, especially Dr. Elaine Lin and Dr. Maureen Braun in the Department of Pediatrics. Alejandro will begin his medical education after graduation.

## IRWIN GELERNT, MD, AWARD FOR SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

### Christian Pean

Christian Pean came to the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai after graduating from Georgetown University, where he majored in Biology. While at the School of Medicine, Christian has received numerous recognitions. He is graduating with Distinction in Research, Distinction in Medical Education and was one of 10 medical students selected from the nation to receive the 2015 AMA Excellence in Medicine Award. He was also awarded the United Health Foundation and National Medical Fellows Diverse Medical Scholar Award, and is a co-author on an Orthopaedic Trauma Association 2015 Highlight Paper. He co-founded the Medical Students for Haiti continental organization through which he coordinated several medical education and surgical relief efforts in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. As past president of the Student National Medical Association chapter at the Icahn School of Medicine, he also spearheaded efforts aimed at increasing diversity in medicine and addressing healthcare disparities that affect underserved communities.

Christian feels incredibly proud of the global health, research and advocacy initiatives he has been involved in while at the School. He had the privilege of working with excellent mentors in multiple disciplines, and during his time at Icahn, contributed to 15 papers and over 25 abstracts.

He would like to thank his parents and brothers for their support on his journey through medical school. Without them, he would not be here today. Additionally, he would like to thank his mentors, especially Dr. Butts from the Center for Multicultural and Community Affairs and Dr. Kenneth Egol from the NYU Orthopaedic Surgery Department. Christian will continue his residency training at NYU Langone's Hospital for Joint Diseases in Orthopaedic Surgery.

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CLINICAL RESEARCH THESIS AWARD

Paul Peng

Paul Peng will be graduating with a dual MD/Master of Clinical Research degree from the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. Paul received his undergraduate degree in Chemistry from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and PhD in Physical Chemistry from University of California, Berkeley.

From 2009-2011, he was an Applied Physics postdoctoral fellow in Dr. Eric Mazur's laboratory at Harvard University. In Dr. Joshua Brody's laboratory at the School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, Paul conducted research on Toll-like receptors and their application to cancer immunotherapy.

This coming July, Paul will begin residency in Emergency Medicine at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

## DR. JOHN BOOKMAN MEMORIAL PRIZE

### Callie Plafkin

Callie Plafkin received her undergraduate degree from Swarthmore College with a major in Spanish Language and Literature and a minor in Philosophy. She was admitted to the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai through the Humanities and Medicine early acceptance program.

Prior to matriculation, Callie taught fifth grade science in Virginia, volunteered at a clinic in rural Ghana, earned Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TEFL) certification and taught English in Thailand. While at the Icahn School of Medicine Callie served as a Mental Health Clinic Manager at the student-run clinic (EHHOP), helped lead a weekly psychotherapy group for Spanish-speaking patients, assistant taught several medical courses, and served on the Admissions Committee. During a Scholarly Year, she conducted clinical neonatology research under the mentorship of Dr. Annemarie Stroustrup.

Callie would like to wholeheartedly thank her parents, Patti Lease and Pete Souza; her husband Jamal Ahmed (ISMMS '13); her advisors Dr. Katz, Dr. Gliatto, Dr. Chang, Dr. Soriano, and Mary Olsen; and her wonderful teachers and colleagues. Thanks to their unwavering support, she was able to overcome the challenges of a neurological illness and continue to pursue her dreams. She will begin residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Wisconsin-Madison this fall.

## DR. ARTHUR H. AUFSES, SR. PRIZE IN SURGERY

### Jake Prigoff

Jake Prigoff came to the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai after graduating in 2012 from the University of Michigan, where he majored in Economics. While at the School of Medicine, Jake has been heavily involved in many student groups and surgical research. He founded and directed the Specialty Focused Mentorship Program and has been an active member in Student Council, the Disaster Preparedness Committee, Transplant Interest Group, MedStart, and the Admissions Committee. Jake also has a passion for teaching and has been a teaching assistant in five courses and served as a peer and senior tutor. He has been awarded with Distinction in Research, AOA Medical Student Service Leadership Project Award, Cecilia Benevisto Courage Award, and is a member of AOA honor society.

He has had the privilege of conducting surgical research with Dr. Celia Divino in the Department of Surgery, and during his time at the School of Medicine, has contributed to five papers, one book chapter, and 10 abstracts.

He would like to thank his parents, family, and friends for their support throughout medical school. Additionally, he would like to thank his mentors, especially Dr. Divino. Jake will continue his residency training in General Surgery at Columbia University Medical Center in New York.



## DR. HOWARD RAPPAPORT PEDIATRIC AWARD

### Ruyan Rahnama

Ruyan Rahnama completed her undergraduate work at the University of California, Berkeley, where she majored in Molecular and Cell Biology. Before coming to the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, Ruyan spent one year as a research associate in an orthopedic surgery lab at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), where she contributed to multiple publications on tissue injury and repair. The following year, she completed her Master of Science in Global Health at UCSF with a capstone on access to harm reduction among IV drug users in Iran.

While at the Icahn School of Medicine, Ruyan focused much of her extracurricular work on human rights medicine and education as a student leader of the Human Rights & Social Justice Scholars Program (HRSJ). During this time, she also secured a student fellowship through the UC Berkeley Human Rights Center and completed her fieldwork in improving access to care for torture survivors seeking asylum in the United States. This work has been presented at multiple conferences and remains ongoing under the guidance of her mentors at the Icahn School of Medicine.

Ruyan would like to thank her family for their unwavering presence and support. She would also like to thank her mentors, especially Dr. Gibbs in the Department of Pediatrics and Drs. Fernando and Hexom in the Department of Emergency Medicine. She will continue her residency training at Columbia University in Pediatrics.

## ELLEN PARKER MEMORIAL AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE IN GERIATRICS

### Michael Richter

Michael Richter received his undergraduate degree from Macalester College, where he majored in Physics. Before entering medical school he also obtained a Master of Science in Bioengineering from the University of California, San Diego. While at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, Michael secured a research grant from the American Federation for Aging Research to study the clinical outcomes of older patients with pituitary tumors. He presented this work at the 2014 American Geriatrics Society and Endocrine Society conferences.

In his fourth year, Michael conducted additional research in the field of Geriatric Rheumatology and published a study on late-onset scleroderma. He was also a leader in the geriatrics and internal medicine interests groups and helped lead a community outreach program that taught nutrition classes in East-Harlem elementary schools.

Michael would like to thank his mentors Dr. Rainier Soriano and Dr. Leslie Kerr for their guidance and for providing examples of clinical excellence that he one day hopes to emulate. Michael will be doing his residency training at the Mayo Clinic in Internal Medicine and hopes to pursue a career in Geriatric Rheumatology.

## THE GEORGE JAMES EPIDEMIOLOGY AWARD

### Jasleen Salwan

Jasleen Salwan came to the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai after graduating from Brown University, where she double-majored in Economics and Public Policy. She enrolled in the dual-degree MD/MPH program to pursue her goal of improving health at both the individual patient and the population level. She quickly discovered a passion for both learning and teaching epidemiology and served as a teaching assistant for the MPH Introduction to Epidemiology course.

In addition to helping other students acquire the tools to pursue their research interests, Jasleen conducted research and fieldwork of her own during her time at ISMMS. Her main area of focus is mental health, and she is interested in integrated models for treating mental illness in the primary care setting. She received three primary-author publications and contributed to two poster presentations. She also conducted advocacy work with the World Health Organization.

Jasleen would like to thank her mentors, in particular Dr. Craig Katz and Dr. Stephanie Factor, as well as her family and friends for their constant support. She will continue her residency training at Yale University in the Internal Medicine-Primary Care program.

## THE BARRY COLLER AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CLINICAL MEDICINE

### Zachary Sherman

Zachary Sherman graduated *summa cum laude* from the University of Michigan in 2009 with a degree in Economics and Organizational Studies. Prior to pursuing a career in medicine, Zach worked at NERA Economic Consulting. He then completed his post-baccalaureate pre-health studies at New York University and conducted research at the Manhattan VA Medical Center.

After enrolling in the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, Zach took an interest in working with underserved communities. He was the finance coordinator at the East Harlem Health Outreach Partnership (EHHOP), in which he helped organize EHHOP's 10th anniversary gala, which raised over \$60,000 for patient care. Zach also served as a leader of Medical Students Making Impacts' annual trip to Nogales, Arizona, where medical students learn about unique health issues faced by residents of border communities. Lastly, Zach spent two months in Uganda developing and implementing an educational tool designed to teach rural Ugandan communities about malnutrition.

Zach would like to thank his family for their unwavering support over the years. His accomplishments would not have been possible without them. Zach will be training in Internal Medicine at New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center.

## OUTSTANDING CAPSTONE AWARD – HEALTHCARE DELIVERY LEADERSHIP

Jena Simon

Jena Simon graduated from Wellesley College in 1996 with a Bachelor of Arts in Religion. Before realizing her calling to be a nurse, she received a Master of Arts in South Asian Studies from the University of Pennsylvania. She completed a BS and MS in Nursing from Columbia University. In 2011, Jena began her career as a nurse practitioner at The Mount Sinai Hospital in the Comprehensive Program for Sickle Cell Disease.

In 2012, Jena received a grant from the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Foundation to conduct clinical research on vitamin D in individuals with sickle cell. In 2012, she received the Clinical Excellence in Nursing Practice Award for Evidence Based Clinical Practice and Research from The Mount Sinai Hospital.

She has had the privilege of working with excellent mentors, including Dr. Andrea Branch and Dr. Jeffrey Glassberg. She is a co-author of three recently published articles. Her mission is to improve care delivery for individuals living with sickle cell across our health system and around the world. She would like to thank her husband, Adam Simon, whose support and love make her work possible and her children, Zubin and Aviva, for continually reorienting her life toward the greater good. She is also grateful to her patients for their collaboration and shared determination to make things better.

## DR. JOSEPH R. JAGUST ANESTHESIOLOGY AWARD

### Ryan Wang

Ryan Wang graduated from Washington University in St. Louis in 2011, with a major in Chemistry. While at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, he served as an Anatomy Teaching Assistant and had an active role in the narrative medicine elective and the student-run literary arts publication. He completed a scholarly year from 2014-2015 under the mentorship of Dr. Daniel Katz.

Ryan co-created liver transplant and fiberoptic intubation simulators, both of which were demonstrated at The International Meeting on Simulation in Healthcare in 2015. He is also the co-creator of a commercially available app for regional anesthesia. Ryan has worked with many excellent mentors who have helped him contribute to one publication and six abstracts.

He would like to thank his dad, mom, and sister for their relentless support. Additionally, he would like to thank his mentors in the Department of Anesthesiology, especially Drs. Katz and Zerillo. Ryan is thrilled to continue his residency training at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in Anesthesiology.

## **FACULTY AWARDS PRESENTATION**

## SOLOMON SILVER AWARD IN CLINICAL MEDICINE

### Albert Y. Wu, MD, PhD

Albert Y. Wu, MD, PhD, is currently an Assistant Professor in the Departments of Ophthalmology and Medical Education at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. He graduated from Yale University with a Bachelor of Science in Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry, and immediately began the Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP) at the University of Washington. His PhD was in the area of cyclic nucleotide phosphodiesterases), where he was trained by National Academy of Sciences member, Joseph Beavo.

Dr. Wu then finished ophthalmology residency at the Moran Eye Center in Salt Lake City, followed by a two year Oculoplastics Fellowship at the University of Toronto. During fellowship, he worked in the laboratory of William Stanford at the Centre for Modeling Human Disease learning how to use induced pluripotent stem cells. Dr. Wu came to the Icahn School of Medicine in 2014 and was awarded a five-year NIH grant to restore a patient's damaged cornea with stem cells.

Using recent breakthroughs in pluripotent stem cells technology, Dr. Wu and his team are creating eye stem cells, which may transform the care and outcomes of patients blind from burns or trauma. Furthermore, these cells could enhance the therapy of other ocular disorders that could benefit from regeneration, as well as skin burns, injured tissues, and stroke. On a broader level, this research could serve as a paradigm for the creation of other transplantable tissue for use throughout the body. These studies will serve as the basis for human clinical trials and make regenerative medicine a reality for those with sight-threatening disease.



## THE DR. HAROLD AND GOLDEN LAMPORT RESEARCH AWARDS

### Priti Balchandani, PhD

Priti Balchandani, PhD, received her Honours Bachelor of Applied Science in Computer Engineering at the University of Waterloo in Canada and her Doctor of Philosophy in Electrical Engineering at Stanford University. As the Director of the High Field MRI program at the Translational and Molecular Imaging Institute (TMII) at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai (ISMMS), Dr. Balchandani focuses on developing novel techniques to exploit the power of high-field MR magnets to visualize the brain in unprecedented detail.

She leads a team of scientists to devise creative engineering methods to overcome some of the main limitations of operating at high magnetic fields, thereby enabling high-resolution whole-brain anatomical, spectroscopic and diffusion imaging as well as unlocking new contrast mechanisms and sources of signal. In order to achieve these goals, Dr. Balchandani's team focuses on novel radio frequency (RF) pulse and pulse sequence design as well as specialized hardware solutions such as parallel transmission. These techniques are ultimately applied to improve diagnosis, treatment and surgical planning for neurological diseases and disorders. Some clinical areas of focus for Dr. Balchandani's team are improved localization of epileptogenic foci and development of imaging methods to better guide neurosurgical resection of brain tumors.

Her work has resulted in several peer-reviewed publications and U.S. patents as well as selection as a finalist for the International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine (ISMRM) 2008 Young Investigator Award. She was also named a Junior Fellow of the ISMRM. She is the recipient of a K99/R00 NIH Pathway to Independence Award from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke. In 2016, Dr. Balchandani was awarded an R01 grant from the National Cancer Institute. Dr. Balchandani is very thankful to her mentors at Stanford and ISMMS, particularly Dr. Zahi Fayad, Director of TMII, for his valuable support and guidance during her time as faculty.

## Kristen Brennand, PhD

Kristen Brennand, PhD, is an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. She trained in Developmental and Stem Cell Biology at Harvard University and in Neurobiology during postdoctoral at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies. By combining expertise in both, she has pioneered a new approach by which to study psychiatric disease. Dr. Brennand's work is funded by the National Institutes of Health, the New York Stem Cell Foundation and the Brain and Behavior Research Foundation.

To investigate how neurons from patients with schizophrenia differ from those from healthy controls, they obtain skin samples from patients, which are then reprogrammed into induced pluripotent stem cells, and subsequently differentiated into precise subtypes of human neurons. This has allowed her group to begin to ask how and why neurons derived from schizophrenia patients differ from those derived from controls.

The goal of their research is to not just understand the genetic mechanisms contributing to schizophrenia, but ultimately to develop a screening platform that we can use to identify new therapeutics for the treatment of this debilitating disorder.

## Jennifer Jao, MD

Dual certified in Internal Medicine and Pediatrics, Dr. Jao is an Infectious Disease specialist whose research focus is HIV maternal child health. She obtained her Bachelor of Arts in French Literature at Tulane University and Doctor of Medicine at the Medical College of Georgia. She went on to complete a Medicine/Pediatrics residency at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago and her Infectious Disease Fellowship along with her Master of Public Health at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

Dr. Jao has led cohorts of HIV-infected pregnant women and their children both in the United States and Africa, and as a translational researcher, her research portfolio targets the long-term metabolic effects of in utero exposure to HIV and antiretroviral medications. She is the Principal Investigator on NIH-funded studies in the U.S. and Africa to better understand the long-term health outcomes of HIV-exposed infants, and is the lead investigator on several studies within the NIH-funded Pediatric HIV/AIDS Cohort Study and the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development International Site Development Initiative.

She serves on the Board of Directors of Research for Health, a non-profit organization whose mission it is to strengthen research capacity in resource-constrained settings as well as the Cameroon Baptist Convention Health Services Internal Medicine Residency Advisory Board.

## Sarah Stanley, MBBCh, PhD

Sarah A. Stanley, MBBCh, PhD, joined the Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism Institute of the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in 2015 as Assistant Professor with a joint appointment in the Department of Neuroscience. Her research interests are at the intersection of three areas: pioneering the use of radio waves and magnetic fields to non-invasively modulate individual cells and neurons, use of nanoparticles for preclinical applications and advancing the understanding of the interaction between central nervous system in metabolic disease to find new approaches to diabetes treatment.

Dr. Stanley studied medicine at Cambridge University, with clinical training at busy London teaching hospitals and was an attending physician in Endocrinology and General Medicine at The Hammersmith Hospital. She studied for a PhD as a Wellcome Trust Fellow in the laboratory of Professor Sir Steven Bloom and then joined Professor Jeffrey Friedman's laboratory at Rockefeller University as post-doctoral fellow before moving to the Icahn School of Medicine.

## Closing Remarks

David Muller, MD

*Marietta and Charles C. Morchand  
Chair in Medical Education*

*Dean for Medical Education*

## 2016 CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

### MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Brett Nathaniel Abish	Rhoena Bente Vanessa Desir	Yi Tao Asta Man
Noareen Zaheer Ahmed	Samriddhi Dhakal	Alexa Maureen Mieses*
Raymond Amirian	Jose Carlos Diarte Ortiz	Mirta Milanese
Christina Nicole Anderson	Aletheia S. Donahue	Alejandro Manuel Negrete
Ruth C. Angrand	Alexandra Welch Douglas	Vivian Le Nguyen
Ame John Anteyi	Maullika Dua	Selassie Joasline Ogyaadu
Salman Anwar	Kimberly L. Fischer	Victoria Osasah
Shahryar Moiz Baig	Alean Ann Frawley	Bhrita H. Parikh
Ronald Bangiyev	Estefany Pamela Frias	Alexandra Reed Parish
Martine Alexandra Baptiste	Chelsea Bismark Frimpong	Dharit Rasikbhai Patel
Ilana Ramer Bass*	Vania Galarraga	Dharti C. Patel
Alexandria Lesley Benifield	Ester Garrido	Neil Rameshbhai Patel
Maria Carolina Bermudez Gonzalez	Andrew George	Urvish Kalpeshbhai Patel
Minakshi Bhardwaj	Christina Allison Gulotta	Marit Pearlman Shapiro*
Neha Bhattacharjee	Shari Elissa Titiana Hawker	Steven R. Persaud
Siddharth Ravinbhai Bhesania	Leslie Juliana Higuaita Montoya	Carlos Felipe Plata-Martinez*
Cassie Wallace Burley	Genevieve Huard	Nanik Ram
Shunee Burt	Cody R. Ingram	Marium Rashid
Ranita Campbell	Arkadiy Iskhakov	Nicole Reeves
Richard Anthony Cancio	Janey K. James	Amanda Marie Riley
Sangeetha Chandramohan	Scott Keyes Ulrich Jelinek	Naeemah Ruffin
Kinsuk Natvarlal Chauhan	Hillary E. Jenny	Jasleena Kour Sahni
Mary Rong Chen	Johanna Thekla Kaminer	Jasleen Kaur Salwan*
Su Kristy Chow	Muthumeena Kannappan	Michail Shafir
Brianne Ciferri	Michelle Ashley Kaufman	Hardikkumar Shah
Oluwaseun Cole	Kathleen Kim	Nirip BJ Singh
Amanda Joy Coleman	Renita Suhyun Kim*	Tara Mandy Singh
Natalie Rose Coppa	Grace Kwon	Michael J. Smith
Mahdieh Danesh Yazdi	Samantha Landau	Kenneth Spencer
Sunnie W. Deng	Maria E. Lavelanet	Jacqueline Nicole Spinner
Vimi J. Desai	Souci Jeanne Louis	Jennilea Steffens
	Alexandre Ly van manh	Tyler Daniel Strickland
		Christina Su

## MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH continued

Sharifah Menrose Olayinka Suleiman	Sophia L. Tatkon-Coker	Caroline Rose Walker
Shikha B. Surati	Denisia Katherine Tseretopoulos	Kevin Young Xu
Sumaiya Tasneem	Katharina Ute Turcios-Wiswe	*MD/MPH Program

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

Sanya Anand	Usman Hameedi	Jennifer Short
Thomas Chan	Timothy Cole Kenny	Shahtaz Sruty
Angela Choi	Won-Joon Koh	Miguel Vizarrata Sandoval
Valeria J. Cogliani	Y Tram Nguyen	Wan-Chen Wu
Christienne G. Damatac	Dominique Constantina Pearsall	Akshitha Yarrabothul
Arun Devi Fricker	Patricia Mae Garcia Santos	Ze Zhang
Rachel-Ann Garibsingh	Naomi Shakerdge	
Ilana Leor Greene		

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOSTATISTICS

Naomi D. Alpert	Jiawen Li
Jaya Chandrasekhar	

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CLINICAL RESEARCH

Lincoln Singh Darla	Brett St. John Marinelli <sup>‡</sup>	Stuart A. Scott
Shinobu Itagaki	Kusum S. Mathews	Ammar Siddiqui <sup>‡</sup>
Jacob Kattan	Kevin G. Munjal	Mahlet Yishak
Sylvia Klineova	Paul Peng <sup>‡</sup>	
Lianna Rebecca Lipton <sup>‡</sup>	Jacquelin Michele Rankine <sup>‡</sup>	<sup>‡</sup> MD/MSCR Program

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN GENETIC COUNSELING

Elizabeth Nicole Bazinet	Anna Eames	Rebecca Hughes Signer
Sara Malka Berger	Allysa Marie Mantala Go	Caroline Claire Sotile
Emily Alexandra Boniferro	Julie Lauren Gold	Natasha Chloe Zeid
Tehilla Esther Brander	Laura Elizabeth Mueller	

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HEALTHCARE DELIVERY LEADERSHIP

Rebecca Blake	Herbert Gretz	Robin Anne Maley
Jena Davis	Rajan Gurunathan	Jena M. Simon
Richard Ashley Frieden	Robert Andrew Lookstein	Joanne Stone

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Daniel Andrew Adams	Sumedha Vinod Chablani	Joshua Scott Friedman
Jalal Ahmed^	Anthony Shenkai Chang	Kenji Fujitani
Michael R. Alston	Isabel Yi-Shing Chang	Benjamin Dov Goldman-Israelow^
Marissa Maliakal Anto	Daniel Chimin Choi	Laura Beth Maurer Goldstein
Gregory Thomas Baldwin	Robert Arthur Chong^	Erden Goljo
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Julien Beattie-Lanoue	Keegan Paul Cole	Jacqueline Cherry Hairston
Andrew Eskay Becker	Aleksandra Sarah Dain	Edwin Alexander Homan
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Joseph Morgan Blankush	Anna Martin Darby	Jimmy Long Huynh^
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Eric Benjamin Bressman	Katharine Shaw Dempsey	Jocelyn Michelle Jiao
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John-William Nathaniel Carroll	Luis Felipe Duarte^	Masha Gregory Jones
Matthew Ryan Carroll	Jenny Dworzak^	Rebecca Josowitz^
Martin Francis Casey	Adam C. Fields	Margit Lai Wun Juhász
Kimberly Sheree Casten	Kathryn Friedman Flack	Amrita Karambelkar
	Kelly Xenia Fox	



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Omar Ahmad Khan	Jeremy D. Nathaniel	Ammar Siddiqui <sup>‡</sup>
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Emmett Alexander Kistler	Fareedat Oluwatosin Oluyadi	Joseph Wesley Song
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Vinicius Knabben	Jamie Sungmin Pak	Yosuf Walid Subat
Jonathan Reed Komisar	Kyle Justin Pasternac	Gabrielle Naomi Surick
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Hyoung Tae Edward Kwon	Philip Anthony Petrou	Ashley Lauren Titan
Cindy Sing Law	Gabrielle Simone Phillip	Joshua Harris Uhr
Valerie Le	Callie Elizabeth Plafkin	Prashant Vempati
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Jennifer Ran Li	Liandra Nicole Presser	Ryan Frank Wang
Lianna Rebecca Lipton <sup>‡</sup>	Jeremy Gordon Price <sup>^</sup>	Naomi Weiss-Goldman
Alexander Rafael Lloyd	Jake Goldman Prigoff	Frank Jonghyun Yuk
Carlo Lutz	Sujing Sylvia Qiu	
Jamie Rosen Manning	Ruyan Rahnama	
Brett St. John Marinelli <sup>‡</sup>	Andrés Felipe Ramírez Zamudio	<sup>‡</sup> MD/MSCR Program
Jarrold Adam Marks	Jacquelin Michele Rankine <sup>‡</sup>	<sup>*</sup> MD/MPH Program
Mariam Mathai	Michael David Richter	<sup>^</sup> MD/PhD Program
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Alexa Maureen Mieses*	Kei Satoh	
Cassie Susan Mintz	Zachary Michael Videka Sherman	
Kapil Mishra		

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Asiel A. Benitez	Rebecca Hamlin <sup>^</sup>	Tuyen Hoang Nguyen
James R Brewer	Kathryn Harper	Matthew Ryan Pendleton
Robert Arthur Chong <sup>^</sup>	Marylens Hernandez Guia	Jeremy Gordon Price <sup>^</sup>
Neil Dhawan	Sharon Elisabeth Hopcraft	Theresa Reimels
Aslihan Dincer	Jimmy Long Huynh <sup>^</sup>	Chunyan Ren
Luis Felipe Duarte <sup>^</sup>	Vinitha Anne Jacob <sup>^</sup>	Arven Saunders
Natasha D. Durham	Rebecca Josowitz <sup>^</sup>	Scott D. Speer
Megan Rae Edwards	Scott J. Justus	Yukie Takabatake
Rana S. Elkholi	Lindsay Kristine Kelly	Victor A. Ugarte Bornstein
John Leighland Feinman	Brandon Christopher Kent	Avinash Waghray
Thomas Jamison Gardner	Arielle Louisa Klepper <sup>^</sup>	Erica Gabrielle Weinstein
Nicole Barbara Glennon	Yan Kou	Benjamin Chih-Hao Yen
Aviva Goel		Zara Zelenko
		<sup>^</sup> MD/PhD Program

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN NEUROSCIENCE

Benjamin Chadwick	Justin Samuel Ricerberg	Harish Vasudevan
Kevin George Guise	Joseph Scarpa <sup>^</sup>	
John Nicholas Mariani		<sup>^</sup> MD/PhD Program

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN CLINICAL RESEARCH

Kian Bichoupan	Kimberly McClinch
Sudeh Izadmehr	Singh Nair

## **To all the graduates,**

On behalf of the Department of Medical Education and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences of the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, we would like to wish you the best of luck on your future endeavors. Congratulations on all your accomplishments and on completing this momentous milestone.









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