

## ***PHYSICIAN-SCIENTIST RESEARCH TRACK***



### **Jessica Ables, MD, PhD**

MEDICAL: Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai  
PHD: University of Texas Southwestern School of Medicine  
POST-DOC: Rockefeller University  
UNDERGRADUATE: Southwestern University

Jess began her medical training and obtained her PhD in Integrative Biology at UT Southwestern before she moved to New York and completed her MD at Mount Sinai. Her doctoral thesis work explored signaling in adult neurogenesis, defining how Notch1 affects the generation of newly born neural progenitor cells in adult hippocampus and their differentiation and survival in the intact brain. Through this and subsequent work, she has become viewed as a go-to person by others needing assistance in neuroanatomical methodologies. Following graduation and prior to residency, she completed a post-doctoral research project at Rockefeller under Dr. Nathaniel Heinz, where she used BAC transgenic mice to characterize the structure and function of two novel cell populations in the interpeduncular nucleus, with implications for better understanding depression, anxiety, and addiction, including the somatic component of nicotine withdrawal. Jess has shown great ability as both an independent researcher and a collaborator and has published her work in numerous prestigious journals, including *Nature Neuroscience*, *Journal of Neuroscience*, *Nature Medicine*, *PNAS*, and *Biological Psychiatry*.



### **Sophia Kogan MD, PhD**

MEDICAL: University of Massachusetts Medical School  
PHD: University of Massachusetts Medical School  
UNDERGRADUATE: Tufts University

Born in St. Petersburg, Russia, Sophia moved to America when she was 4. As a college sophomore, she watched her first chromogenic reaction develop and marveled at the ability to detect a single protein and study its role in the complex process of organogenesis. At that moment, she decided to become a scientist. For her doctoral thesis in Molecular Medicine, Sophia worked under the mentorship of Michael Czech in the highly competitive area of meta-inflammation. She focused on the role of inflammation in diet-induced obesity and Type 2 Diabetes through studying the physiology of brown and white adipose tissue. She also investigated the role of inflammation and lipid droplet proteins in non-alcoholic fatty liver disease. Her work has shown novel roles for CD40 (attenuating adipose tissue inflammation and protecting against hepatic steatosis) that have been contrary to expectations and dogma and have raised important questions for the field. Sophia has published her work in the *Journal of Clinical Investigation*, *Endocrine-Related Cancer*, the *Journal of Human Hypertension*, and multiple times in the *American Journal of Physiology*. She is interested in studying the molecular mechanisms that underlie metabolic disorders in the psychiatric population, both primary and medication-induced.

## ***GENERAL ADULT TRACK***



### **Zebib Abraham, MD**

MEDICAL: Weill Cornell Medical College

UNDERGRADUATE: University of Maryland

The daughter of immigrants from the Eritrean civil war, Zebib hails from a background that has heightened her sensitivity to resource allocation, sense of social justice, and power of medicine and public health to improve quality of life. Consistently perceived as mature beyond her years, Zebib received her college's highest undergraduate scholarship, covering all expenses for all four years, and graduated with honors concentrating in Neurology, Physiology, and English. At the University of St. Andrews, she bred worms to map their sex-trait determining gene mutations and studied cholinergic interneurons in the medulla of mice. Her considerable time spent in service, honing new skills in counseling and supporting others, and her passion for helping the world's population on a global scale have fueled her academic growth. Zebib has been an executive board member of Circle K International, worked to promote the development of mental health research in Mozambique, has been president of the Cornell Health Professions Recruitment and Exposure mentoring program for disadvantaged youth, and founded the Artists' Society at Weill Cornell.



### **Ralph (Parker) Fader, MD**

MEDICAL: Rutgers, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

UNDERGRADUATE: Brandeis University

Parker was awarded a considerable academic scholarship to Brandeis, and he worked nearly full-time throughout college as Manager of the Brandeis kitchen staff. He also obtained a university scholarship to cover his EMT training and spent three years volunteering in the Brandeis Emergency Medical Corps. He volunteered much of his free time serving as an LGBTQ youth counselor for the Queer Resource Center, which further fueled his passion for building social supports for underprivileged communities. Between college and medical school, Parker worked full time while volunteering dozens of weekly hours as a recruiter for the Center for HIV Educational Studies and Training. In medical school, he undertook a quality improvement study to examine possible discrepancies in time-to-treatment for Hispanic stroke patients. He has developed curricula to teach psychiatric concepts via film portrayals, has been a Gender and Sexuality Fellow of the American Medical Students Association, and he has been inducted into the Gold Humanism Honor Society.



### **Marissa Hudak, MD**

MEDICAL: University of Colorado School of Medicine

UNDERGRADUATE: Emory University

Marissa's record of outstanding leadership, marked by creativity and persistence, has been evident throughout her work in quality improvement, research, and peer guidance. Her QI work, published in the *American Journal of Medical Quality*, investigated conflicts in the stroke alert system and helped reduce time to treatment in the University Hospital by 45%. This work earned a spot on the AHA Target: Stroke Honor Roll and won the Society for Hospital Medicine's Award for Excellence in Teamwork in QI. She has educated other hospitals and presented at the International Stroke Conference. She was subsequently hired by the hospital as an independent contractor for QI, facilitating its progression to a Comprehensive Stroke Center. She plans on bringing to psychiatry her approach to transforming systems to improve patient care. Marissa also worked as a research coordinator for numerous NIH-funded studies: hypothermia in stroke, antiplatelet agents post-stroke, and potential immunological markers to identify adverse events in MS treatment. In college, Marissa studied assessments to validate subtypes of psychopathy in incarcerated men (published in *Personality Disorders*). Recently, she is studying edible-marijuana-induced psychosis (manuscript submitted to the *American Journal of Psychiatry*). She founded UColorado's psychiatry interest group and was elected Chair of the Western US region of Psych-SIGN, liaising with the APA.

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**Anna Kim, MD**

MEDICAL: New York University School of Medicine

UNDERGRADUATE: University of Chicago

Originally hailing from Memphis, Tennessee, Anna is a child of Japanese/Korean and French immigrants. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Chicago, concentrating in Biology and Neuroscience. As an undergraduate and as part of an NIH Neuroscience and Neuroengineering Program, she studied the genetic identity of premotor neurons in the mouse brainstem, focusing on Chx10 transcription factor involved in the development of key functions such as breathing and locomotion. She was also employed as a research coordinator throughout her undergraduate years, studying how nurses, nurse practitioners, residents, fellows, and attendings view patient mortality and morbidity in the neonatal and medical intensive care units; simultaneously, she studied related medical ethics, and her work was published in *Acta Paediatrica*. Also throughout her time at University of Chicago, she was General Editor and then Editor-in-Chief for the "Chicago Biological Investigator," an undergraduate research journal. In medical school at NYU, she investigated whether the effects of media exposure in low socioeconomic toddlers are associated with BMI at 3 years of age. While on the Bellevue Hospital Forensics inpatient unit, she researched the efficacy of intramuscular regimens in managing acute violence.



**Teresa Lee, MD**

MEDICAL: University of Texas Southwestern School of Medicine

UNDERGRADUATE: Rice University

Prior to college, Teresa was awarded the Most Valuable Student Scholarship from the Elks Foundation. Deeply invested in the arts at Rice, she published poetry, sang with the Rice Chorale, and served as the visual arts coordinator for Rice's Student Center, recruiting artists and executing art shows. She was also the smallest-built women's Rugby player. Her research in college characterized blood vessels in the developing avian eye with a focus on corneal avascularity and was published in *Developmental Dynamics*. During a post-bac, she worked as a neuroscience lab manager at UPenn School of Medicine, where she published two first-author papers (*Neurology*; *Human Molecular Genetics*) illustrating the ethnic diversity of genetic sequences in ALS. She was also recognized and awarded a scholarship from UPenn's Department of Fine Arts to study advanced ceramics at the nationally recognized Clay Studio in Philadelphia. In addition to extensive volunteerism in medical school, Teresa was President of AMWA, Board Officer of the a capella choir, and employed as a Manager of the Student Center. She recently completed a summer fellowship with HHMI, creating a system that would quantify the type of vector integration events of extrinsic Factor 9 in Hemophilia B mice.



**Michael MacIntyre, MD**

MEDICAL: Ohio State University College of Medicine

UNDERGRADUATE: Duke University

Michael concentrated in chemistry at Duke, researching the kinetics and thermodynamics of iron chelation from human transferrin by *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*. He was a teaching assistant in inorganic and organic chemistry, and as outreach he performed chemistry shows and demonstrations in various contexts, ranging from elementary school classes and the North Carolina State Fair to weekly museum shows. In college he provided care for Spanish-speaking only victims of domestic violence at the Durham Crisis Response Center. Before medical school, Michael was employed as a Technician at the San Diego Eye Bank, where he was in charge of procuring, preserving, and processing ocular tissue from cadavers to be used for human transplantation and scientific research. Michael was awarded a scholarship through Ohio State's P4 Medicine Institute, allowing him time in medical school for an interdisciplinary analysis of research projects from genetics to exercise physiology, with a particular emphasis on incorporating evidence-based information into medical practice and creating a personalized life strategy wellness plan for each patient. Michael was also elected to liaise between the Ohio Psychiatric Physicians Foundation and medical students, developing enhanced recruitment. He has studied the incidence of antipsychotic use in patients with anxiety disorder diagnoses, and for 3 years in medical school, Michael was President of Clowning in Columbus.

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**Lisa Salstein, MD**

MEDICAL: University of Massachusetts Medical School  
UNDERGRADUATE: Smith College

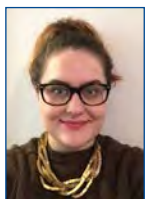
Lisa's interest in psychiatry began when she volunteered for a suicide prevention hotline in high school, and she has since consistently involved herself in psychiatric practice and research. She worked as a decisional trainer with prison inmates addressing problem-solving skills, as well as an activities coordinator on the geriatric mood disorders and dementia units at McLean. Lisa has led a campus wide study to examine eating behaviors and perfectionism traits in dancers compared to other athletes. Between college and medical school, Lisa was a full time research assistant at the New York State Psychiatric Institute and at the Nathan Kline Institute, where she coordinated an NIMH study on the genetics of obsessive compulsive disorder and assisted in creating a new mouse model to study the neurobiology of secure infant attachment despite adversity (published in *Genes, Brain, and Behavior*). Previously, she had assisted in an NIMH study of borderline personality disorder. As leader of the psychiatric interest group, Lisa developed a mentorship program between an adolescent inpatient psychiatric facility and University of Massachusetts medical students.



**Jasdeep Sandhu, MD, MPH**

MEDICAL: University of Texas School of Medicine at San Antonio  
MPH: UT School of Public Health San Antonio Regional Campus  
UNDERGRADUATE: Texas A&M University

Graduating college with a degree in international studies, Jasdeep has had a longstanding interest in global health policy. Her field work has taken her to Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico, and impoverished settings in Texas. A leader in her community—in academics, service, and compassion— Jasdeep sits on the student board of the Center for Medical Humanities and Ethics, serves as mentor to junior medical students, was President of the San Antonio chapter of Physicians For Human Rights, and served as the sole student representative on a University of Texas multi-school interdepartmental committee focusing on sustainability. Jasdeep has recently been doing work supported by a grant from the CDC, studying Hepatitis C and its treatment in the baby boomer population. Focusing on barriers to care, she is analyzing imaging findings, disease severity indices, and the relationship between alcohol abuse, BMI, and liver function. Jasdeep also practices yoga and would like to investigate how mindfulness activities may be integrated as therapeutic modalities.



**Katherine Skosnik, MD**

MEDICAL: Boston University School of Medicine  
UNDERGRADUATE: McGill University

Hailing from Vancouver, with a stint in Dubai, Katherine graduated McGill concentrating in Philosophy and Cell and Molecular Biology. Her interests are widespread, from the academic and mathematical to the human and compassionate. In college she was awarded a grant to study the use of zero in ancient cultures, reviewing philosophical texts on the evolution of number systems, and researching primary texts from Mesopotamia, India, and Greece. Katherine is also passionate about personal narratives, being a voice for the underrepresented, and promoting physical and psychological safety. Working with the Berklee College of Music, she produced a music video, "Stolen Voices," that aims to raise awareness on the issue of consent and sex. She also co-directed the Vagina Monologues, co-chaired Medical Students for Choice, and chaired the psychiatry interest group. As an advisor in the "Healer's Art," she led students in developing skills and values to maintain humanism throughout a career in medicine. She was selected to present at the inaugural TEDxMcGill, which became one of the largest TEDx events in Canada.

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**Adjoa Smalls-Mantey, MD, DPhil**

MEDICAL: Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons  
DPhil (PHD): University of Oxford and NIH  
UNDERGRADUATE: University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Adjoa was the top biochemistry student in college and received numerous prestigious scholarships for academics and leadership. As part of the HHMI/Meyerhoff Scholarship Program for all four undergraduate years, she conducted HIV pathogenesis-related research involving dimerization sites within the MLV genome and received the 2006 Goldwater Scholarship from the US Congress. She published her work in *Biochemistry* and the *Journal of Molecular Biology*. Receiving the highest possible priority score, Adjoa was awarded an individual NIH Fellowship grant to fund her MD/PhD training. Beginning at the NIH, she developed a soon-to-be sought after novel flow cytometry assay to measure cytotoxic activity of NK cells against HIV-1 infected CD4+ T cells. She published this and consequent research findings in the *Journal of Virology*. At Oxford Adjoa completed the work she started at the NIH. She also developed a method for generating neutrophils from human stem cells. Her independent research provided significant new insights into HIV and were published in *PLoS One*. While at Oxford, Adjoa participated in the Science Innovation Plus Programme, a highly selective business school training program for science graduate students. Adjoa was the graduate student catering director at Magdalen College at Oxford, Secretary of the Columbia P&S Black and Latino Student Organization, and the third black woman to complete a marathon on 7 continents.



**Rachel Tamaroff, MD**

MEDICAL: SUNY Downstate Medical Center College of Medicine  
UNDERGRADUATE: Cornell University

Graduating Cornell with a degree in Human Development, Rachel initially worked as a high school physics and physical science teacher, in addition to being 8<sup>th</sup> grade advisor and the Assistant Coach of the girls' soccer, basketball, and lacrosse teams. Awarded an Intramural Research Fellowship at the NIH/NICHHD, she worked with Marc Bornstein, Head of Child & Family Research, studying infant familiarization and fatigue, categorization and cognitive development, facial recognition, shape perception, brain development, movement mapping and learning, and mother-child interactions. Her work on obstacle avoidance in 9-month-old infants' reach to grasp is currently under review, and she has presented at the International Society for Developmental Psychobiology and the International Neuropsychological Society. Rachel attended Downstate on the Clinical Neurosciences Pathway and was President of the psychiatry interest group. She has most recently conducted research and presented her findings on how medical student attitudes toward psychiatric and non-psychiatric patients affect patient management.



**Michael Yee, MD**

MEDICAL: University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine  
UNDERGRADUATE: University of Rochester

Graduating magna cum laude, Michael's interest in psychiatry developed during his collegiate exploration into social psychology as part of the Take 5 scholars program, in which he was granted a 5<sup>th</sup> year free of tuition to pursue independent study and graduate level courses. In medical school, he quickly demonstrated his commitment to leadership, education, service, and an attunement to diverse populations. At U of C, he joined the Medical Education Scholarship Track, through which he worked to improve the medical neurobiology course. He also served as a teaching assistant for multiple courses and obtained advanced training in teaching skills. Following his first year, Michael was selected to be a part of the Medical Students Training in Aging Research (MSTAR) Program, funded by the American Federation for Aging Research. He studied the time course of statins' efficacy in primary prevention and rational prescribing practices for geriatric patients with multimorbidity. The findings were presented first at the American Geriatrics Society and then published as an article in *Drugs and Aging*. He has been Co-president of Humanism in Medicine, Co-chair of the Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association, Co-president of Say Ahhh! a capella, and a mentor for beginning medical students at a Spanish and Polish speaking clinic.