

ICAHN SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AT MOUNT SINAI
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

PHD LAB COAT CEREMONY

2026

Thursday,
September 10

5 pm

Goldwurm Auditorium



Icahn School
of Medicine at
**Mount
Sinai**

*Graduate School of
Biomedical Sciences*

MESSAGE

At the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, we are deeply invested in cultivating the next generation of scientists and health professionals who make a profound impact on human health both locally and globally. Uniquely positioned within the Icahn School of Medicine and the expansive Mount Sinai Health System, we are a preeminent graduate school and research center known for transformative research and innovative education.

During the ceremony, students beginning their PhD training will be presented with a lab coat symbolizing the start of their graduate studies.



PROGRAM

Master of Ceremonies

Marta Filizola, PhD

Dean, Graduate School of
Biomedical Sciences
Chair, Department of Graduate Education
Sharon and Frederick Klingenstein/Nathan
Kase, MD Professorship
Icahn School of Medicine

Welcome

Eric J. Nestler, MD, PhD

Anne and Joel Ehrenkranz Dean
Icahn School of Medicine
Executive Vice President
Chief Scientific Officer
Mount Sinai Health System

Introduction to Keynote Speaker

Matthew J. O'Connell, PhD

Senior Associate Dean for PhD Programs
Professor of Oncological Sciences, and
Graduate Education
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Keynote Speaker

Amy Divaraniya, PhD

Founder and Chief Executive Officer
Oova, Inc.
Alumna, Icahn School of Medicine

Roster Readers

Matthew J. O'Connell, PhD

Talia Swartz, MD, PhD

Senior Associate Dean for MD-PhD Education
Director, MD-PhD Program
Professor of Medicine (Infectious Diseases);
Medical Education; and Graduate Education
Icahn School of Medicine

Maayan Yitshak-Sade, PhD, MPH

Director, Clinical Research PhD Program
Associate Professor of Environmental Medicine,
and Graduate Education
Icahn School of Medicine

Shams Rashid, PhD

Instructor, BioMedical Engineering and
Imaging Institute, Diagnostic, Molecular
and Interventional Radiology
Graduate Student Advisor, Health Sciences
Engineering PhD Program, Center for Engineering
and Precision Medicine (CEPM)
Icahn School of Medicine

Oath Reader

Paul Slesinger, PhD

Senior Associate Dean for Student and
Postdoctoral Affairs
Vice Chair, Nash Family Department of Neuroscience
Lillian and Henry M. Stratton Professor of Neuroscience
Director, Center for Neurotechnology and Behavior
Icahn School of Medicine

Closing Remarks

Marta Filizola, PhD

Recessional

2026 LAB COAT SPONSORS

The Mount Sinai Alumni Association, the Mount Sinai Office of Alumni and Development, and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences gratefully acknowledge our alumni supporters who welcomed our newest students to science and medicine with the gift of a lab coat.

PHD PROGRAMS LEADERSHIP

Matthew J. O'Connell, PhD

Senior Associate Dean for PhD Programs; Professor of Oncological Sciences, and Graduate Education

Talia Swartz, MD, PhD

Senior Associate Dean for MD-PhD Education; Director, MD-PhD Program; Professor of Medicine (Infectious Diseases); Medical Education; and Graduate Education

Biomedical Science PhD Program—Multidisciplinary Training Areas**Nicole C. Dubois, PhD**

Co-Director, Development, Regeneration, and Stem Cells; Associate Professor, Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine, and Graduate Education

Georgia Panagiotakos, PhD

Co-Director, Development, Regeneration, and Stem Cells; Associate Professor, Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Biology, Neuroscience; Psychiatry; Graduate Education

Ipek Ensari, PhD

Co-Director, Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies in Medicine Assistant Professor, Artificial Intelligence and Human Health; Graduate Education; Medicine; and Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Science

Alan C. Seifert, PhD

Co-Director, Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies in Medicine Assistant Professor, Diagnostic, Molecular and Interventional Radiology; Graduate Education; and Artificial Intelligence and Human Health

Anne Bowcock, PhD

Co-Director, Genetics and Genomic Sciences; Professor, Dermatology; Oncological Sciences; Graduate Education; and Genetics and Genomic Sciences

Sander Houten, PhD

Co-Director, Genetics and Genomic Sciences; Professor, Graduate Education, and Genetics and Genomic Sciences

Jean K. Lim, PhD

Co-Director, Microbiology; Professor, Microbiology, and Graduate Education

Domenico Tortorella, PhD

Co-Director, Microbiology; Professor, Microbiology, and Graduate Education

Michael Lazarus, PhD

Co-Director, Disease Mechanisms and Therapeutics; Associate Professor, Pharmacological Sciences, and Graduate Education

Avner Schlessinger, PhD

Co-Director, Disease Mechanisms and Therapeutics; Dr. Amy and James Elster Professor of Molecular Biology (Connective Tissue Diseases); Graduate Education

James J. Manfredi, PhD

Co-Director, Cancer Biology; Professor, Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine; Oncological Sciences; and Graduate Education

Martin J. Walsh, PhD

Co-Director, Cancer Biology; Professor, Pharmacological Sciences; Graduate Education; Pediatrics; Genetics and Genomic Sciences

Alice O. Kamphorst, PhD

Co-Director, Immunology; Associate Professor, Graduate Education; Immunology and Immunotherapy; and Oncological Sciences

Nicolas Vabret, PhD

Co-Director, Immunology; Assistant Professor, Graduate Education; Immunology and Immunotherapy

Neuroscience PhD Program**George W. Huntley, PhD**

Co-Director, Neuroscience PhD Program; Professor, Neuroscience, and Graduate Education

Silvia De Rubeis, PhD

Co-Director, Neuroscience PhD Program; Associate Professor, Psychiatry, Pharmacological Science, and Graduate Education

Clinical Research PhD Program**Maayan Yitshak-Sade, PhD, MPH**

Director, Clinical Research PhD Program; Associate Professor, Environmental Medicine, and Graduate Education

Health Sciences Engineering PhD Program (joint with Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute)**Priti Balchandani, PhD**

Co-Director, Health Sciences Engineering PhD Program; Endowed Professor of Engineering Medicine; Professor, Diagnostic, Molecular and Interventional Radiology, Neuroscience, Psychiatry, and Graduate Education

Deepak Vashishth, PhD

Co-Director, Health Sciences Engineering PhD Program; Yamada Corporation Chaired Professor, Department of Biomedical Engineering (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute); Adjunct Professor, Orthopedics (Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai)

STUDENTS

PhD in Biomedical Sciences and Neuroscience

Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies in Medicine

Rajagopal S Chandrasekar
Sofie Glatt
Batur Gultekin
Nabil Anan Orka
Aleksandr Prystupa
Sallie Zhou

Cancer Biology

Angela DiMauro
Evan Lenz
Mimi Ughetta

Development, Regeneration, and Stem Cells

Patricia Brocious
Andrew Gans
Premal Gorroochurn
Maggie Lim
Noah Linder
Mariana Rodriguez

Disease Mechanisms and Therapeutics

Matthew Adjmi
Alesandro Civljak
Aish Deva
Zirui (Frank) Feng
Justin Green
Pradnya Kadam
Yi-Ting Pan
Hannah Philipose
Timothy Qi
Anna Rogachevskaya

Genetics and Genomic Sciences

Lorenza Bartu
Lela DeVine
Anoushka Gudipudi
Jingtong Jade Liang
Siddharth Reed
Zhenyi Wu

Immunology

Kate Gaines
Caitlin Gee
William McKibben
Sanjana Subramanya
Cole Turner
Martina Wecera
Thomas Wienclaw

Microbiology

Taylor Adams
Emma Barrall
James Hood
Samuel Nangle
Chenyang Wu
Seo Bin Yoo

Neuroscience

Etienne Atangana
Celia Bianco
Sarah Colaiuta
Shoham Das
Sebastian Gaese
Julia Grocott
Xinwan Hu
Yuki Kanazawa
Olivia C. Lanford
Ginger Smith
Lauren Wall

STUDENTS

MD-PhD

Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies in Medicine

Hamza Ahmed
Adam Kenet
Emily Leventhal

Development, Regeneration, and Stem Cells

Natalia Rodriguez Rodriguez

Disease Mechanisms and Therapeutics

The DOE Nyunt

Immunology

Arooba Ahmed
Sachiv Chakravarti
Selena Ding
Madison Leone
Erik Vaughan
Daniel Vaz

Neuroscience

Adam Eberle
Kristen Lewis
Esther Seo

PhD in Clinical Research

Alison Amar
Jodi Bokanya
Yi Cao
Jasmine Chan
Rayon (Ryan) Chan
Christina C. Concha
Yihan Feng
Karmiella Ferster
Allison Greenberg
Raabia Hashmi

Adriana Hernandez Salas
Ben Kaplan
Lauren Lazaro
Temitope Megbuwawon
Nkem Okoli
Jonathan P.Y. O'Rourke
Georgia Reed
Keyan Su
Meitong Zhou

PhD in Health Science Engineering

Lucille Brown
Shuangzhe Lin
Kaylan Pan
Gauri Saxena

OATH FOR DOCTORAL STUDENTS

With my Doctor of Philosophy, I willingly pledge to uphold the highest levels of integrity, professionalism, scholarship, and honor.

I will conduct my research and professional endeavors with honesty and objectivity.

I will apply the highest standards of rigor and respect for the generation and application of knowledge and fully acknowledge the contributions of others.

I will not allow financial gain or ambition to cloud my judgment or decision-making or cause harm to society or subjects of research.

I will embark on the furthering of knowledge through respectful interactions and collaboration with my colleagues and community without prejudice or exclusion.

I will be a role model and use my skills to inspire, mentor, and empower future generations, instilling in them the highest principles of ethical behavior.

As witnessed by all present today, and in the tradition of graduates before me, I do affirm to uphold these guiding principles.

FACULTY PLEDGE

As teachers and mentors for our students, we pledge to maintain the highest professional standards in all our interactions with students, patients, colleagues, and staff.

We pledge our utmost effort to ensure that all components of the educational program for students will be of the highest quality.

We will respect all students as individuals without regard for gender, race, national origin, religion, or sexual orientation; we will not tolerate anyone who manifests disrespect or who expresses biased attitudes towards any student. We will not tolerate any abuse or exploitation of students.

In an effort to nurture personal development, we pledge that students will have adequate time for reflection as well as personal and family obligations.

In nurturing both the intellectual and professional development of our students, we will celebrate achievement of academic excellence and demonstrate the highest virtues of our profession.

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