



the grapevine

The Alumni Newsletter of NYU School of Medicine FALL 2015 VOLUME 16, NUMBER 1

Change Change Change Change Change Change Change Change Change

the world...

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Sasha Nalla



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Alumni Weekend

Our alumni family celebrated NYU School of Medicine's Alumni Weekend on Saturday, April 25. On a beautiful spring morning, the continuing medical education program presented advances in medicine and science by faculty and alumni, and awards were given to some of our most distinguished alumni.

The afternoon lunch was a time to relax and catch up with friends, while nostalgia tours led by current students brought back fond memories. The tours also gave alumni opportunities to see changes that have been made since their time as students. That evening, alumni and their guests enjoyed a gourmet dinner and hit the dance floor at the reunion ball, held at the Ritz-Carlton in Battery Park.



That morning featured fascinating presentations by eminent faculty. **Jef D. Boeke, PhD**, professor of biochemistry and molecular pharmacology, opened the morning with "Building Chromosomes from Scratch."

Dr. Boeke's labs here and at Johns Hopkins, his previous affiliation, built the first completely synthetic yeast chromosome in 2014, as reported in *Nature* and other publications. He came to our School, he's explained, to become director of our new Institute for Systems Genetics, which leverages a systems approach to exploit the recent explosion of information about human biology and medicine. Dr. Boeke sees an unprecedented opportunity for breakthroughs in improving human health.

His distinguished career in molecular biology and genetics research includes research on transposable elements (retrotransposons), yeast genomics, synthetic biology, and protein de-acetylation. He has published over 300 papers, has been awarded nine patents, and has been elected to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences and the National Academy of Science.



Jeffrey N. Weiser, MD, professor and recently appointed chair of our Department of Microbiology (January 2015), spoke about "Colonization: The Key to Pneumococcal Pathogenesis and Prevention." An internationally recognized expert on the molecular basis

of infectious disease, Dr. Weiser hails from the University of Pennsylvania's Perelman School of Medicine, where he was professor of microbiology and pediatrics.

He is known for his extensive research on the underlying molecular mechanisms at work in the interactions between host and pathogen, particularly those that affect the respiratory tract. Dr. Weiser holds four patents and has published more than 150 scientific papers. He is a fellow of the Infectious Disease Society of America and the American Academy of Microbiology.



Jill P. Buyon, MD, professor of medicine, director of the Division of Rheumatology, and director of the Lupus Center at NYU Hospital for Joint Diseases, spoke about "Getting Past the Heartbreak of Neonatal Lupus: Perspectives from the Scientist, Clinician, and Patient." She is an

internationally recognized rheumatologist and leading translational physician investigator; her research focuses on bench to bedside studies in systemic lupus erythematosus, particularly on defining the mechanism by which autoantibodies result in congenital heart block in the developing fetus and organ injury in adults with lupus.

Dr. Buyon is also an integral part of NYU Langone's Colton Center for Autoimmunity, a year-old center that has capitalized on our School's particularly strong legacy in autoimmune disease. She has published more than 200 papers, co-authored a book on autoimmune diseases in women, and was editor of the comprehensive reference textbook *Systemic Lupus Erythematosus*.



The program continued with the annual awards ceremony. **Jonathan E. Feig '10, PhD '09GSAS**, received the Julia Zelmanovich, MD '97 Young Alumni Award in recognition of his achievements in studies of transcription factors in the pathogenesis of atherosclerosis.

Dr. Feig received his BA in chemistry from Brooklyn College and completed a residency in internal medicine and a fellowship in cardiovascular disease at Mount Sinai, where he currently is a medical research scientist. His PhD thesis was completed under the tutelage of Edward A. Fisher '75, PhD, the Leon H. Charney Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine.

Dr. Feig revealed that altered electrical activation patterns, such as those that are seen with mechanical pacing of the heart, change the expression of ion channel proteins that are responsible for electrically linking heart cells. Alterations in these channel proteins, in turn, sensitize the heart cells to further electrophysiologic changes. These findings help to explain the often deleterious interplay between heart failure

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Cover photo: Susan F. Travis-Grossman '65.

and altered electrical activation of the ventricles. Dr. Feig's research ability is combined with a wonderful sense for the clinical relevance and practical implications of his research. He has received early recognition in a promising career: election to Phi Beta Kappa and designation as a Jonas Salk Scholar for Academic Achievement in Biomedical Research.



Trudy Elbaum Gottesman was named as an honorary alumna of NYU School of Medicine Class of 2015. Twenty-five years ago, Mrs. Gottesman, a trustee of NYU Langone Medical Center, became a volunteer art therapist in the inpatient pediatrics unit of Tisch Hospital. She

soon joined KiDS of NYU Langone as one of its earliest members. Founded in 1991, KiDS of NYU Langone is an organization of parents, physicians, and friends who support children's services at NYU Langone Medical Center through philanthropy, community service, and advocacy. Mrs. Gottesman now serves as KiDS's vice chair.

She and her husband, Robert Gottesman, have been exceptionally generous to NYU Langone's pediatric programs and helped build our new KiDS Emergency Department. In 2013 they made a commitment to create the Sala Institute for Child and Family Centered Care at NYU Langone. "Trudy gave the institute the name that was her mother's, Sala, because it represents extraordinary resilience as well as the kindness and comfort her mother, a Holocaust survivor, gave her children," said Dean Grossman.

"It is the Sala Institute's mission to provide those same qualities to the children and families we serve by listening to those families and responding to them as full partners in the children's care. The Sala Institute's programs have enormous depth and reach and they are found across the Medical Center where children are treated. These programs integrate parents into the care of their children whether it is a bedside procedure like a spinal tap or a pre-operative family tour of the post-surgical unit the child will stay in. They give every pediatric patient a safe haven," concluded Dean Grossman.



Andrew S. Greenberg '81 was honored with the Solomon A. Berson Medical Alumni Achievement Award in Basic Science. Dr. Greenberg is a co-discoverer of the adipocyte protein, perilipin, and continues to be a leader in elucidating the potential role of lipid droplet proteins

in regulating cellular and systemic metabolism. He gave a presentation entitled, "From the Surface of the Intracellular Lipid Droplets to Disease States," during the afternoon.

Dr. Greenberg received his BA in biology, cum laude, from Amherst College; completed residency in internal medicine at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania; and followed it with a fellowship at the diabetes branch of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). He became an expert in the section on membrane regulation at the NIH and then moved to Tufts, serving as senior scientist and director of the laboratory of obesity and metabolism and as the Robert C. and Veronica Atkins Professor of Metabolism and Nutrition.

Dr. Greenberg's laboratory studies the interaction between lipid metabolism, insulin sensitivity, obesity, and inflammation in modulating tissue-specific and systemic metabolism with an emphasis on cell and animal models. He has significant expertise in animal models of obesity and lipid and glucose metabolism. His scholarly achievements and honors are extensive and include, for example, the Henry Christian Award for Excellence in Research from the American Federation for Clinical Research.



Martin R. Pollak '88, an expert on the genetic bases of kidney disease, was honored with the Solomon A. Berson Medical Alumni Achievement Award in Clinical and Translational Science and accepted it at the previous evening's Medical Alumni

Achievement Awards Dinner.

The broad focus of Dr. Pollak's research is to understand the genetic basis of kidney disease, specifically, to identify and understand genes involved in the development of focal segmental glomerulosclerosis (FSGS). Dr. Pollak has identified ACTN4, encoding α -actinin-4, as the cause of disease in certain families. He has also identified a new FSGS gene, the formin family member INF2, where mutations cause a slowly progressive form of FSGS. Recently, he focused increased attention on understanding the high rate of FSGS and hypertension-associated kidney disease in African Americans.

Dr. Pollak showed that two common coding sequence variants in the APOL1 gene confer both resistance to trypanosoma infection (an African sleeping sickness agent) and a 7- to 10-fold increased susceptibility to these forms of kidney disease.

Dr. Pollak received his AB from Princeton, completed residency in internal medicine at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, followed by a fellowship in nephrology at Brigham and Women's Hospital as well as a research fellowship and genetics postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard. He is a professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School and chief of nephrology at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. Dr. Pollak is active on the national scene in leadership roles in the American Society of Nephrology and as advisor

to the NIDDK of the NIH. He is a sought-after lecturer internationally. In addition to his research and clinical activities, Dr. Pollak teaches medical students, residents, and fellows. His scientific bibliography is extensive, and he was recently elected to the National Academy of Sciences.



William A. Frosch '57 received the Solomon A. Berson Medical Alumni Achievement Award in Health Science and spoke about "An Accidental Life" (see page 6 for story). He is a psychiatrist who is known for his expertise on topics ranging from psychopharmacology and

drug abuse to obsessive-compulsive disorders and depression. Dr. Frosch has also served in leadership positions on national committees and task forces.

He received his AB from Columbia College and completed a medical internship and psychiatry residency at Bellevue Hospital. Dr. Frosch moved on to psychoanalytic training at the New York Psychoanalytic Institute before joining the faculty at NYU School of Medicine, becoming professor of psychiatry, an assistant dean, and director of psychiatry graduate education. He moved to Cornell University Medical College in 1975 as professor and vice chair of psychiatry. Dr. Frosch became medical director of the Payne Whitney Clinic at Cornell as well as visiting professor at King's College London. In 2002, he received the designation of professor emeritus at Cornell, and in 2009, he became a DeWitt Wallace Senior Scholar.

One of the early highlights of Dr. Frosch's career was a study, completed with two other physicians, of the adverse effects of LSD: "Untoward Reactions to Lysergic Acid Diethylamide (LSD) Resulting in Hospitalization" was published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* on December 2, 1965. The hallucinogenic drug was a symbol of the counterculture, and little was understood about it.

Dr. Frosch also has a special interest in the relationship of psychiatric illness to creativity. He has studied the life and music of Baroque composer George Frideric Handel and has written many published articles about the composer concerning the relationship between Handel's personality and his music. Dr. Frosch's primary research has been "creativity and manic-depressive disease," in which he notes suggestive evidence of a relationship between manic-depressive disease and creativity in plastic arts, painting, sculpture, and music.

Robert I. Grossman, MD (Hon. '08), the Saul J. Farber Dean and CEO, concluded the morning program by updating alumni on their alma mater. Photos from the day can be found on pages 15-16. Hope you will be able to join us at next year's reunion on Saturday, April 16, 2016.

An Accidental Life

William A. Frosch '57, recipient of this year's Solomon A. Berson Medical Alumni Achievement Award in Health Science and professor emeritus of psychiatry and DeWitt Wallace Senior Scholar at Weill Cornell Medical College, gave a presentation on Alumni Day. We present some edited excerpts below.



An old friend once accused me of suffering from an excess of contentment. I like to think that this is a result of the happy chances and circumstances of my life rather than a character defect. Certainly I started out lucky: I had good parents; they were hardworking, demanding that I do my best, but attentive, supportive, and loving.

I was also fortunate to grow up when the New York City public schools were at their best. I attended PS 28, JHS 117, and DeWitt Clinton High School. I went on to study at Columbia College.

When I arrived at NYU Medical School, we thought it was the beginning of its golden age. A new building would open in time for our second year. Building on the excellence of researchers like Homer W. Smith and Severo Ochoa, the college recruited Lewis Thomas, who became chair of the Department of Pathology, and

geneticist Bernard Davis, who became chair of the Department of Pharmacology, in time for our second year.

Room was made in the third-year curriculum for elective time, and student research was encouraged. I had already tentatively decided on a career as a psychiatrist and psychoanalyst. Nonetheless, I felt that a hard science/wet lab research experience would be helpful. I approached Dr. Davis, whose teaching had inspired me. He explained that he had already taken on too many students and sent me to Dr. Werner Maas.

Dr. Maas opened a desk drawer and took out a folder labeled “possible medical student projects.” Among them was a project focused on unraveling the mechanism of a model of drug resistance: Professors Davis and Maas had earlier isolated an e-coli mutant that was resistant to the usual growth inhibition of wild

e-coli in a growth medium containing d-serine. It remained to be discovered how the mutant managed to do this.

I spent weeks planting wild e-coli in a medium containing d-serine and, by the end of my elective, had succeeded in isolating a resistant mutant. Armed with this result, I was able to obtain funding to continue the research during the summer. . . the mutant contained significantly less d-serine than the wild type, and it prevented the entrance of the inhibitor into the cell. I presented our findings at a local meeting of the Society of Microbiologists. Professor Davis presented them at a CIBA symposium on drug resistance.

After an internship on the floors of the old Bellevue, I began my psychiatric residency there. Dr. S. Bernard Wortis was chairman of the Departments of Psychiatry and Neurology. During my second year, he asked me to find the cases to illustrate his introductory lectures to medical students. It required hours of screening and then preparing brief clinical summaries for him to have before he met the patients and decided which one to use for that week's topic.

Several times during the course he had to be out of town, and he asked me to lecture instead. I apparently did this to his satisfaction because he named me chief resident for my last year of training. Soon after, Dr. Wortis was named dean of the Medical School, and he asked me to become his assistant dean. I told him that I thought that I should finish my psychiatric training first. He concurred, and then we agreed that I would do special projects for him during the year before moving into the dean's office.

Dr. Wortis had appointed the physiologists John Cook and Saul Farber, who later became our School's legendary dean, as assistants to the dean during my year in special projects. It was daunting to replace them.

After several years, Saul Farber took on the dean position, and Dr. Wortis returned to the Department of Psychiatry. I followed Dr. Wortis back to the department as well.

I began by working on a variety of projects: autonomic habituation to the startle response, evaluation of patients' affect, prediction of response to particular antipsychotics, and a comparison of different ways of evaluating change of patient status as a result of treatment.

I also worked closely with psychiatrists Dr. Edwin Robbins and Dr. Marvin Stern, a founding member of the Bellevue Psychiatric Society, and our paper appeared in *The New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM)* in December 1965, "Untoward Reactions to LSD Resulting in Hospitalization." We described three observed syndromes: the spontaneous reoccurrence of hallucinations, anxiety attacks precipitated by ingesting LSD, and precipitated psychotic reactions.

The *NEJM* wrote an editorial about our findings, and an article appeared in *The New York Times*. Based on seven cases, we were the world's experts. I unexpectedly found myself an expert in a field that had not previously interested me. However I continued to work and publish in the field as we acquired additional cases and studied drug use in schoolchildren. I began to travel to make lectures and presentations. I acquired a National Institute of Mental Health grant. I collaborated with others on a series of papers on LSD and chromosomal damage.

Later, Dr. Arthur Zitrin, then director of the Bellevue Psychiatric Division, asked me to join him as assistant director. I planned the sexual integration of the units; introduced rotational admission to the units, which helped dramatically shorten length of stay; started a methadone maintenance program; and, in collaboration with the Department of Medicine, started a geriatric program focused on the immediate community.

Professor Alex Thomas was the next division director, and we wrote a new program for state approval of the planned psychiatric beds in the new Bellevue. When the residency director left, I assumed that role as well. I redesigned the program, wrote and printed its first brochure, and incorporated a paper, research or clinical, as a requirement of graduation.

When I left NYU at the end of 1974 to join Cornell as one of two vice-chairmen in psychiatry, I had been here over 21 years. At Cornell, I no longer had time for formal research, but I continued to publish clinical papers and reviews and encouraged other colleagues to publish as well. We restructured the Payne Whitney Clinic, the hospital's Westchester division, and both residencies.

Shortly after arriving at Cornell, I was asked to present at an American Psychiatric Symposium on creativity and mental illness: I was to focus on musical creativity. I continued to work on this question and became an expert on George Frideric Handel's moods, illnesses, and medical care. My conclusions were that there was no contemporaneous evidence of his having suffered from manic-depressive disease (despite two papers that said that he had); that he was "normally neurotic"; and that his palsy was most probably either a musician's "overuse syndrome" or lead-induced gout or neuropathy.

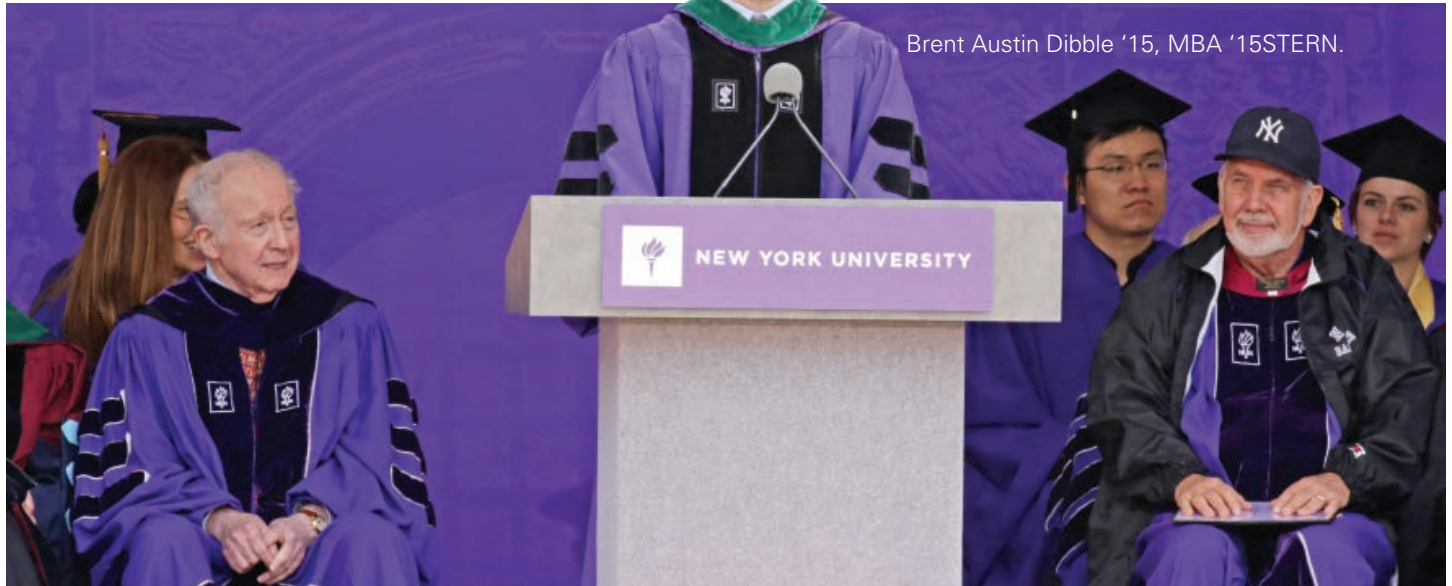
I've presented my findings to the Handel Gesellschaft (Society) in the house in which Handel was born and have written articles for *The Musical Quarterly*, the *Handel-Jahrbuch*, and the *Göttinger Handel-Beiträge*, as well as in the *NEJM*, *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, *The Journal of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology*, and the *Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine*.

It was a colleague who made me aware that an underlying theme of much of my published work was the complex interplay of changing social forces and the expression of psychopathology. In retrospect, it seems that this is the approach, the traditions, that I had absorbed over the years here at NYU-Bellevue.

I've presented my story as though it was only a series of accidents and lucky chances. However, as a psychoanalyst, I know that this view of my life is my personal myth, and that chance and accident are only part of my story. As Pasteur said: "... chance favors only the prepared mind."



Congratulations to the Class of 2015!



Brent Austin Dibble '15, MBA '15STERN.

Photo courtesy of NYU Photo Bureau: Gallo

May 20 was an auspicious day for the members of the Class of 2015. That morning Brent Austin Dibble '15, MBA '15STERN not only graduated as one of NYU's first dual MD/MBA degree candidates, but served as both the banner bearer for our medical school and student commencement speaker for the NYU All-University Commencement at Yankee Stadium.

Dr. Dibble is the first medical student to deliver the university-wide Commencement speech in 15 years. As he stood at the podium, Dr. Dibble shared how he and his classmates helped evacuate patients during Hurricane Sandy in October 2012 and provided continued assistance during the storm's aftermath. He recalled that the students "saw past the difficulty, past the danger of this crisis to recognize the opportunity that they had to help save the institution that they cared for so deeply, and the patients who were counting on them to come to the rescue."

He urged his fellow graduates to take inspiration from those who have overcome challenging circumstances to "forge lives of opportunity out of struggle, and then dedicated themselves to making life better for others."

While at NYU Langone Medical Center (NYULMC), Dr. Dibble served as student council president, received the Saul M. Minkoff Memorial Award for medical economics, and was a two-time winner of the NYU President's Service Award. He will be staying at NYULMC for his emergency medicine residency and was invited to join the Alumni Board of Governors.

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At that evening's 173rd medical school graduation ceremony held at Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center, our students celebrated their achievement with family and friends. They were inspired by the speeches made by their class president Dana Lee Zalkin '15; Anthony J. Grieco '63, BS '60ARTS, associate dean of alumni relations and academic events; Martin Lipton, Esq. '55LAW (Hon. '00), chair of NYU Board of

Trustees and a Medical Center trustee; Robert I. Grossman, MD (Hon. '08), the Saul J. Farber Dean and CEO; and Medical Center Trustee Jan T. Vilcek, MD, PhD (Hon. '06), professor of microbiology.

Dr. Grieco welcomed the Class of 2015 into the ranks of alumni and said, "You came to NYU School of Medicine molded by your parents, family, friends, and experiences. Here, you underwent a magical transformation along the path to becoming physicians. You follow the lead of illustrious alumni who have advanced the art and science of medicine, medical education, and health care. Now it is your turn to improve the world."

• • •

Dr. Zalkin, who was chosen by her classmates to give the valediction, recalled their White Coat Ceremony and first meeting her "future best friends."

She shared that she "knew that this class was intelligent and driven, but on the night of Hurricane Sandy, I learned that they were compassionate and heroic as well. . . . There really are no words to explain the pride and respect that I felt for our class at that time, and that I continue to feel to this day."

Dr. Zalkin concluded by requesting that her classmates "remember why you wanted to become a doctor. We all chose this path for a reason, and although there will undoubtedly be many tough times ahead, keep in mind why you chose this incredible profession and the good that you can bring to this world as part of it."

• • •

Dr. Grossman shared the most important things life has taught him and whittled them down to five categories. “The first lesson is: Aim high, have ‘big eyes,’ and don’t settle. Work as hard as you can, no ‘woulda, coulda, shoulda,’ no excuses. One of my tricks is to always tackle the most difficult things first.”

Lesson number two: “Believe in yourself. It’s incredibly important not to be afraid and to have confidence in your abilities. . . . So give whatever it is your best shot. If you make a mistake, learn from it, try not to repeat it, and move on – no hand-wringing and no tears.”

His third lesson is “Get over yourself. Humility is one of the most important attributes there is, . . . [it] is an endless source of strength, because it keeps you open to new ideas and gives you the benefit of other people’s wisdom.”

Dean Grossman’s fourth lesson: “It’s really, really important to be kind to everyone, . . . you need to put yourself in other people’s shoes, so you understand why something might bother them when it doesn’t bother you or why something that might seem insignificant to you matters tremendously to them, . . . be willing to share. I shared great cases, data, and presentations and all of those interactions enriched my career.”

Dr. Grossman’s final lesson was “Don’t let the well run dry.” He advised, “You have to be sure, on a regular basis, to replenish your physical, intellectual, and spiritual resources. To keep your enthusiasm alive, figure out little things that make you happy.” He concluded by advising, “when the opportunity presents itself, take the moonshots!”

• • •

Dr. Vilcek, the keynote speaker, shared how he and his wife, art historian Marica Vilcek, emigrated to the United States in 1964 from Communist-ruled Czechoslovakia with few belongings. Dr. Vilcek began his career here shortly after his arrival and is still grateful for the opportunity.

Dr. Vilcek and a colleague, Dr. Junning Lee, made a key discovery that led to the development of the anti-inflammatory drug Remicade. Dr. and Mrs. Vilcek subsequently and very generously donated over \$146 million to NYU Langone Medical Center with over \$24.7 million of it going to our medical school for merit scholarships and the renovation of the student dormitory, renamed in their honor, Jan T. and Marica F. Vilcek Residence Hall. In 2013 President Barack Obama honored Dr. Vilcek with the National Medal of Technology and Innovation.

Dr. Vilcek received an honorary Doctor of Science degree from NYU at the 2015 All-University Commencement at Yankee Stadium. That evening Dr. Vilcek advised our graduates, “Do not be afraid to make unconventional career decisions. When you face a decision and you are not sure which way to go, follow your heart! Choose a career you love; choose a career you are suited for both intellectually and emotionally. Opportunities will follow.”

After our new doctors received their diplomas and took the Hippocratic Oath, they celebrated at a reception in Alice Tully Hall with their guests. Congratulations and best wishes to all!



Robert I. Grossman, MD (Hon. '08), Saul J. Farber Dean and CEO.



Anthony J. Grieco '63, BS '60ARTS, associate dean for alumni relations and academic events; and Dana Lee Zalkin '15, president of the Class of 2015.



Robert I. Grossman, MD (Hon. '08), Saul J. Farber Dean and CEO; Jan T. Vilcek, MD, PhD (Hon. '06), professor of microbiology; and Martin Lipton, Esq., Law '55 (Hon. '00), Chair of NYU Board of Trustees.

FLORIDA ALUMNI BRUNCH HONORING BERNARD SEIDENBERG '47, BA '44WSC

FEBRUARY 8, 2015

BOCA BEACH CLUB, BOCA RATON, FLORIDA

Photographer: Lou Santa Barbara



All names listed left-right

1. Brunch honoree Bernard Seidenberg '47, BA '44WSC, and his wife, Judith Seidenberg.
2. Beverly Albert and S. Martin Harwin '61.
3. Howard E. Voss '61 and Joseph S. Gage '82, '78CAS.
4. Roberta Gould, PhD; Diane Jaffin; her husband, Herbert Jaffin '57; and Manfred Blum '57.
5. Adrienne Baron Rosof, BS '56Commerce; her husband, Bernard M. Rosof '57; Robert S. Nagler '84; his wife, Linda Nagler; and Howard A. Adler '88.
6. Heather Clifford, Douglas H. Barlow '89, and Joseph T. Doyle '89.
7. Sidney Perlman '56 and his wife, Adele Maiman Perlman '58, '54WSC.
8. Jane M. Neiman and her husband, Josef H. Neiman '51.
9. Eugene L. Pollack '55 and his wife, Stephanie Pollack.
10. Morris L. Jampol '43D and Janet Landzberg.



Class of 1954

Herbert B. Radack '54, '51ARTS shared this photo from his 10th Alumni Reunion Dinner on May 9, 1964, at the Plaza Hotel in New York City. Looks like a fun evening!

Florida Alumni Leadership Awardee Bernard Seidenberg '47, BA '44WSC



Dr. Bernard Seidenberg was recently recognized with the Florida Alumni Leadership Award for outstanding achievements in transplant surgery and teaching.

This fine thoracic surgeon was the first to perform successful autogenous tissue transplantation, a procedure that was detailed, in 1959, in the *Annals of Surgery*. The article, "Immediate Reconstruction of the Cervical Esophagus," detailed Dr. Seidenberg's innovation. He treated cancer of the upper esophagus by taking a segment of the small intestine, the jejunum, isolating it and then transplanting it to the cervical esophagus. Dr. Seidenberg then revascularized the area with remarkably prescient microsurgical techniques.

His pioneering work predicted these techniques' utility in the advancement of transplantation surgery

and led to Dr. Seidenberg's nomination for Nobel Prize consideration. Since then he has published nearly 50 peer-reviewed scientific articles.

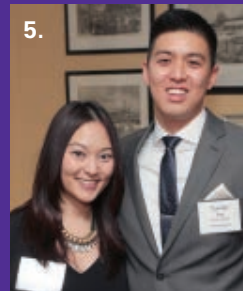
Dr. Seidenberg's early career included a teaching fellowship in head and neck cancer at NYU, followed by a surgery residency with specializing training in thoracic surgery at Montefiore Hospital. He became surgery chief at Montefiore and an associate professor at Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Dr. Seidenberg moved to Miami in 1971 becoming an associate professor of surgery at University of Miami. He became a beloved professor, receiving numerous "Teacher of the Year" awards.

Dr. Seidenberg is also a member of NYU Langone Medical Center's John Revere Society, which recognizes individuals who have generously included planned gifts to our School in their estate plans.

DELTA CHAPTER OF NEW YORK 93RD ANNUAL ALPHA OMEGA ALPHA INSTALLATION DINNER

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2015
THE WATER CLUB

Photographer: Jay Brady



All names listed left-right

1. Class of 2015 Student Members. Standing: Max D. Schlesinger; Stephen William Lewellis, PhD '13GSAS, MS '11GSAS; Kaitlyn Dugan; Nazir Savji; Lauren Grae Santiesteban; Scott Allan Roof; Morgan Alexa Finkel; Stephen Thomas Armenti, PhD '13GSAS; Alexandra Elpiniki Livanos, PhD '14GSAS; Rebecca Blair Boas, MBA '15STERN; Yan Jiang; Amanda Claire Hambrecht; Timothy Yen; Jennifer A. Gillman, MS '15MED; Melissa Ann LoPresti; and John Paul Haskoor. Seated: Jordan Chase Wengrod, PhD '13GSAS, MS '12GSAS; Asha Marie Mahajan; Caleb Joseph Doyle-Burr; Susanna Katherine Jeurling; Jared P. Beller; Lauren Elizabeth Brown; Matthew Aaron Haber; Joanna C. Miller; Nadia Jafar; and Marissa Ann

Barbaro. Not present: Julia Ann Roberts and Frederick Deechen Tsai, PhD '14GSAS, MS '11GSAS.

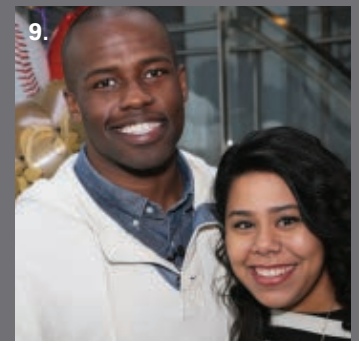
2. Arthur A. Winer '13; Eugene R. Gillman '76, BA '72ARTS; his daughter, Jennifer A. Gillman '15, MS '15MED; and his wife, Ilana D. Lustig, MD.
3. Caleb Joseph Doyle-Burr '15 and his grandmother, Eugenie F. Doyle, MD.
4. Anand Mahajan, MD; his daughter, Asha Marie Mahajan '15; and his wife, Suzanne Mahajan.
5. Victoria Hsi and Timothy Yen '15.
6. George Dugan; his wife, Susan Dugan; his daughter, AOA President Kaitlyn Dugan '15; and Alexander Ibrahim.

7. Steven L. Galetta, MD, chair of Neurology, and Irene Shapiro '43D, BA '41WSC.
8. Lisa Kasher; her husband, Jeffrey Kasher; and her daughter, Lauren Grae Santiesteban '15.
9. Nazir Savji '15; his guest, Afia Genfi; his mother, Azmina Savji; and his brother, Raheem Savji.
10. Alumni Member Steven R. Goldstein '75; Councilor Linda R. Tewksbury '90; Outstanding Teacher Michael C. Brabeck, MD, FACP; Faculty Member Jane P. Ko, MD; Secretary-Treasurer Lynn M. Buckvar-Keltz '91; Alumni Member Sondra R. Zabar '91; and Saul J. Farber Dean and CEO Robert I. Grossman, MD (Hon. '08).

MATCH DAY

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2015
RIVERPARK, NEW YORK CITY

Photographer: Jay Brady



All names listed left-right

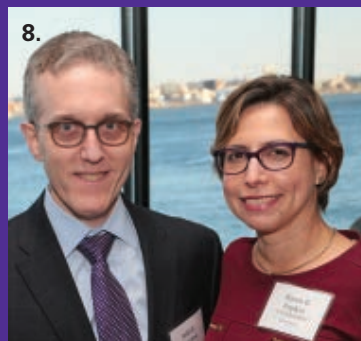
1. Bridget Rita Mueller '15 and her 23-month-old son, Gavin.
2. Spencer Allen Deese-Laurent '15, Carolyn Rachel Kanter '15, Anna Megane Kim '15, Alyson Gorun '15, Anita K. Mudan '15, and Alexandra Plichta '15.
3. Amanda Claire Hambrecht '15 and Lauren Grae Santiesteban '15.
4. Susanna Katherine Jeurling '15 and family.
5. Kevin O'Connor, Chana L. Rich '15, and Alyssa D. Rios '15.
6. Nnenna Ijeoma Nwogu '15 and Natasha D. Ramsey '16.
7. Aaron Brandt '15, Kelsey Goodbary, and Scott Neuhalfen.
8. Chinonyerem Uzoamaka Okoro '15, Uzoma Anele, Brent Gilbert, and Lauren Elizabeth Brown '15.
9. Darien M. Sutton-Ramsey '15, MBA '15STERN, and Monique Foster, PhD '15GSAS.

MEDICAL ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS DINNER

APRIL 24, 2015

THE WATER CLUB

Photographer: Jay Brady



All names listed left-right

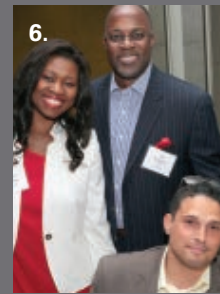
1. Sarah Gottesman; her mother, Trudy Elbaum Gottesman, Honorary Alumna in the Class of 2015; and her father, Robert W. Gottesman.
2. Benjamin Tycko '84; his wife, Carol Tycko; and Martin R. Pollak '88, the Solomon A. Berson Medical Alumni Achievement Awardee in Clinical and Translational Science.
3. Tracy L. Breen '97 and her husband, Jason D'Amore, MD.
4. Elizabeth Sharpless, PhD, and her husband, Bruce I. Bogart, PhD '66GSAS, Hon. '02.
5. Martin J. Blaser '73; Kurt Hirschhorn '54, MS '58MED, '50WSC; and his wife, Rochelle Hirschhorn '57.
6. Rita Feig; her son, Jonathan E. Feig '10, PhD '09GSAS, the Julia Zelmanovich, MD '97 Young Alumni Awardee; Dana Zelmanovich; and her husband, Avishay Zelmanovich.
7. Evan Stein '04, PhD '03GSAS, MS '00GSAS, and his wife, Jennifer A. Stein '04, PhD '02GSAS, MS '00GSAS.
8. Jedd D. Wolchok '94, PhD '93GSAS, MS '91GSAS, and his wife, Karen E. Popkin, MA '97STEINHARDT.
9. Jill Fisher and her husband, Edward A. Fisher '75, PhD.
10. Renata Maas, Arthur Zitrin '45, and Werner K. Maas, PhD.

ALUMNI DAY

APRIL 25, 2015

NYU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Photographer: Jay Brady



All names listed left-right

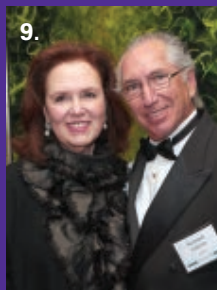
1. Seated: Fatima Abdallah, Lillian Weiss, her husband, Alvah M. Weiss '41, and Joseph H. Press '41, '37WSC. Standing: Rita L. Orkin, Lisa Carol Spring, Doris Lee Spring, and Patricia A. Press.
2. Seated: Prem C. Chatpar '80, '76CAS; Patricia E. Rok; and her husband, Walter J. Rok '80. Standing: James A. Roth '80; Francie L. Goldstein '80; Mitchell I. Conn '80; Jeffrey H. Graf '80, '76CAS; and Ronald W. Kristan '80, BA '76CAS.
3. Seated: Abraham Sokol, MD; Bruce M. Hyman '68; Cheryl S. Kaufmann '72; and Norbert Roberts, Jr. '71. Standing: Robyn H. Deutsch-Sokol '74; Tina Hyman; Howard Z. Streicher '71; his son, Nicholas S. Streicher '15; and Robert A. Press '71, PhD '73GSAS.
4. Seated: Andrew A. Burger '70, Paul G. Deutsch '70, Paul M. Ehrlich '70, and Howard M. Miller '70. Standing: Margo Mazur Schleman '70, BA '66WSC, and Stephen A. Falk '70.
5. Seated: Ronald Chapnick '55, BA '51ARTS; Sandra K. DeGraff; her husband, Arthur C. DeGraff, Jr. '55; Ira J. Laufer '53, BA '48WSC; and Abraham Bernstein '53, '48ARTS. Standing: Sonia Chapnick, Charlotte Rappaport Colp '55, Norman M. Canter '55, Kenlynn Schroeder, and Estelle Bernstein.
6. Pamela Solomon; her husband, Ira D. Solomon '95; and Stephen L. Fischer '99.
7. Susan Schwartz Gottesman '85, Philip J. Marion '85, MS '89WAG; and Julia F. Chang-Lin '85.
8. Seated: Myra Horwitz Kaufman BS '56STERN; her husband, George A. Kaufman '56; Geraldine Reichel; her husband, Joseph Reichel '56, BA '52ARTS; Frederick F. Becker '56; and Michael A. Rosenbluth '56. Standing: Harvey B. Bezahler '56, '52ARTS; Herbert J. Steinberg '56; Martin R. Liebowitz '56; Mary Steinberg; Rosalyn Rosenbluth; and her husband, Jack Rosenbluth '56.
9. Seated: Herbert A. Goldfarb '60, Charles H. Debrovner '60, H. Paul Gabriel '60, and Robert G. Lerner '60, '56ARTS. Standing: Carol Edelstein Weichert '61, Joseph Feldschuh '61, Sander H. Mendelson '60, Adina Mendelson, Marlys H. Witte '60, and Ernest D. Abeles '60.
10. The Class of 1965.

ALUMNI REUNION BALL

APRIL 25, 2015

THE RITZ-CARLTON NEW YORK, BATTERY PARK, NEW YORK CITY

Photographer: Jay Brady



All names listed left-right

1. Seated: Helen Lerner; her husband, Robert G. Lerner '60, '56ARTS; Marlys H. Witte '60; and Fran Abeles. Standing: Stanley S. Marcus '60; Ruth B. Marcus; Charles H. Debrovner '60; his wife, Patricia Debrovner; Herbert A. Goldfarb '60; his wife, Beverly Goldfarb; Barbara Feldschuh; her husband, Joseph Feldschuh '61; Adina Mendelson; Sander H. Mendelson '60; and Ernest D. Abeles '60.
2. Charles Butler '10 and Megan Caron.
3. Cora Roth and her husband, Sheldon Roth '65.
4. Jennifer Lublin '95; Michael Ross '95; Rajiv V. Kinkhabwala '95 and his wife, Priti Kinkhabwala.
5. Seated: Luis C. Zapata '10, BA '06CAS; Rose O'Rourke Tompkins '10; her husband, Jonathan Tompkins; Mansi R. Shah '10, BA '06CAS; and Nimit Saraiya, MD. Standing: Tracy B. Sabbah, BA '06CAS; Rita Feig; her son, Jonathan E. Feig '10, PhD '09GSAS; and her daughter, Jessica L. Feig '15, PhD '14GSAS, MS '12GSAS.
6. Seated: Charles Butler '10; Megan Caron; Daniel Bassiri-Tehrani '10; Christian J. Zaino '10, BA '06CAS; Joanna Genco; and Erin F. Fitzgerald '10. Standing: Donato Perretta '10; Sherry Patone; Jonathan E. Feig '10, PhD '09GSAS; Martin Kopec '10, BA '05CAS; Meghan McShea; and Vincent Ruiz '10.
7. Bonnie M. Wolf Greenwald '97 and her husband, Joshua A. Greenwald '95.
8. Robert M. Flitman '65; his wife, Sheila C. Flitman '65; Myra E. Zelson; and her husband, Joseph H. Zelson '65.
9. Paulette Mondschein and Kenneth Garrett '75.
10. The Class of 1975.

STUDENTS AND PARENTS RECEPTION AND TOUR OF THE NEW YORK SIMULATION CENTER FOR THE HEALTH SCIENCES (NYSIM)

MAY 5, 2015

NYSIM CENTER, BELLEVUE HOSPITAL CENTER, NEW YORK CITY

Photographer: Alan Barnett



All names listed left-right

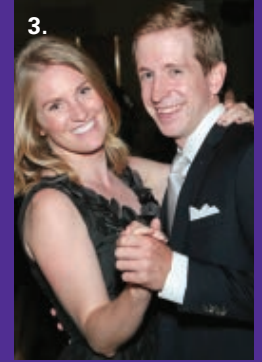
1. Nora Pascual; her husband, Wendy Pascual; and her niece, Vilma Charubumi.
2. Frank Fallon; his daughter, Julia M. Fallon '18; his wife, Ann Fallon; and Samantha G. Maliha '18.
3. Rena S. Brand '83, president of the Parents Association; Anthony J. Grieco '63, BS '60ARTS, associate dean for alumni relations and academic events; Elizabeth H. Greenwald '18; and her father, Bruce M. Greenwald '82.
4. Justin B. Feit '18; his mother, Ellen S. Feit '91; and his father, Andrew Feit, MD.
5. Stuart A. Feintuch, DDS; his son, Joshua Feintuch '18, BA '13CAS; his son, Jeremy Feintuch '18, BA '13CAS; and his wife, Fran Z. Feintuch, PhD.
6. Dana Croll and her husband, James Croll.
7. Lynn M. Buckvar-Keltz '91, associate dean for student affairs; Rajkishen Narayanan '18, MS '14GSAS, BA '11CAS; Justin T. Worthing '18; Lauren J. Seo '18; Narayanan K. Narayanan, PhD; and his wife, Bhagavathi A. Narayanan, PhD.
8. Anthony H. Zou '18; his father, Shengping Zou, MD; and Grace M. Ng, associate nursing director of NYSIM.

DINNER DANCE IN HONOR OF THE CLASS OF 2015

TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2015

GOTHAM HALL, NEW YORK CITY

Photographer: Jay Brady



All names listed left-right

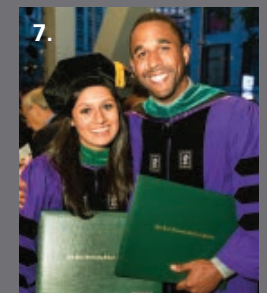
1. Laura Elaina Benton '15, Collin McConnell, Pritha Subramanyam '15, and Marissa Ann Barbaro '15.
2. Stephen William Lewellis '15, PhD '13GSAS, MS '11GSAS; Julia A. Meyer, PhD '14GSAS, MS '11GSAS; Andrew Boyd; Arlene Kohler; Stephen Arthur Rawlings '15, PhD '13GSAS, MS '11GSAS; Emily Chan '15, PhD '13GSAS; Kenneth L. Ho, PhD '12GSAS; Roselle M. Vittorino '13; and Stephen Thomas Armenti '15, PhD '13GSAS.
3. Julia A. Meyer, PhD '14GSAS, MS '11GSAS, and Stephen William Lewellis '15, PhD '13GSAS, MS '11GSAS.
4. Bryan Rosen, Liana Angela Senaldi '15, Aaron Burakoff; Julie Dana Flom '15, Bridget Rita Mueller '15, Jeremy Adler, and Rebecca May Lazarus '15.
5. Ksenia Gnedeva, Ashley Lau, Neelesh Rastogi '15, Avital Ludomirsky '16, Nazir Savji '15, Karen Chiu '15, and Afia Genfi.
6. Sonya Shelli Dasharathy '15, Brooks R. Crowe '16, and Kinneri Mehta '15.
7. Alexander Ibrahim; his fiancée, Kaitlyn Dugan '15; Karen Chiu '15; and Edith Bracho-Sanchez '16.
8. Julia Ann Roberts '15 and her fiancé, Prateesh Maheshwari.

GRADUATION CEREMONY FOR THE CLASS OF 2015

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2015

ALICE TULLY HALL, LINCOLN CENTER, NEW YORK CITY

Photographer: Alan Barnett



All names listed left-right

1. Scott Allan Roof '15, Nityanand P. Miskin '15, Jared P. Beller '15, and Joshua A. Scheinerman '15.
2. Melissa Ann LoPresti '15, Shazia Rahman '15, Sareena Susan George '15, and Areeba Setara Sadiq '15.
3. Brent Austin Dibble '15, MBA '15STERN; Jessica Heidenberg Heyer '15; Matthew Aaron Haber '15; and Amanda Evelyn Klinger '15.
4. Dana Lee Zalkin '15 and Andrew B. Greenberg '15.
5. Alyssa D. Rios '15, Nicholas Samuel Streicher '15, and Natasha Rastogi '13.
6. Rebecca Fein '15; her father, Robert P. Fein '79; her brother, Adam Fein '07; and her sister-in-law, Jordana Goren Fein '08.
7. Kinneri Mehta '15 and Aaron Matthew Brandt '15.
8. Shian Liu '15 and Areeba Setara Sadiq '15.
9. Johnny M. Valencia, MSG; his daughter, Ashley Lara Valencia '15; and his wife, Leesa L. Valencia.
10. Uchenna Okoro; his brother, Chikezie Okoro; his mother, Theresa Okoro; his brother, Chinonyerem Uzoamaka Okoro '15; his father, Benjamin Okoro; and his brother, Chibuzor Okoro.

Have You Heard?

1950s

Leonard Flom '50, BS '47ARTS, adjunct assistant professor of ophthalmology at our School, presented his Ebola-killing technology to the preliminary Google Solve for X's global initiative in New York on January 7. The initiative is a worldwide talent search for visionary ideas utilizing science and/or technology to address huge problems affecting millions, even billions, of people.

Dr. Flom proposes that certain viruses such as Ebola and, potentially, HIV are highly susceptible to and vulnerable to destruction if closely exposed to photo-radiation by photons from Ultraviolet "C" rays ("UV-C") in the electromagnetic spectrum (~ 238nm range), and, serendipitously, this can be accomplished with two devices now readily available and manufactured universally, i.e., dialysis units and photo-radiating UV-C rods (germicidal).

David T. Nash '53, '50WSC presented a four-part lecture series on "Reducing Cardiovascular Disease Risks, Living Longer and Better" at the Boynton Beach Jewish Community Center. He previously spoke on advances in neuroscience at the Society of Four Arts in Florida. The author of hundreds of publications, Dr. Nash published an article in 2014 on "Myths about Gluten Toxicity" in both *The American Journal of Cardiology* and *Baylor University Medical Center's Proceedings*. Dr. Nash has also recently been a consultant for a new antiangina drug.

Arnold Starr '57 has been elected an honorary member of the American Academy of Neurology based on his meritorious contributions to the field of neurology. Fewer than 60 people have been given this honor.

Robert M. Friedman '58 retired from the Uniformed Services University of

the Health Sciences F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine (USUHS) on December 31, 2014. The chairmanship of the Department of Pathology was named in his honor for his 33 years of leadership of the department.

1960s

Marlys H. Witte '60 is professor of surgery at the University of Arizona and director of Q-Cubed, the University of Arizona College of Medicine's Curriculum on Medical Ignorance.



Q-cubed, or Questions, Questioning, and Questioners, encompasses the central features of inquiry-based learning and discovery. Q-Cubed also sponsors semiannual conferences and facilitates interaction among apprentice questioners in the Summer Institute on Medical Ignorance (SIMI) program for high school students, Medical Student Research Program (MSRP) programs for college freshmen, and "professional" questioners working in medical research.

Harvey Dosik '63, a hematologist, was among 54 physicians elected as Masters in Internal Medicine by the American College of Physicians (ACP) and was inducted at its April 30 convocation in Boston. Dr. Dosik is a professor of medicine at Weill Cornell



Medical College and chair emeritus of the Department of Medicine at New York Methodist Hospital in Brooklyn,

New York, where he remains the program director of the residency training program. He is an NIH-funded researcher with more than 150 original scientific publications and was the principal investigator for the Brooklyn Center of an NIH-funded "Cooperative Study of Sickle Cell Disease."

Sherwood A. Baxt '66 attended a dinner in January to honor his classmate **Felicia B. Axelrod '66**. He shares, "I went to the familial dysautonomia dinner at the Pierre in New York City last night. It was to honor Felicia who was 'retiring' (ha). The evening was as thrilling as it was emotional. I was always aware of her position as a leader in the field of this disease but never the full extent. She is not just a national but an international superstar in patient care and research for familial dysautonomia. I consider myself a worker bee, and we were there last night to honor a queen bee. So many of our class have become true national and perhaps international standouts. What a joy it is to feel part of it."

Douglas R. Lowy '68, our 1992 Berson Award winner, was awarded the second annual Harrington Prize for Innovation in Medicine this year. Dr. Lowy is an oncologist and researcher who is chief of the Laboratory of Cellular Oncology and deputy director of the National Cancer Institute. The Harrington Prize for Innovation in Medicine, established by the Harrington Discovery Institute at University Hospitals Case Medical Center in Cleveland, Ohio, and the American Society of Clinical Investigation (ASCI), is a \$20,000 honorarium that recognizes a physician-scientist who has successfully navigated the path to advance discovery into clinical application.

Dr. Lowy received the prize in recognition of his key discoveries that led to development of the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine to prevent cancer. The vaccine, developed by Dr. Lowy (in collaboration with Merck and GlaxoSmithKline) and approved by the FDA in 2006, was the first licensed vaccine to prevent cancer by guarding against the sexually transmitted infection that causes the disease. It is estimated that the HPV vaccine can afford close to 100 percent protection from many targeted HPV cancer types, particularly the most commonly caused cervical cancers as well as other cancers. Dr. Lowy's research also



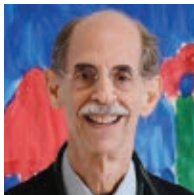
paves the way for other advances in HPV-related cancer prevention.

He delivered the Harrington Prize Lecture on April

24 at the 2015 ASCI/AAP joint meeting in Chicago. Dr. Lowy's career includes work as a research associate in the Laboratory of Viral Diseases, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at the NIH, from 1970 to 1973. He trained in internal medicine at Stanford University and dermatology at Yale University and started his laboratory at the National Cancer Institute (NCI) in 1975. In addition to his own research, Dr. Lowy is a leader in promoting public health issues related to HPV-associated diseases in developing nations. He is an effective advocate for sustainable, comprehensive cervical cancer control in the developing world.

1970s

Benard P. Dreyer '70, medical director of pediatrics at Bellevue Hospital Center and a veteran clinical leader at NYU



Langone Medical Center, became president-elect of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) on January 1. Dr. Dreyer serves as director of the Division of Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics and is a pediatric hospitalist at NYU Langone and Bellevue, where he started the Pediatric Hospitalist Service.

In addition to his newest role within the AAP, Dr. Dreyer serves as co-chair of the Public Policy and Advocacy Committee of the AAP New York District II and was recently appointed to the Executive Committee of the new provisional Section on LGBT Health and Wellness. Due to his efforts, the AAP has adopted poverty and child health as a strategic priority. Dr. Dreyer chairs the Academic Pediatric Association (APA) Task Force

on Childhood Poverty and directs the APA Research Scholars Program. He is a member of the American Pediatric Society as well as a fellow in the New York Academy of Medicine.

Dr. Dreyer says, "Between a fifth and a quarter of children are living below the federal poverty level, but really almost half of children are living in poverty or near poverty. They're the poorest group in our society, much poorer than adults or seniors. There should also be a real focus on early childhood."

Mark H. Podwal '70 recently designed the *Don Giovanni* poster for the Metropolitan Opera in New York City. In the spring of 2014, there was an exhibition of 42 of his new paintings and drawings at the Terezin Ghetto Museum in Prague, Czech Republic.

Arthur S. Agatston '73 and **Warren R. Janowitz '72, '68ENG** and their Agatston calcium score were featured in the November/December 2014 issue of *Journal of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography*. Created in 1990, the reliable Agatston score is the single most used method to quantify coronary artery calcium.

Martin J. Blaser '73, the Muriel G. and George W. Singer Professor of Translational Medicine, professor in the Department of Microbiology, and



director of the Human Microbiome Program at NYU Langone Medical Center, was named one of *Time* magazine's 100

Most Influential People in the World in April.

Julian A. Gold '74 is currently serving as mayor of Beverly Hills, California. Dr. Gold has been a board-certified anesthesiologist



for 30 years and is co-chairman of the Department of Anesthesiology at Cedars-Sinai.

Herbert J. Krantman '74 got in touch to express his "sincere thanks for the education I received at NYU in the classrooms, labs, at Bellevue, and in the University Hospital; from the basic science teaching staff, from the medical staff in the various disciplines, and from my fellow students." He recently retired from Clalit Medical Services in Israel where he had been practicing pediatrics and pediatric allergy and clinical immunology since 1991.

Joyce D. Fingerth '77 is now professor of medicine at the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

Lloyd D. Lense '77 received the Department of Medicine Teacher Educator Award and the Stony Brook Medicine Division of Cardiology Mentor of the Year Award in June at Stony Brook University School of Medicine.

1980s

Gary M. Bloomgarden '80 is now clinical professor of neurosurgery at University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center.

George V. Lombardi, Jr. '80 was the keynote speaker at the May 16 graduation ceremony at Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh, New York. He also received the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters. Dr. Lombardi is a noted expert in the treatment of infectious diseases and is credited with saving the life of Mother Teresa when she was suffering from an infection and fever in 1989.

Steven Stylianos '83 is a pediatric surgeon who in 1993 assembled the 52-person operating room team that successfully separated conjoined female twins at Columbia-Presbyterian's Babies Hospital. In

Have You Heard?

November 2013, one of the twins returned to that medical center to give birth to a healthy baby boy. She is the fourth known conjoined twin in history to give birth after a surgical separation and Dr. Stylianos was by her side in the delivery room for the joyous occasion.

Joan C. Wojak '83 was inducted as a fellow in the American College of Radiology (ACR) in May at a formal convocation ceremony during the ACR 2015 meeting in Washington, DC. Dr. Wojak is a radiologist and former medical director of radiology at Our Lady of Lourdes Regional Medical Center in Lafayette, Louisiana. She is clinical associate professor of radiology at LSU School of Medicine in New Orleans and former medical director of radiology at Heart Hospital of Lafayette.

Robert M. Aaronson '88 is the American College of Physicians (ACP) governor for Arizona.

1990s

Sander R. Dubovy '92, professor of ophthalmology and pathology at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute of the University of Miami's Miller School of Medicine, has been appointed to the Victor T. Curtin Chair in Ophthalmology. Board certified in both ophthalmology and anatomic pathology, he is the director of the Florida Lions Ocular Pathology Laboratory, an endowed, specialty-specific diagnostic and research laboratory. He serves as medical director of the Florida Lions Eye Bank and cares for patients with diseases of the macula, retina, and vitreous, including age-related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, and retinal vascular disease.

Andrew S. Dunn '92 has been named the American College of Physicians (ACP) Chair of the Board of Governors.

Brian H. Kopell '96 married Lorin Latarro on June 14 at the Brooklyn

Winery, as reported in *The New York Times*. The bride is a Manhattan-based choreographer who has recently worked in Chicago with the cast of the musical *Beaches* and in New York City on *The Odyssey*, which ran in September at the Delacorte Theater in Central Park. She was also the choreographer on the Broadway show *Waiting for Godot*. She has danced in 14 Broadway musicals, including *Fosse* and *Movin' Out*. She is a graduate of the Juilliard School. The groom is a neurosurgeon at Mount Sinai Hospital in Manhattan, where he is also the director of the Center for Neuromodulation. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania.



Michael LoCurcio '97, associate professor of medicine at our School, received the Leonard J. Tow Humanism in Medicine Faculty Award in May. This award is given by the graduating class to the faculty member who best exemplifies the qualities of integrity, excellence, compassion, altruism, respect, empathy, and service. Dr. LoCurcio also served as a candidates' marshal at the Class of 2015 graduation ceremony.

Ivan Oransky '98 and the blog he co-founded, *Retraction Watch*, which reports on retractions of scientific papers, were recently featured in *The New York Times*. Last year *Retraction Watch* won a \$400,000 grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. Dr. Oransky serves as an editor and is also editorial director of *MedPage Today*, a CME-accredited medical news service.

Daniel J. Kass '99 is now assistant professor of medicine at the University of Pittsburgh, in the Division of Pulmonary, Allergy, and Critical Care Medicine (PACCM), and director of the

Dorothy P. and Richard P. Simmons Center for Interstitial Lung Disease at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. Dr. Kass joined the University of Pittsburgh in 2010 to investigate basic cellular and molecular mechanisms underlying the pathogenesis of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF) within the Simmons Center.

He has published numerous studies and reviews in the pathogenesis of IPF, with selection as a Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation Research Scholar in 2011 and a PACCM Translational Scholar in 2014. A new NIH R01 award to study the transcription factor, twist1, in IPF pathogenesis, independently funds Dr. Kass. He is also a co-investigator on another R01, and he serves as the site PI and co-PI on multiple industry-sponsored clinical trials.

2000s



Ross F. Liebman '03 and Anh Tran are proud to announce the birth of a baby boy, Paxton Tran Liebman. He was born on December 29, 2014, in Mountain View, California. He was 20 inches long and weighed 7 pounds, 9 ounces.

Michael J. Lombino '03 was appointed as chief of radiology at Bronx Lebanon Hospital, Bronx, New York. Dr. Lombino completed a residency in diagnostic radiology and a fellowship in musculoskeletal radiology at VCU Medical Center in Richmond, Virginia. He lives in Scarsdale, New York, with his wife, Mary, and their two children, Lauren (age 4) and Joseph (age 2).

Abby M. Green '07 married Nathan Singh, MD, on November 1, 2014, in Healdsburg, California, as reported in *The New York Times*. The bride is a pediatric oncologist on the staff of the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and received her undergraduate degree from

Tufts University. The groom is a second-year resident in internal medicine at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. He graduated from Haverford College and received a medical degree and a master's degree in translational research from the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Green shares, "The wedding was more fun than I've ever had and I'm lucky to have married (in my opinion) the best man in the world. . . . I spend 90% of my time in a basic science lab studying genome instability in the context of viral infections. . . . There is a great NYU med community in Philly and I get to connect with former classmates frequently."

Brad D. Birenberg '08 married Arielle Katz on March 22 at Oheka Castle in Huntington, New York. The bride is an associate at the Gladstone Companies in McLean, Virginia, where she specializes in real estate acquisitions. She graduated from Emory University. The groom is an anesthesiologist at Holy Cross Anesthesia Associates in Silver Spring, Maryland. He got his undergraduate degree from Emory University.



2010s

Christian J. Zaino '10, BA '06CAS updated us on his busy 2014. "I am in my fourth year of orthopaedic surgery residency at Downstate/Kings County – only one and a half years left, then off to a hand surgery fellowship. . . . Orthopaedics continues to be an exceptional choice – I very much enjoy what I do." In April 2014, Dr. Zaino presented one of the 25 papers by residents and fellows at the New York Society for Surgery of the Hand at Hospital for Special Surgery in New York City, and he won first prize. In May 2015, Dr. Zaino landed at one of his top choices – University of Chicago – for a hand surgery fellowship.

L. Carlos Zapata '10, BA '06CAS was elected Young Physician Section Councilor of the Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) at its 209th House of Delegates meeting in Saratoga Springs, New York, on May 2. He will be representing all the young physicians in New York. Dr. Zapata is an emergency medicine physician at Nassau University Medical Center in East Meadow, Long Island, New York, and Long Island Jewish Medical Center in Queens, New York. He serves on the Government Affairs Committee of the New York Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians and on the MSSNY Delegation to the AMA Young Physician Section Assembly. He also serves as assistant treasurer of the Medical Society of the County of Queens.

Mark J. Gage '11, BA '07CAS married Lily Mundy on September 6, 2014, at Kontokosta Winery, on beautiful Long Island Sound in Greenport, New York. Dr. Gage is the son of Patricia P. Gage, PhD '88STEINHARDT, MA '79STEINHARDT and Joseph S. Gage '82, '78CAS.



Joshua A. Farhadian '13 married Lindsay M. Blane, JD, on March 7 at Capitale, an event space in New York City. The bride works in Port Washington as a lawyer for Publishers Clearing House. She graduated and received a law degree from the University at Buffalo. The groom is a first-year dermatology resident at NYU Langone Medical Center, Bellevue Hospital, and the Manhattan Veterans Affairs Hospital. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania.



Olivia R. Richardson '15 married Christopher J. Khouri at the Bridgehampton Presbyterian Church in Bridgehampton, New York, on May 30, as reported in *The New York Times*.



The bride began her internship in July at NYU Langone Medical Center. She graduated cum laude from Georgetown. Her father, Stephen B. Richardson, MD, Fell Endocrinology '78, is an endocrinologist and associate professor of medicine at our School. The groom is an associate in the investment banking unit of JPMorgan Chase in New York, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, and earned an MBA at New York University.

Daniel J. Sartori '15 married Marissa L. Schaffer, JD, on May 31 at the Cleveland Botanical Garden, as reported in *The New York Times*. The couple met at Swarthmore College, from which they graduated. The bride is an associate in the real estate department of the New York law firm Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison. She received a law degree from Columbia University. The groom received his medical degree with honors in May and began his internship in internal medicine at NYU Langone Medical Center in July.

Faculty

Marcel Tuchman, MD, the survivor of four death camps, was one of 200 survivors who returned to Auschwitz-Birkenau, the Polish Nazi death camp where 1.1 million people perished, 70 years after its liberation by the Soviets on January 27, 1945. He participated in the ceremony to pay "tribute to the victims whose voices had been silenced in gas chambers and crematoria. It is our solemn duty and must serve as a warning that it will never happen again; an indelible stain on civilization."

Passings

1940s

Jerome Dubowy '41, '37ARTS on November 30, 2014, at age 98, as reported in *The New York Times*. Born in New York City, Dr. Dubowy served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps in World War II and was stationed throughout the Pacific Theater. Following the war, he trained as a radiologist and practiced full time until the age of 92, most recently at Brooklyn Hospital Center. Dr. Dubowy enjoyed work, travel, and his family. He is survived by his beloved wife of 72 years, Evelyn Dubowy, three sons, six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Edwin L. Rushia '42 on August 22, 2013, at age 96 as reported by his daughter, Mary L. Fowler. Born in Lake City, Iowa, Dr. Rushia grew up on a farm and graduated from Iowa State College with a BS in industrial science and bacteriology. After medical school, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy for World War II and interned at Brooklyn Naval Hospital. He then went to Washington, DC, where he qualified for deep sea diving and was assigned to submarine medicine on the tender *Sperry* in the Pacific. He served a five-year enlistment, receiving an honorable discharge from the navy. Dr. Rushia then completed his residency, training at the University of Iowa in anesthesiology. He began his civilian professional life with the University of Arkansas in Little Rock in 1949. He created their first anesthesia department, acted as its chairman, and was a professor. From 1951 until 1967, he was professor of anesthesiology at the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta. From 1967 until 1970, he taught at Emory University in Atlanta and was chief of service. Dr. Rushia taught and practiced at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville from 1970 until 1975. He was in private practice at Martha Jefferson Hospital in Charlottesville from 1975 until 1984 and was chief of service in 1983 before retiring in 1984.

Dr. Rushia enjoyed playing the trumpet in his youth, later the flute and piccolo, and finally, in his retirement, the baritone trumpet and tuba. He enjoyed listening to and sharing a variety of music.

He was a good whistler, exuberant singer, and harmonica player.

Woodworking was also a favorite

hobby. He and his wife, Mary Anna Loughridge, MD, spent much of their postretirement time working at and enjoying the Charlottesville Senior Center. Dr. Rushia served as treasurer and helped with fundraising for the new center. He was involved with landscaping the grounds and developing the rose garden. He was a member of the Second Wind Band and enjoyed participating in center musicals. The Rushias also loved to travel with groups from the senior center. Dr. Rushia is survived by his wife of 64 years, five children, and five grandchildren.



Paul I. Bookstaver '43M on March 29 at age 94, as reported in *The Record*. Born in New York City, he moved with his family to Teaneck, New Jersey, when he was nine, and he spent the rest of his life there. He attended both elementary and high school in Teaneck and was very active in the Boy Scouts, achieving Eagle Scout status. Dr. Bookstaver obtained his undergraduate degree at Columbia University and after medical school entered the United States Navy as a medical officer, serving for a total four and a half years during World War II and afterwards. During the war, he served one and a half years in the Pacific Theater and was in combat duty for five invasions – Saipan, Peleliu, Leyte Gulf, Lingayen Gulf, and Iwo Jima. Dr. Bookstaver received five battle stars. Afterwards he completed a residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Lutheran Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York. (Lutheran recently became NYU Lutheran.) In 1950, he started his own

ob-gyn practice in Teaneck, a practice that would continue successfully for 48 years. He was associate director of ob-gyn at Hackensack University Medical Center for several years, as well as an attending physician at Holy Name Hospital in Teaneck. Dr. Bookstaver was an excellent amateur photographer who won many prizes and was a licensed pilot. He was also an avid skier up until the age of 84. He is survived by his two children and five grandchildren.

Herman N. Eisen '43M, BA '39ARTS

on November 2, 2014, at age 96 as reported by his wife, Natalie Aronson-Eisen. Born in Brooklyn, New York, Dr. Eisen became interested in science when a high school chemistry class helped shape his perception of the world as a collection of atoms and molecules. After graduating from our School, he worked as an assistant in the pathology department at Columbia University before returning to NYU for his residency. Dr. Eisen had a two-year NIH fellowship and researched sulfonamide-induced antibodies while at NYU. He then worked briefly at the Sloan Kettering Institute before returning to NYU as associate professor of industrial medicine from 1947 to 1955.

He studied immune reactions of the skin and showed that chemicals capable of forming covalent bonds to skin proteins could cause an itchy rash. In 1955, Dr. Eisen joined the faculty at Washington University in St. Louis, serving as professor of medicine in the Division of Dermatology before moving to the Department of Microbiology to serve as chair from 1961 to 1973. While there, Dr. Eisen published groundbreaking research in which he described affinity maturation: the process by which activated B cells produce antibodies with an increasingly higher affinity for invading pathogens after infection. This process is fundamental to the development of potent immune responses.

Dr. Eisen joined the faculty of MIT in 1973 as a professor in the Department

of Biology in their new Center for Cancer Research (now the Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research). He



studied how cancer cells evade the body's natural immune response in mice with myeloma tumors, screening their associated proteins. He found that if he used myeloma proteins from one mouse to immunize other mice from the same strain, they were resistant when challenged with cancer cells.

Dr. Eisen and his laboratory went on to study how CD8 T cells develop into cytotoxic, or "killer," T cells and long-lived memory T cells. Therapeutic vaccines that exploit CD8 responses have not yet been developed for human populations; existing immunotherapies rely on helper T cells and other immune cells, and they do not mount the same aggressive offense against targets. Dr. Eisen was working to understand and overcome the barriers to creating effective CD8 vaccines, and his research on the subject was of particular importance to the advancement of cancer immunology. Dr. Eisen retired from MIT in 1989, but as professor emeritus of biology, he maintained an active laboratory and continued to research, publish, and advise students and postdocs until his passing. Dr. Eisen spent 41 years at MIT, during which he taught, mentored, and collaborated with thousands of students, faculty members, and staff.

A giant in the field of immunology with many seminal discoveries, Dr. Eisen authored the immunology section of an influential 1970s textbook on microbiology for medical students and the influential textbook, *General Immunology*, in 1990. He was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1965, the National Academy of Sciences in 1969, and the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies in 1974. He received numerous other awards and honors throughout his career,

including the Behring-Heidelberger Award from the American Association of Immunologists, an Outstanding Investigator Award from the National Cancer Institute, and the Lifetime Service Award from the American Association of Immunologists, of which he served as president from 1968 to 1969. This kind, generous man is survived by his wife, their five children, and 12 grandchildren.

Robert S. Siffert '43M, BA '39ARTS

on February 18 at age 96, as reported in *The New York Times*. Dr. Siffert served as captain and flight surgeon in the U.S. Army Air Force in World War II, flying the "hump" between China, Burma, and India, and received four Battle Stars. He was an internationally acclaimed orthopaedic surgeon whose career at Mount Sinai Hospital and Icahn School of Medicine in New York City spanned five decades, beginning with his residency in orthopaedics.

Dr. Siffert was the youngest and longest-serving chair of the Department of Orthopedics at Mount Sinai Hospital, serving for 26 years. After his retirement in 2000, he maintained the rank of distinguished service professor. He was also the senior orthopaedic consultant for the Department of Health of New York City from 1952 to 1960. In 1970, he founded the Pediatric Orthopaedic Club of New York.

A popular visiting professor and lecturer across the country and the world, he authored nearly 200 articles and chapters as well as four books in his field. He performed many medical service missions abroad working with Care-Medico on monthlong medical service missions teaching and delivering medical care in developing countries, including Tunisia, Kenya, Indonesia, Afghanistan, Peru, and Haiti. He received numerous awards, including the Arthritis Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award, the Mount Sinai Hospital Jacobi Medallion, and the Richman Award for Humanism and Ethics.

He was also recognized as a skilled artist who crafted intricate

woodcut pieces, many of which are on permanent exhibition at the United States Courthouse in lower Manhattan and in the United States Supreme Court. Dr. Siffert is survived by his two children and three grandchildren.

Louis Fishman '46 in January 2008, as reported by his daughter, Barbara Fishman. She says that "being a graduate of the NYU School of Medicine and having trained at Bellevue were sources of his greatest pride and pleasure. He loved his work in medicine more than I can say and his belief that there could be no better training for a physician than at Bellevue was firm." Dr. Fishman practiced medicine for more than 50 years in Hightstown, New Jersey. He is survived by three children.

Norman S. Jaffe '46, BA '44WSC on February 3 at age 90, as reported in the *Miami Herald*. Born in Brooklyn, New York, Dr. Jaffe graduated from Boys High School. He was an internationally acclaimed eye surgeon who was joined in his practice by three of his sons. Dr. Jaffe was considered America's pioneer lens implant surgeon for patients with cataracts.

The author of 13 textbooks, he published 238 scientific papers in peer-reviewed medical journals. His book *Cataract Surgery and Its Complications* has had six editions and has been read by more ophthalmologists on the subject of cataract surgery than any other book in the history of ophthalmology. He performed his first lens implant operation on December 4, 1967, and taught the technique to Miami ophthalmologists and later to thousands nationally and internationally.

Dr. Jaffe introduced lens implant surgery to the People's Republic of China in 1988 when he and three of his sons performed 23 lens implantations before an audience of 500 Chinese ophthalmologists. He was the leader among eye surgeons who fought to make the operation a favorable alternative to older methods of cataract

Passings

surgery. As president of the American Intra-Ocular Implant Society, now known as the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery, he was able to convince the profession and the Food & Drug Administration of the benefits of this procedure, thus improving the quality of life of millions.

Dr. Jaffe was on the staff of the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute of the University of Miami School of Medicine since its inception and held the rank of professor for many years. He performed more than 40,000 cataract operations during his career, most at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute-Anne Bates Leach Eye Hospital, part of the University of Miami/Miller School of Medicine, where he also served on the governing board. He served on the board of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation for many years and was chairman of the Foundation of Jewish Philanthropies for four years. He was also president of the Bass Museum in Miami Beach.

The American Academy of Ophthalmology expressed its appreciation and welcomed him as the guest of honor at its annual meeting in San Francisco in 1997. Dr. Jaffe was honored by many American and international medical societies. He was awarded a great honor in 2003 when he was inducted into the Ophthalmology Hall of Fame.

Dr. Jaffe served in the U.S. Army for one year during World War II and two years during the Korean War, holding the rank of captain. He was on the track team at NYU and played professional baseball in the Triple-A International League. He hiked the trails of the Rockies for 40 years, played tennis and golf until the end, and was a staunch supporter of the arts. Dr. Jaffe is survived by his second wife, Anne Laurence, five children, two stepsons, nine grandchildren, and five step-grandchildren.

Stanley M. Aronson '47 on January 28 at age 92, as reported by Walter J. Rok '80. Born in Brooklyn, New York, Dr. Aronson was a graduate of City College



of New York. The founding dean of Brown University's medical school, this neuropathologist

was a prolific writer, artist, and intellectual and a leading figure in American medicine.

He founded the Home and Hospice Care of Rhode Island and served on its board. He was a leader in global public health, especially in developing nations. The author of more than a dozen books and some 400 articles for medical journals, Dr. Aronson was also a weekly columnist for *The Providence Journal* for many years, writing about a broad range of medical and scientific topics.

At age 60, after retiring as dean of the Alpert Medical School of Brown University, Dr. Aronson enrolled at Harvard University's School of Public Health and earned a master's degree. This caring, humble, and helpful man is survived by his wife, Gale Aronson, two daughters, five grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Richard A. Broderick '47, as reported by his wife, Doris I. Broderick.

Anthony L. Brittis '48, '44WSC on May 29 at age 92, as reported in *The Journal News*. Born and raised in Yonkers, New York, Dr. Brittis was the oldest of five boys in his family and attended NYU as an undergraduate on a full college scholarship. He was double board certified in physical medicine and rehabilitation and neurosurgery, and he worked closely with Dr. Howard A. Rusk, the founder of rehabilitation medicine.

Dr. Brittis entered the U.S. Army Medical Corps in 1948, serving his country in many leadership and diplomatic positions until his retirement in 1970 as a full colonel. During his military tenure, he established rehabilitation and neurosurgical centers for the treatment of the wounded

from the Korean and Vietnam Wars and established the first neurosurgical capability at the Arab Legion Base Hospital in Amman, Jordan.

Dr. Brittis received many medals and commendations for his devoted service and exemplary performance of duty, including the Legion of Merit, the National Defense Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the United Nations Service Medal, the Army of Occupation Medal (Japan), the Korean Service Medal, and the Army Commendation Medal. In 1971, Dr. Brittis returned to civilian life and practiced neurosurgery in Bronxville and Yonkers, New York, and elsewhere in the New York Metropolitan area until his retirement in 2008.

He was a man of integrity, deep Christian faith, and strong moral values, which made him a perfect, empathetic healer. In 1973, he received the Enrico Fermi Award for his accomplishments and community service. A true renaissance man, Dr. Brittis had a great appreciation for the arts, science, and history. Gifted artistically and scholastically, he played the trumpet and violin and was a great draftsman, sculptor, and artist. He will be most remembered for his gentle, kind, sweet disposition; warm spirit; and the true love he showed to his family and patients. Dr. Brittis is survived by his wife of 60 years, Marianna Perry Brittis, and their two children.



Jerome A. Cantor '48 on February 17 at age 90, as reported by his daughter, Susan J. Cantor '82. Born and raised in Bradley Beach, New Jersey, Dr. Cantor graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, attended our medical school as a member of the Naval Reserve during World War II, and served as a physician in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean Conflict. Dr. Cantor practiced medicine in Millburn, New Jersey, for over 50 years, retiring in 2010. He served as president of the

medical staff at Overlook Hospital in 1976 and 1977.

Youth sports and sportsmanship were very important to him. Among his many involvements, he was a co-founder of the Millburn-Short Hills Youth Soccer program and a longtime coach and manager in the Millburn-Short Hills Little League, continuing many years beyond his own sons' participation and guiding and mentoring so many children. His kindness, wisdom, and compassion were an inspiration to all. Dr. Cantor is survived by his wife, Susan Levenson Cantor, five children, and five granddaughters.

1950s

Arthur Perell '50 on January 17, as reported by his classmate Jacob Weissman '50.

Perry Berg '51, BS '47WSC on February 23, as reported by Anthony J. Grieco '63, BS '60ARTS. Dr. Berg completed internal medicine training at NYU/Bellevue, having been chief resident of the IV Division at Bellevue Hospital. A U.S. Air Force flight surgeon during the Korean Conflict, he practiced medicine in New York City for over 60 years. He served on the Board of Directors of the New York County Society of Internal Medicine and was a member of the Medical Peer Review Subcommittee at the NYU Medical Center before retiring.

Dr. Berg was clinical professor of medicine at our School and a highly respected teacher of medical students and residents for 60 years. His family, patients, and friends endowed the Alumni Digital Library of the NYU School of Medicine in his honor. He was a founding member of Concorde Medical Group and served as treasurer of the Society of Alumni of Bellevue Hospital. Dr. Berg particularly will be remembered for his unwavering advocacy for his patients. Dr. Berg is survived by his wife, Sandra M. Berg, three children, and seven grandchildren.

Leonard M. Hirsch '53 on May 27, 2012, at age 85, as reported by Anthony J. Grieco '63, BS '60ARTS. Born in the Bronx, New York, Dr. Hirsch was an obstetrician and gynecologist and lived the last 18 years of his life in Vero Beach, Florida. Dr. Hirsch is survived by two children, three grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Stuart H. Bartle '54 on March 26 at age 90, as reported by Roselyn Kolodny '63. Born in New York City, Dr. Bartle was educated at



Pomfret School in Connecticut and Harvard University. After high school, Dr. Bartle was drafted into the U.S. Army's 78th Infantry Division, serving from 1943 to 1946 during the Battle of the Bulge and the occupation of Berlin. He was awarded a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star, among other medals.

Dr. Bartle completed a residency in internal medicine at Bellevue Hospital and a fellowship in cardiology at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York City. As an instructor and assistant professor of medicine and surgery at the University of Virginia School of Medicine in Charlottesville, Virginia, from 1959 to 1967, he participated in pioneering cardiology research, assisting in some of the world's first cardiac catheterizations.

From 1967 to 1968, Dr. Bartle was a resident in psychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital and held an appointment at Harvard Medical School. He practiced psychiatry in private practice in Manhattan from 1968 to 1986 while also attending and teaching at Mount Sinai Hospital. Dr. Bartle taught psychiatry from 1986 to 1988 in Harare, Zimbabwe, where he became interested in severe mental illness.

After returning from Africa, Dr. Bartle and his wife moved permanently to the Berkshires. He was on staff at Berkshire Medical Center in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, for 24 years, from 1988 to 2012. The remainder of his career

was dedicated to humane and effective medical care for the organically mentally ill (decreased mental function not due to a psychiatric illness) in Berkshire County, especially treating them with respect and dignity. He served as medical director of Berkshire Mental Health Center from 1990 to 1998 and also served as a staff psychiatrist. He founded the *Berkshire Mental Health Review*, which became the *Berkshire Mental Health Journal*. He also consulted for Gould Farm, a residential therapeutic community, and served on their board. In May 2014, Dr. Bartle was inducted into the Berkshire Medical Center Honor Roll.

Dr. Bartle was fond of baseball, sailing, music, the harmonica, dancing, and the fastest way to do things. A lifelong amateur athlete, he played baseball, softball, touch football, and squash in college. He also enjoyed skiing, running, isometric exercise, and tennis and competed in sailboat races till age 87. A modest man who rarely spoke of his many accomplishments, Dr. Bartle was known for his kindness, quick wit, and enthusiasm for life. Dr. Bartle is survived by his beloved wife of 65 years, Barbara Bartle, four children, and 11 grandchildren.

Ariel Distenfeld '57, BA '53WSC on April 13, as reported by his daughter, Suzan Crabb '86. Born in Israel, Dr. Distenfeld both served and was injured in its war of independence. A hematologist and clinical professor of medicine at NYU, he spent many years in private practice, was former medical director of Cabrini Hospice, and published several peer-reviewed articles. He met his first wife, Joy Distenfeld, when he was brought over from Israel as a wounded soldier to have surgery at NYU. He spent his whole adult life at NYU as a student, resident, fellow, and staff member. Dr. Crabb says her father's blood "ran purple." Dr. Distenfeld is survived by his loving wife, Harriet Friedes, three children, and four grandchildren.

Passings

Solomon Liebowitz '57, '53ARTS on March 14 at age 83, as reported in *The New York Times*. Born in the Bronx, New York, Dr. Liebowitz attended Bronx Science High School and NYU on scholarship. He became a captain and medic in the United States Air Force and was stationed in London during the Berlin "no fly channel." His residency at the New York Eye & Ear Infirmary, where he was dedicated to patients, staff, alumni, and colleagues, began a career that defined Dr. Liebowitz as an extraordinary, well-respected, loved, and leading ophthalmologist in his field. He is survived by his beloved wife, Susan Liebowitz, their two daughters, and three grandchildren.

Jack Braunwald '58 on May 26, 2014, at age 80 as reported by his classmate Gerald A. Gellin '58. Born in Vienna, Austria, Dr. Braunwald completed his internship and residency at Bellevue Hospital Center and a fellowship in hematology at Brigham Hospital in Boston. Dr. Braunwald practiced hematology at Kaiser Sunset in Los Angeles for 42 years.

William D. Walden '59 on April 3 at the age of 85, as reported in *The New York Times*. Born in Vienna, he and his family moved to England after the Anschluss. By the time he was 18, both of his parents had passed away, and he supported himself while attending University of California Los Angeles by taking on boarders in his house.

Shortly after graduation, he was accepted to Officer Candidate School in the U.S. Navy. After training, he took a commission and shipped off to Korea as a line officer on a hospital ship in Inchon Bay. Upon his return, Dr. Walden began his medical education at Temple University while still an officer in the navy. When his commission ended, he moved to New York and transferred to our School. He interned at Beth Israel Hospital and completed his residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Weil Cornell Medical College.

Dr. Walden was board certified in obstetrics and gynecology and became an associate clinical professor at Weil Cornell Medical College. His ob/gyn practice spanned five decades. He felt that having the same physician throughout a pregnancy provides the best level of care. He always sat through labor with his patients.

Dr. Walden's work was his passion, and his patients adored him. It was not unusual for a patient from 30 years prior to approach him in a restaurant or on the street and greet him with a story about how wonderful he was helping her through her labor and delivery. During his career, he delivered over 5,000 babies, and as he always liked to say with a sparkle in his eye, "and I never dropped one." Dr. Walden is survived by his beloved wife of 63 years, Elinor Klotz Walden, their two children, and five grandchildren.

1960s

Martin S. Nachbar '62 in May at age 78, as reported by the Saul J. Farber Dean and CEO Robert I. Grossman, MD (Hon. '08). Dr. Nachbar was a research associate professor of microbiology and medicine, director of NYU Langone's Advanced Educational Systems, and co-founder of the Consortium on Medical Education and Technology. He was a member of the Department of Microbiology for over 50 years.

Initially his research interests focused on leptin in food, but his interests gradually changed and he was one of the first faculty members to explore the use of computers in medical education. Dr. Nachbar established the Hippocrates Project – Computers and Communication Technologies in Medical Education, which includes simulation, animation, 3D-modeling, and digital technology, back in 1987. His leadership guided the creation of the field of educational informatics.



Dr. Nachbar published numerous articles in peer-reviewed, computer-related journals, and he was a sought-after speaker, always enthusiastic about sharing his knowledge and wisdom. Among the many honors he received were the Irma T. Hirshl Trust Career Scientist Award, the Sackler Distinguished Lecturer Award from Tel Aviv University, NYU School of Medicine's Distinguished Teacher Award, and NYU's All-University Distinguished Teaching Award.

Dr. Nachbar created a nurturing educational environment that encouraged exploration and inventiveness. He showed colleagues with compassion, kindness, and support and mentored countless students and faculty. Dr. Nachbar is survived by his wife, Felice Aull, PhD, MA '01GSAS, adjunct associate professor of medicine at our School, and their daughter. A memorial service was held at our School on June 17.

Daniel L. Wachtel '62 on March 10 at age 77, as reported in *Courier News*. Born in New York City, Dr. Wachtel was a graduate of the Ethical Culture Fieldston School and Union College. He served as a captain in the U.S. Army Medical Corps during the Vietnam War. He began his ophthalmology practice in Bound Brook, New Jersey, in 1970. In practice for over 53 years, he was affiliated with Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Somerset in Somerville, New Jersey.



Dr. Wachtel was a member of Temple Beth-El in Hillsborough and an active member of the Azure/Masada Masonic Free and Accepted Masons in Cranford. In his spare time, he enjoyed celebrating music and the arts. Dr. Wachtel is survived by his two daughters, three grandsons, and a great-grandson. Donations in his memory may be made to NYU Langone Medical Center, Department of Ophthalmology.

Edward Zach Schaye '65 on May 6 at age 75, as reported by his daughter, Verity E. Schaye '08. Dr. Schaye received his undergraduate degree from Princeton University, completed his internship at Beth Israel Medical Center, and did his residency in psychiatry at NYU Bellevue Hospital. He was



board certified in psychiatry and was on the faculty at Columbia University from 1975 to 1979.

Dr. Schaye was in private practice with his wife, Shirley Schaye, PhD, and was a member of the American Society of Psychoanalytic Physicians (ASPP) New York Chapter. He provided psychopharmacology and psychodynamic psychotherapy for anxiety, panic disorders, depression, adult ADD, and other disorders. Dr. Schaye is survived by his wife, two children, and two grandchildren.

Jeffrey L. Benjamin '67 on March 25 at age 74, as reported in the *Stamford Advocate*. Born in Brooklyn, New York, he attended Erasmus Hall High School,



where he enjoyed both science and literature and became fluent in French. He graduated from Princeton

University with the class of 1963.

During the Vietnam War, he rose to the rank of lieutenant commander in the U.S. Navy, and was assigned as head surgeon on its pioneering research team for organ transplantation at the Naval Medical Research Institute in Bethesda, Maryland. After his military service, Dr. Benjamin returned to NYU Langone Medical Center, where he completed seven years of training in general surgery, then plastic and reconstructive surgery. In 1976, he opened his private practice specializing in reconstructive surgery, cosmetic surgery, and hand surgery.

A member of multiple professional societies, including the Aesthetic Society for Plastic Surgery and the American Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, he was a founding member and president of the Connecticut Society for Plastic Surgeons. A self-taught photographer and golfer, he was also an avid movie and music lover and a foodie. Dr. Benjamin also painted model Napoleonic soldiers and, with his wife, Susannah, loved to travel.

He and his wife fell in love with the Bitterroot Valley of Montana during a long-postponed honeymoon, and immediately shared a vision of their future. They built a log home in Conner and finally became full-time Montanans when Dr. Benjamin retired in 2005. He embraced Montana with his typical gusto, learning about its history and wildlife, exploring its byways. He especially loved to be outdoors, and every day was an opportunity to embrace his favorite activities: hunting, fishing, gardening, shooting, cross-country skiing, biking, or hiking. Dr. Benjamin is survived by his wife, their three children, and two granddaughters.

Avodah K. Offit '67 on January 27 at age 83, as reported by Loren W. Greene '75, MA '12GSAS. A lifelong New Yorker, Dr. Offit received her name, signifying "work" in the Hebrew language, as both an identity and an instruction. She dedicated her adult life to helping her patients as a respected and accomplished psychiatrist and her family as a devoted and loving mother and wife.

After graduating Phi Beta Kappa from Hunter College, marrying Sidney Offit, a young novelist, in 1952, and raising two sons to school age, Dr. Offit enrolled in our School. She completed an internship at Lenox Hill Hospital and her residency at the Payne Whitney Psychiatric Clinic of New York Hospital, where she subsequently joined the staff and became a professor at Cornell University Medical College.

After entering private practice, Dr. Offit was a pioneer in understanding the psychological basis of human sexuality. She defined the emerging field of sex therapy in scholarly books and popular columns and articles in national magazines

including *Glamour*, *Vogue*, and *Self*. Dr. Offit wrote three books. In 1977, *The Sexual Self*



was a critical success, described as "wonderful, strewn with wit and insight" by *The New York Times*. *The New Republic* magazine dubbed Dr. Offit the "Montaigne of human sexuality." She followed with *Night Thoughts: Reflections of a Sex Therapist* in 1981 and a novel, *Virtual Love*, in 1994. This fictional account of a transcontinental e-mail romance was startling, both for its erotic intensity and the author's prescience in depicting the impact of the Internet on how people live, love, and communicate.

Dr. Offit leaves behind a legion of grateful patients, adoring colleagues and friends, and a deeply loving and loved family. Her life was a masterwork of art, science, and passion. She is survived by her husband and collaborator, Sidney Offit, two sons, and five grandchildren.

Saul G. Agus '68 in April, as reported by his classmate, Chaim B. Reich '68. Dr. Agus completed his internship and residency at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston and his fellowship in gastroenterology at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York City. He was affiliated with Mount Sinai Hospital and maintained a private practice. Dr. Agus is survived by his wife, Marcelle, and four children.

Irene B. Pineda-Stiber, MD, HS Ob/Gyn '68, former clinical assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology at our School, on June 13, as reported by David L. Keefe, MD, Stanley H. Kaplan Professor and Chairman of Obstetrics and Gynecology. On faculty

Passings

for 46 years, until her retirement in 2012, Dr. Pineda-Stiber is survived by her husband, Andrew J. Stiber, MD, former clinical associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology at our School, two sons, and four grandchildren.

Charles G. Hazzi, MD, HS Medicine '69, Fell Gastroenterology '69, clinical professor of medicine at our School and a member of our faculty for 48 years, on March 28 at age 89, as reported in *The New York Times*. Dr. Hazzi was a graduate of Cairo University's Kas Al Ainy School of Medicine. He loved to teach and will be missed by former colleagues and students. He was predeceased by his beloved wife, Jacqueline Hazzi.

Faculty Passings

Leonard Barkin, MD, '50ARTS, former clinical professor of psychiatry (1980 to 2012) at our School, on May 9 at age 84, as reported in *The New York Times*. Dr. Barkin grew up in the Bronx, New York, and attended the Bronx High School of Science. He studied at NYU for his undergraduate degree and then went on to State University of New York (SUNY) Downstate College of Medicine.

Dr. Barkin was a psychiatrist in the U.S. Air Force, stationed outside of Tokyo. He then returned to New York and finished his training at Albert Einstein Medical Center in the Bronx. His psychoanalytic training was at SUNY Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn. At the time of his death, Dr. Barkin was practicing psychiatry in New York City and was a training analyst at the Institute for Psychoanalytic Education. He was an avid reader of *The New York Times*, a devotee of sports radio, and lover of the theatre, opera, classical music, art, travel, and his country pool. Dr. Barkin is survived by his wife, Jacqueline Dryfoos,



one son, two stepchildren, and four grandchildren. He was predeceased by his first wife, Anya Wajnberg Barkin.

Jeanne A. Epstein Myles, MD, former clinical assistant professor of medicine, on March 26 at age 92, as reported by *The New York Times*. Born in Jersey City, New Jersey, Dr. Epstein Myles received her BS from Douglass College and her MD from the Medical College of Pennsylvania. An endocrinologist, she was in practice with her husband, Martin B. Myles, MD, and was a member of the clinical faculty of our School for 47 years, from 1958 to 2005. She was also a staff physician at the Margaret Sanger Research Bureau. Later in her career she served as medical director of the Middletown Community Health Center in Middletown, New York. Dr. Epstein Myles was a highly intelligent, witty, and strong-minded woman who loved reading, nature, travel, fishing, and *The New York Times* crossword puzzle. She was devoted to her family and friends and is survived by her husband and daughter.

Joseph Herbert, MD, professor of neurology and director of the Medical Center's Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Comprehensive Care Center, in January, as reported by the Saul J. Farber Dean and CEO Robert I. Grossman, MD (Hon. '08). Born in South Africa, Dr. Herbert immigrated with his family to Israel, where he graduated from Hadassa Medical School and served as a physician in the Israel Defense Forces. He moved to the United States to pursue a neuropathology fellowship at Harvard Medical School and then undertook neuropathologic research at Columbia University. His work on transthyretin expression in choroid plexus won him the S. Weil Mitchell award for young researchers from the American Academy of Neurology.

Dr. Herbert and his team created one of the world's first comprehensive and internationally recognized MS

centers on our campus. It has a very active program in MS research, clinical trials, and wellness programs for patients. Dr. Herbert also promoted the establishment of comprehensive MS centers at Helen Hayes Hospital in Haverstraw, New York, and St. Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston, New Jersey.

In 1993, he established the inpatient neurorehabilitation unit at NYU Langone's Hospital for Joint Diseases (HJD). The unit, under his leadership for nearly a decade, received the coveted Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) accreditation and went on to be recertified on three occasions with accolades.

Dr. Herbert's clinical work focused on refining the use of approved MS treatments, and he received the Research Award of the National Association of Rehabilitation Facilities (NARF) for the study of Desmopressin Acetate Tablets (DDAVP) for nocturia. Under his leadership, the MS Center participated in a wide variety of national and international multicenter clinical trials. He and his team also took great interest in the creation of global patient registries and databases.

A founding member of the New York State MS Consortium Database, Dr. Herbert also served on the steering committee for the MSBase Global Registry, which is maintained in Australia. In 2014, Dr. Herbert was promoted to professor of neurology in recognition of his leadership and many academic achievements.

Dr. Herbert guided the MS Care Center brilliantly for the past two decades as a model for others to follow; his empathy and humanity were treasured by thousands of patients as well as by his colleagues. His creative and relentless pursuit of every therapeutic option, boundless intellectual curiosity, and love of teaching were a continuous inspiration to all who were fortunate to be a part of Dr. Herbert's legacy. Dr. Herbert is

survived by his wife, Bette, their six children, and six grandchildren.

Ralph Lusskin, MD on January 17 at age 87, as reported by his daughter, Shari I. Lusskin '86. A brilliant physician who graduated from Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons at age 21, Dr. Lusskin served as an orthopedic surgeon on the *USS Relief* during the Korean War and retired from the U.S. Naval Reserves as a lieutenant commander. Born and raised in New York City, he was the eldest son of two orthopaedic surgeons.

Dr. Lusskin trained generations of physicians during his 58-year tenure as a clinical professor of orthopaedic surgery at NYU. He was also devoted to and respected by his patients. Dr. Lusskin is survived by his devoted wife of 56 years, Phyllis Lusskin, two daughters, and four grandchildren.

Jacobus L. Potter, MB,ChB, former associate dean of our School and our Post-Graduate Medical School, the precursor to Continuing Medical Education (CME), from 1967-1980,



on May 9 at age 90 as reported by his daughter, Jane Potter, PhD '78GSAS, MA '77GSAS, BA '73ARTS. Always known as Jack, Dr. Potter was born in Cardenden, Fife, Scotland. He attended Beath High School, Cowdenbeath, and obtained his medical degree at Edinburgh University. An NYU associate professor as well as a talented artist, he had originally hoped to go to art school. But his mother's sudden death from a heart attack when he was a teenager prompted his decision to study medicine. Dr. Potter specialized in rheumatic disease and arthritis, produced numerous papers and publications, and counted among his co-authors a Nobel Prize winner. He was elected a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians in Edinburgh.

Dr. Potter's first posts included positions as resident surgeon at the Scottish capital's Leith Hospital and medical registrar and research fellow in the rheumatic diseases unit at the Northern General in Edinburgh. In 1952 he joined the medical branch of the Royal Air Force, where he became squadron leader in charge of the medical division, RAF Hospital, Padgate, in Cheshire. Returning to Edinburgh in 1954, Dr. Potter spent the bulk of the next eight years as a research fellow at the Northern General, except for a two-year spell in research at the NYU School of Medicine's pathology department, supported by grants from the United States Public Health Service and the John Polachek Foundation in New York.

By 1962 he was back in America, having immigrated to White Plains, New York. The following year, his wife and three children joined him and he spent almost 20 years in the United States, working in various roles including for the Health Research Council of the City of New York and as an associate professor and associate dean at our School.

Dr. Potter made a considerable contribution to the medical research community there through his involvement with a number of New York City metropolitan area organizations: as a member of the medical and scientific committee of the Arthritis Foundation; as associate coordinator of the New York Metropolitan Regional Medical Program and vice chair of its regional advisory group; and as chairman of the committee for an Independent Health Systems Agency. During the 1970s, he was also a physician/consultant for the city's Veterans Administration Hospital and a consultant at New York Infirmary. He served as president of the Medical Library Center and was elected a fellow of the American College of Physicians.

In 1981, two years after the death of his wife, Elizabeth M. Potter, MB,ChB, former instructor in clinical medicine at our School, Dr. Potter returned to Scotland, taking up the post of executive dean of the Faculty of Medicine at

Edinburgh University. Dr. Potter was an accomplished classical pianist, a talent and lifelong interest he inherited from his mother. He played by ear, without formal training, and during the Second World War he wrote the musical score for the 1940s short film *And So Goodbye*, made in Cowdenbeath. The producer's son, Robin Mitchell, turned the story of his quest to find the film, and those who made and starred in it, into an award-winning documentary in which Dr. Potter was featured. Dr. Potter also continued to paint, and his other interests included stamp collecting and corresponding with friends and family whose birthdays and anniversaries he always marked with a letter. The recipient of his last piece of writing was his three-year-old great-granddaughter. Dr. Potter was predeceased by his second wife, Catherine (Rena) Matthews and is survived by his three children, Dr. Jane Potter, Dorothy A. Andriole '80, BA '76CAS, and James Potter; three grandsons; and one great-granddaughter.

Nicholas A. Tzimas, MD, clinical professor of orthopaedic surgery, on May 29 at age 87. A graduate of Athens University, Dr. Tzimas came to the United States by boat in 1955 with \$125 in his pocket. A brilliant children's orthopaedic surgeon who had patients from all over the world, Dr. Tzimas was



appointed to our faculty in 1961 and trained generations of physicians at our School. He was knighted by the Italian government, was a knight of Saint Andrew in the Greek Orthodox Church, and was a member of the Leadership 100, an endowment fund of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese in New York. Dr. Tzimas is survived by his two daughters.

Doc's Legacy



Photo provided by Gordon Straka

Ralph S. French '46 was an avid fisherman.

Since 2011, the NYU School of Medicine has received a sizable annual distribution from the Ralph S. French Charitable Foundation to support research that may lead to discoveries that change the way we treat disease and save millions of lives.

Our School receives these annual grants because of the foresight and generosity of an individual, Ralph S. French, MD, a member of the NYU School of Medicine (SOM) Class of 1946.

Dr. French, who passed away in March 2009 at the age of 89, was, by all accounts, a special man. The only child of Herbert and Louise French, Dr. French grew up in northern New Jersey and attended Columbia University before matriculating to NYU SOM. He then moved on to Georgetown University, where he continued his studies through fellowships before entering the U.S. Navy. Dr. French served for several years before moving to California to set up his medical practice.

His life changed soon after that, however, when his father became ill with cancer in the 1950s. Dr. French was very close to both his parents, and he brought his father to the Mayo Clinic, explains a cousin, Georgeanne "Susie" Williams. But Herbert French did not survive the disease.

This experience weighed heavily on Dr. French, say family members. He was frustrated that medicine could not do more to save his father's life. After Herbert's death, Dr. French moved permanently to Anna Maria Island, off Sarasota, Florida, where his parents had been spending much of their time, to live with his mother.

"The island was very quaint at the time," explains Mrs. Williams. "Very quiet, low-key, and there were little cottages

full of lovely people. That's why Ralph and his mother liked it there. They lived in a typical cottage, and he helped anyone that would call on him. He did some local doctoring for some people because they could not afford to pay."

Dr. French became affectionately known as "Doc" around the island, and he continued to maintain his medical license right up until his passing, explains James Alderman, a CPA who knew Dr. French for almost 30 years. What most people did not know about Ralph, says Mr. Alderman, is that he was wealthy.

"Ralph was very frugal," says his cousin Gordy Straka, "except for when it came to going out to dinner. That was one of his favorite things. He would take all of us out to dinner and wouldn't blink an eye at the tab. He was generous that way."

Dr. French's budget-conscious ways extended to the beat-up cars he drove, some with holes in the floor, and the simple, inexpensive clothes he wore. "If you were to meet Ralph on a park bench," says Mr. Alderman, "you wouldn't have imagined that he had anything. If he saw something he liked, he bought it. If there was something he wanted to do, he'd do it, regardless of the cost. But he was not a big spender."

When Dr. French traveled north from Florida to visit his cousins in the Midwest, where he indulged his passions for hunting and fishing, he did so not by plane, but by car.

"He enjoyed tantalizing us with those [old] things," says Mrs. Williams. "I remember one big old boat of a car, a Buick. One day he was on his way up here for Thanksgiving, and he didn't show up. We were concerned because he'd usually pop in by 5 p.m."

What had happened, explains Mrs. Williams, is that Dr. French's car had broken down in a tiny Wisconsin town. It was

late. A local man towed the car to his own home and invited Dr. French to Thanksgiving dinner so that Dr. French wouldn't be alone. The man later fixed the car, and Dr. French drove on and had a second holiday meal when he got to his cousins' home. From that point on, Ralph's annual Thanksgiving visit included two dinners, one at the home of the Wisconsin family, and a second one with his cousins.

That experience was typical for a man who made friends easily and enjoyed their company and who would quietly help someone in need. Mr. Straka recalls Dr. French's joy and humor. "Ralph just loved to tell jokes," says Mr. Straka. "He could go into character when he told them; he was very funny."

Dr. French also loved dogs, says Mr. Straka. "Ralph always carried around a pocketful of Milk Bone dog biscuits—he called them cookies. He would feed all the local dogs."

Mr. Straka recalls the way Dr. French brought prized Florida oranges northward on his road trips. They were gifts for his extended family, and he made sure his cargo survived the journey in pristine condition. "I'm talking 15 boxes of oranges," says Mr. Straka. "If the weather got cold, he would unload them from his car and bring them into the cabin where he'd been staying to keep them warm. And when he left that cabin, he'd reload the car – that's a lot of weight to carry back and forth. Those oranges, though, they were delicious."

Dr. French's personal life included several wedding engagements, says Mrs. Williams, but he decided to remain single. Bachelorhood, however, did not stop Dr. French from becoming what she describes as the consummate family man.

"No one had more of a family than Ralph, no one," she says. "We loved it when he and his mother would come up here [to Minnesota]. My folks, when we were kids, would always get us down to Anna Maria for those perfect holidays. When I later went to the island with my own children, as did Gordy, Ralph would take the kids out on the Gulf to where there are sandbars at certain times of year, where you can stand up. Ralph also liked to go down to the Rod & Reel Pier and help the kids bait their lines. He'd educate them about the different types of fish."

When Dr. French reached his 70s, he began to talk to his accountant, Mr. Alderman, about his estate plan. "Ralph was such an interesting and likable guy; he'd done a lot of

interesting things in his life," says Mr. Alderman. "Money was never a big issue for him, but at a certain point he began to give serious thought as to what he would do with it."

Dr. French discussed two objectives, explains Mr. Alderman. He wanted to do something for his family members, his cousins; and he wanted to establish a foundation to support select organizations with which he and/or his parents had associations. "Over four or five years we'd sit down periodically, get something

down on paper, and then Ralph would mull it over," says Mr. Alderman. Dr. French was quiet about his intentions with his cousins. "Ralph didn't really talk about it [philanthropy] with us," says Mr. Straka. "He was just a giving, a very wonderful and giving person."

Today the Ralph S. French Charitable Foundation honors the memory of Dr. French and his parents by supporting various institutions with annual distributions. Dr. French directed that a substantial percentage of the foundation's annual income go toward our SOM and another university.

The distributions to NYU SOM have seeded research on a variety of projects, some of them relating to prostate cancer, melanoma, immunology, and genomics. The largest impact thus far has been a distribution to bladder cancer research by Xue-Ru Wu, MD, which helped Dr. Wu and his NYU SOM colleagues successfully apply for a

\$9 million National Institutes of Health grant for collaborative research on this disease.

Dr. French also put faith in his trustees, which include some of his cousins, to allocate a percentage of the foundation's income to other organizations that, in the words of the foundation, "educate and empower individuals to help themselves and others in need." It is an honor that they say they take quite seriously.

We remember our alumnus, Dr. French, and the lasting impact his generous legacy will continue to have on the NYU School of Medicine. If you are interested in learning how you can create your own legacy at our School, please contact Marilyn Van Houten, senior director, Office of Development & Alumni Affairs, at Marilyn.VanHouten@nyumc.org or (212) 404-3653.

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The Bard in Him

Arthur Ancowitz '48 is founder and president of the Stroke Foundation, New York, which is supporting a research project on stroke prevention at NYU Langone under the aegis of Caroline S. Baum, MD, the Diane and Arthur Belfer Professor of Geriatric Medicine and director, Division of Geriatrics in the Department of Medicine. Dr. Ancowitz is also the author of several books on stroke and its prevention. He has also tried his hand at poetry, and a collection of his poems was published last year in the book, *The Bard in Me*. We share two of them here.

Why Does the Stuff We Keep Mean So Much to Us

Like a squirrel's search for acorns to save
To papers, junk, jewelry, magazines,
and mementos we are a slave

We figure someday we will be in need
Of a book, paper, or magazine to reread

Memories are frequently thus evoked
Like flames from embers that are stoked

Do you remember that wonderful concert or play
You saved the playbill until this day

Papers that were fresh and all the rage
Are now brittle and yellowed by age

Other papers once thought to bear a treasure
Now give us scant pleasure

But saving it, like having a pirate captain's map and guide
We somehow felt very good inside

Did you ever save coins or keys in a very safe place
When you forgot where they were, boy, did you lose face

My mother asked me once, twice or more
Do you want these books or cards by the score

She threw them out much to my regret
These baseball cards are now hard to get

They are valued in thousand and sometimes zillions
To think, I had a collection of millions

Whether it's treasure or junk there's a debate
Until the debate is settled, save it, do not hesitate

N.Y.U. Medical School Reunion at 55 Years

It was 1948
We could hardly wait

Without a doubt
We wanted out

We all would be free
Not just you or me

Other things to do
No more NYU

We all reckoned
Internship beckoned

We would get our MD's at last
Hard exams were past

We had learned to cope
With a stethoscope

We were able to use a knee hammer
Without raising a clamor

Fifty-five years ago we knew a heck of a lot
Some relevant to our future, some not

From mister to a real doctor in four short years
Done with some blood, sweat and fears

Our gaits changed from a walk to a swagger
As if we just hit a mighty four bagger

It was for real
Quite a deal

We were on our way
It was a great day

For fifty-five years we followed our urge
There were ups and downs in this surge

Time was slow at first
Then passed with a burst

It wasn't easy being here tonight
Those here, have done all right

Mulholland, Tillet, Eichna, Von Glahn,
and many others
Were a faculty of unrelated brothers

They are memories of the past
They will live with us as long as we last

Murray Burton, Alan Dumont,
and Arthur Fox deserve praise
They did their best our classmates to raise

Let's resolve to meet again
Five years hence and until then

Let enjoyment and good health
Provide your real wealth

A Family Affair

For the Baxts, the NYU School of Medicine is Family

Saida Baxt, MD, and Sherwood “Woody” Baxt, MD, met at the NYU School of Medicine, from which they graduated in 1966. As Woody tells it, “I was hanging around the student lounge to look for dates for my friends—and someone put their hands over my eyes and said, ‘Guess who?’ It was Saida. I said, ‘get dressed, we’re going to a party.’”

“Two hours later, we were engaged,” says Saida. She is a dermatologist, Woody is a plastic surgeon, and with their daughter, dermatologist Rebecca Baxt, MD, they treat patients at their practice, Baxt Cosmedical, in Paramus, New Jersey. Rebecca is also an associate professor in the Ronald O. Perelman Department of Dermatology at NYU Langone Medical Center.

NYU School of Medicine remains an integral part of Saida’s and Woody’s lives, from the decades-long friendships they share with classmates to the reunions they have helped organize. The couple has consistently contributed to scholarship funds at the School and recently decided to make a

very substantial commitment to establish a scholarship in Saida’s name through an outright gift and within their estate plan.

“Saida and I feel strongly that you can’t have the focus that you should have when you’re graduating from school with so much debt,” says Woody. “These scholarships are so important; the students shouldn’t have to figure out how to spend the rest of their lives paying off debt.”

The Baxts also appreciate the richness of their experiences at the School. “We were surrounded by faculty who were at the cusp of making major decisions in medicine,” says Saida. “[Nobel Laureate] Dr. Severo Ochoa was at the school. I was also just one of 11 women in the class. It was a different time.”

“It was all about the people, such a fantastic group of people, especially our classmates” says Woody. “And that’s why we’ve stayed in touch and remained involved. Giving to the NYU School of Medicine is perpetuating the same feeling we had as students.”



Saida and Woody Baxt, physicians and philanthropists who graduated from NYU School of Medicine in 1966, with their dog Leo on the dairy farm they own in New York State.

To learn more about making your planned gift to NYU School of Medicine, please contact Marilyn Van Houten at 212.404.3653 or marilyn.vanhouten@nyumc.org



nyulangone.org/give



Office of Alumni Relations
NYU School of Medicine
One Park Avenue, 17th Floor
New York, NY 10016

New Alumni Directory for 2016!

We're working to produce our next directory in celebration of our School's 175th Anniversary.

We will contact you in the coming months to update your records.

ALUMNI ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS 2015-2016

For information on the following events, please e-mail patricia.finerty@nyumc.org or call 212-263-5498.

OCTOBER 2015

25/Sunday

Washington, DC, Alumni Lunch
honoring Benard P. Dreyer '70
12 noon-2 p.m., Marriott Marquis, Washington, DC

JANUARY 2016

7/Thursday

Board of Governors Meeting
*6-8 p.m., Smilow MultiPurpose Meeting Room,
NYU Langone Medical Center*

FEBRUARY 2016

7/Sunday

Florida Alumni Brunch
honoring Bernard M. Rosof '57
*11 a.m.-1 p.m., Cathedral Room,
Boca Raton Resort and Club*

APRIL 2016

16/Saturday

Alumni Day
NYU School of Medicine, New York City

Alumni Reunion Ball
*7 p.m., The Ritz-Carlton New York,
Battery Park, New York City*