



# CMS NEWS

The Chicago Medical School Newsletter

WINTER 2018  
ISSUE 7

**SYMPOSIUM: THE  
GENDER DIVIDE IN  
HEALTHCARE**

*The university holds its second annual Women in Science and Healthcare Symposium.*

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**ALUMNI GIVE BACK**

*Several CMS alumni attend various events to teach, mentor, and advise students.*

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**SUMMER RESEARCH  
POSTER SESSION**

*Students present research conducted during the summer of 2017.*

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## Respect and Civility Campaign Speaker Series

RFU faculty, staff and students participated in a university-wide campaign to promote respect and civility in medicine and daily life.

In October, the university's Office of Diversity and Inclusion launched a month-long campaign to promote the practice and awareness of respect and civility. The campaign encouraged individuals to be mindful of their behavior, making a conscious effort to look for opportunities – no matter how small – to demonstrate respect and civility to others in their everyday life.

Faculty, staff and students were invited to share what these traits meant to them and how they could be demonstrated in personal and professional life. The campaign's speaker series gave several members of the RFU community

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## Dean's Message

### Greetings from Dean James Record

The Chicago Medical School was founded upon a principle of engagement with community, patients, faculty and students. While a necessary quality of a medical school, we often focus on its present effects: e.g., the qualities of community service days, patient history-taking, and faculty presentations. The quickening pace and complexity of the world promotes even greater attention to a more immediate and superficial focus.

We have an exciting year ahead with the new simulation center, a new curriculum, a new research park that will occupy much of our focus. In order to thrive, however, we need to recognize as crucial a longer view of sustained engagement. With the people who pass through CMS growing in number and diversity every year, such a view is essential to provide a deeper understanding of ourselves that examines the context in which we live and work to support a sustained future.

As we pass through another winter season, I hope you enjoy the varieties of engagement within this issue, but I hope you will pay particular attention to the sustained examples of our alumni. Their involvement in our DOCs mentoring program, medical grand rounds series, and Operation M.E.D.S. are a few examples of integration into the daily life at CMS that provides the connections that bridge our past and future. They provide a powerful statement on the impact of engagement and we are ever grateful for their standard.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Record". The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a white background.

James M. Record, MD, JD, FACP  
Dean, Chicago Medical School

# Respect and Civility Campaign Speaker Series

*(continued from cover)*

a chance to share their perspectives on these concepts, based on their own life experiences.

**Hunter Launer** and **Noor Siddiqi**, both CMS '20, gave presentations as part of the speaker series. Hunter described the lessons he learned about respect and civility while working as a high school teacher in the Bronx. With classes composed of students from various cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds, he saw how different backgrounds and experiences can influence how people see the world, and knew the importance of earning and showing respect despite these differences.

“Respect and civility are core values at the foundation of character,” Hunter said. “They dictate how you carry yourself in the relationships you build, both personally and professionally.”

In her presentation, Noor — the daughter of Pakistani immigrants — discussed how her upbringing and the examples of her family taught her the importance of respect and civility. Noor was inspired by the women in her family, especially her journalist mother and her grandmother, who promoted liberal arts higher education for women in Pakistan. She was raised to respect people from all walks of life, even when faced with people who were afraid of differences in others. “I learned to maintain respect and civility in all interactions, because my parents taught me that someone else’s ignorance does not warrant any disrespect,” she said.

Noor also discussed how she has seen the importance of respect in the medical field, especially in her work as a student volunteer at the university’s Interprofessional Community Clinic (ICC), which provides accessible health care for the underserved and underinsured of Lake County. “At the ICC, we see respect and civility transcend all barriers of language and literacy,” Noor said.

Other presenters during the speaker series included Kenneth Kessler, PhD, associate professor of psychology in the College of Health Professions; Jesus Ruiz, MAEd, community relations and special projects officer in the RFU Office of Student Affairs and Inclusion; Ateequr Rahman, PhD, MBA, associate professor of pharmacy practice in the College of Pharmacy; Sally Madden, MBA, SPHR, executive director of human resources; and Mary Tell, MSHRM, SPHR, assistant director of human resources. ■



*Hunter Launer, CMS '20*

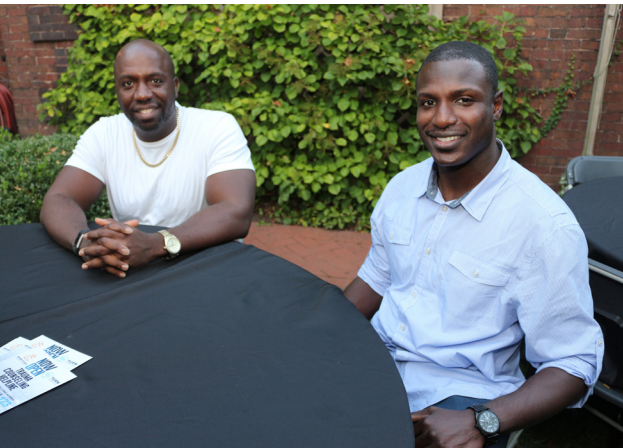


*Noor Siddiqi, CMS '20*

*Cover image: Hunter Launer during his presentation on October 19.*

# DOCs Mentoring Program

On September 23, medical students and physicians from the Chicago area gathered at the residence of Gregory Primus, MD, in Hyde Park to launch the third year of the Doctors of Color (DOCs) Mentoring Program. The program, a joint effort of Chicago Medical School and the Cook County Physicians Program, was created to promote and support medical students from under-represented minority groups. Students are matched with physician mentors who are alumni of Chicago-area medical schools, including CMS, Loyola, University of Chicago, University of Illinois at Chicago, Rush, and Northwestern. The students and their alumni mentors build and maintain professional networks and mentorship opportunities. ■







# FRANKLIN

Congratulations to the 2017-2018 Franklin Fellows!

The twelve RFU students selected for this year's Franklin Fellowship Program include seven CMS students: **Joana Abed Elahad**, CMS '21; **Leah Bolden**, CMS '21; **Samuel Bunting**, CMS '21; **Sarah Laudon**, CMS '21; **Maritza Martin**, CMS '21; **Emily Stone**, CMS '21; and **Janki Thakkar**, CMS '21. Over the next year, each student will develop and implement a service project to improve the health of local populations in need. ■



*Joana Abed Elahad*



*Leah Bolden*



*Samuel Bunting*



# FELLOWS



*Sarah Laudon*



*Maritza Martin*



*Emily Stone*



*Janki Thakkar*



## Symposium: “The Gender Divide in Healthcare Professions”

The university held its second annual Women in Science and Healthcare Symposium on September 27, inviting interprofessional panels of faculty, alumni, and invited speakers to address the theme “The Gender Divide in Healthcare Professions.” The symposium focused on the origin of the gender divide in health care, the consequences such a divide has on healthcare quality and interprofessional collaboration, and ways both men and women can improve gender diversity in health care.

Keynote speaker Ann Bell, PhD, assistant professor of sociology at the University of Delaware, opened the program with a presentation on gender and its impact on interprofessional collaboration. She discussed the historical context of the gender divide in healthcare careers, including the stereotypes that women are caregivers and nurturers while men are leaders and influencers. Even though the number of women in healthcare fields is increasing, there is still a gendered split, as fields like nursing and pediatrics are predominately female while fields like surgery and medical leadership roles are predominately

male. Women also face pay gaps across all medical fields.

Dr. Bell also participated in a panel discussion on “The Roots and Consequences of Gender Division” along with RFU Provost Wendy Rheault, PT, PhD, FASAHP, FNAP; Sarah Garber, PhD, associate dean for assessment and director of interprofessional studies; **Ariel Katz**, MD, assistant professor of medicine and education director of clinical skills; and panel moderator Monica Cummings, DMin, director for training and educational programs in the RFU Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

**Roberta Glick**, MD '78, lecturer of surgery and former learning community mentor, participated in another panel discussion, along with Patrick Knott, PhD, PA-C, professor of physician assistant studies, CHP; Qeena Woodard, DPM, assistant professor of surgery, SCPM; and panel moderator **Lise Eliot**, PhD, professor of neuroscience. The members of this panel reflected on their own experiences and how the gender divide and gender bias had impacted

their careers.

Dr. Glick shared some of the ways she had overcome gender barriers in her field. She was the only medical student in a class of 110 to go into the highly competitive field of neurosurgery, and she became the first woman to complete Northwestern's 7-year neurosurgery residency program. She later became the first woman to become a professor of neurosurgery at Rush Medical School.

The panel members also discussed ways to overcome the gender divide, agreeing that the trend toward interprofessional, diverse teams of healthcare professionals is making a positive impact. "We are changing the face of medicine...this can only improve medical care," Dr. Glick said, recalling the diversity of gender, ethnicity, and experience she had observed in the medical class she recently mentored. "If you welcome diversity, change, and

learning new things, I think the world and medicine become a better place."

The symposium concluded with a presentation by William Cody, RN, PhD, an independent consultant in nursing, health care and leadership, who discussed "Gender Segregation in Health Professions: Culture, Privilege & Progress."

For those who were unable to attend the symposium, an audio recording of the program is available for each session. Please send a request via email to [nichole.ulibbarri@rosalindfranklin.edu](mailto:nichole.ulibbarri@rosalindfranklin.edu). ■

*Below: Dr. Lise Eliot introduces the symposium; Dr. Katz participates in the panel "The Roots and Consequences of Gender Division"; Roberta Glick, Md '78 (far right), discusses how gender bias affected her education and career path. Opposite: Dr. Ann Bell delivers the keynote presentation.*



# Innovation and Research Park

## Ceremonial Groundbreaking

On September 8, RFU faculty, staff, students, and alumni, as well as state and local officials, gathered in Rhoades Auditorium for a ceremonial groundbreaking to celebrate the university's planned construction of the new Innovation and Research Park. The research park, scheduled to begin construction this spring, represents the university's ongoing commitment to collaboration, research, and discovery. ■





The groundbreaking ceremony included a “fly through” video that gave viewers a virtual tour of the research park. View the tour at <http://rfu.ms/irpvideo>



*Above: Architectural renderings of the Innovation and Research Park.*

*Right: Rosalind Franklin, RFU trustee and niece of the university's namesake; Frank H. Mynard, chair of the RFU Board of Trustees; Ronald Kaplan, PhD, RFU executive vice president for research and CMS vice dean for research; Dr. K. Michael Welch, president and CEO of RFU; and Leon Rockingham Jr., mayor of North Chicago, participate in a symbolic groundbreaking at the end of the ceremony.*

## RFU Fest

CMS alumni, students, and leadership attended the annual RFU Fest, held September 7-9, 2017. The event included presentations and lectures on campus, the virtual groundbreaking ceremony for the Innovation and Research Park, alumni reunions, and an Awards Dinner and Dance at the Radisson Blu Aqua Hotel in Chicago.

Susan Fuchs, MD '82, was awarded the 2017 Chicago Medical School Distinguished Alumnus Award for her service, leadership, teaching, scholarship and dedication in providing pediatric care (*see page 14*).

The Awards Dinner also recognized faculty and students who had received awards earlier in the year at the Faculty Awards Ceremony and the Student Leadership Awards. ■





Above, clockwise from top left: CMS Class of 1967 50th Reunion; CMS Class of 1977 40th Reunion; Martin Cooper, MD '67, with Dr. Record; CMS Class of 1992 25th Reunion. Below: CMS alumni with the 2016-17 Franklin Fellows. Opposite page, from left: Student leadership representing the Interprofessional Community Clinic; Rosalind Franklin, RFU trustee and niece of the university's namesake, with 2016-17 Franklin Fellows.



# Susan Fuchs, MD '82

## 2017 CMS Distinguished Alumnus

**Susan Fuchs**, MD '82, is associate director of the Division of Pediatric Emergency Medicine at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago (formerly Children's Memorial Hospital). A longtime attending physician in the hospital's Emergency Department, she works in the same capacity at Central DuPage Hospital in Winfield.

Board certified in pediatrics and pediatric emergency medicine, Dr. Fuchs completed a pediatric internship and residency at the former Michael Reese Hospital and Medical Center in Chicago, followed by a fellowship in pediatric emergency care at Children's Memorial. She was

attending physician in the Emergency Department at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh from 1987 to 1996, during which time she also held faculty appointments at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. She was named professor at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine in 2005.

Service, leadership, and teaching have been hallmarks of Dr. Fuchs' career. She has taught paramedic education, advanced trauma life support and pediatric advanced life support. She has served on advisory boards and chaired committees for the Illinois Department of Public Health, Illinois College of Emergency Physicians, and American Academy of Pediatrics. Since 2001, she has been a member of the Board of Directors for the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs. She has held numerous administrative positions, including with the Department of Health and Human Services, the Food and Drug Administration, and the American Board of Pediatrics. She has served as Lurie's designated EMS medical director for Chicago North EMS System since 2003.

Working on behalf of Illinois Emergency Medical Services for Children, Dr. Fuchs helped establish prehospital pediatric protocols and criteria to assure that emergency departments throughout the state are equipped to care for children. She has offered pediatric emergency training around the world.

Dr. Fuchs has a prodigious track record of scholarship. She has authored or coauthored 36 peer-reviewed journal articles and 85 editorials, reviews, books, chapters and commentaries, in addition to many other abstracts and instructional materials. She has served for nearly 20 years on editorial boards and as editor of important academic texts, including *The Pediatric Emergency Medicine Resource* and *Pediatric Education for Prehospital Professionals*.

A national and international lecturer, Dr. Fuchs has been widely recognized for her work. She is the recipient of many state and national awards, most recently the James Seidel Distinguished Service Award from the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Meritorious Service Award from the Illinois College of Emergency Physicians. She is a Distinguished Alumni of Rockford College, Rockford, IL. ■



*Dr. Fuchs with award presenter Franklin D. Pratt, MD '81, MPHTM, and James Record, MD, JD, FACP, dean of CMS.*

# Body in Balance Health Fair

Outreach for Health (O4H) – an interprofessional student organization whose mission is to provide health care and health education to Lake County families – hosted the Body in Balance Health Fair on October 28 at Foss Park Community Center in North Chicago. The students partnered with the Interprofessional Clinic Initiative and the Baldwin Institute to organize the event, which was the university’s third annual interprofessional health fair. **Christiana Santiago**, CMS '20, O4H president, coordinated the organizational efforts for the health fair.

More than 100 students, faculty, faculty clinicians, and staff from RFU and the RFU Health Clinics provided individuals from North Chicago, Waukegan, and other surrounding communities with health screenings, including vital signs readings, flu vaccinations, cholesterol and triglyceride levels, glucose screening, foot inspections, and gait and balance screens. Volunteers also educated families about common health problems and preventative measures, providing informational materials on topics like diabetes, nutrition, hypertension, and

exercise.

Outreach for Health hosts monthly clinic screenings at various locations around Waukegan and North Chicago, screening patients for risk factors for preventable chronic diseases like obesity, diabetes, and heart disease. The group also provides health education, encouraging lifestyle changes that can reduce the risk for these diseases. ■

*Right: Christiana Santiago, CMS '20, president of Outreach for Health, with Leon Rockingham Jr., mayor of North Chicago. Below: More than 100 volunteers from medicine, podiatry, physical therapy, and pharmacy programs participated in the health fair.*



# Alumni Give Back

In recent months, several CMS alumni have visited RFU to give lectures, share their personal experiences, and give career guidance and advice to medical students. We appreciate the many ways alumni give back to the CMS community.

## Dr. Susan Tucker

**Susan E. Tucker**, MD '12, visited RFU at the invitation of the Pediatrics Interest Group and the RFU chapter of Phi Delta Epsilon, the national medical school student fraternity, to share insights on how to succeed in medical school and residency. Dr. Tucker is a third-year fellow in Pediatric Endocrinology at the University of Chicago Children's Hospital. She completed her residency at the Cleveland Clinic.



## Dr. Jerrold Leikin's Grand Rounds

**Jerrold Leikin**, MD '80, clinical professor of medicine at CMS and Director of Medical Toxicology at NorthShore University HealthSystems, gave a medical grand rounds lecture on January 10 titled "Opioid Addiction: The Maturation of a Toxic Epidemic." He discussed the history of the opioid crisis, describing how the epidemic has changed over the past ten years, and explained potential solutions. Drug overdose is the leading cause of accidental death in the United States, with 52,404 lethal drug overdoses in 2015.



## Dr. David Feinberg — "Prescription for Excellence in Leadership"

David Feinberg, MD '89, MBA, President and CEO of Geisinger Health System, one of the nation's largest integrated healthcare systems, took part in the capstone experience of the university's annual Prescription for Excellence in Leadership Certificate Program. Participating via Skype from Pennsylvania, Dr. Feinberg fielded questions from students representing all five RFU colleges and schools. He spoke about the leadership lessons he has learned on his trajectory to being named one of the top three of Modern Healthcare magazine's 2017 list of the 50 Most Influential Physician Executives and Leaders.



## Operation M.E.D.S.

Many CMS alumni from different medical specialties came to the university in January to participate in the 10th Annual Operation M.E.D.S. (Medical students Exploring Different Specialties), a speed networking and mentoring event designed to help students learn about the various career opportunities available to them. Alumni were grouped at tables by specialty, including emergency medicine, diagnostic radiology, neurology, psychiatry, general surgery, plastic surgery, internal medicine, family medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, pathology, and anesthesiology. Students rotated from table to table to learn about each specialty.

Participating alumni included **Eugene Saltzberg, MD '72**; **Mitchell Goldflies, MD '75**; **Donald R. Waxler, MD '77**; **Oleh Paly, MD '84**; **Sharyl E. Balkin, MD '85**; **Eric Sloan, MD '85**; **Joyce Chams, MD '89**; **Nicola Charlton, MD '89**; **Joshua Loew, MD '89**; **James S. Spitz, MD '89**; **Kenneth Wind, MD '92**; **Kimberly A. Forsey, MD '93**; **Sam Speron, MD '94**; **Sachin Kapur, MD '05**; and **Erik He, MD '13**.



1. Joyce Chams, MD '89.
2. James S. Spitz, MD '89.
3. Sharyl E. Balkin, MD '85 (far right).
4. Mitchell Goldflies, MD '75.
5. Erik He, MD '13.

**Dr. Gary Silverman**

**Gary Silverman, MD '77**, visited RFU as a guest speaker invited by the Anesthesiology Interest Group. Dr. Silverman spoke to students about the field of anesthesiology and airway monitoring.

*Left: Dr. Silverman with Kyle Behrens, CMS '21, chair of the Anesthesiology Interest Group. Below: Dr. Silverman's presentation.*



**Dr. Martin Lanoff**

**Martin Lanoff, MD '85**, came to the university as a guest speaker, meeting with members of the Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Interest Group. Dr. Lanoff is a PM&R specialist whose interests include rehabilitation of industrial and sports related injuries, musculoskeletal disorders, electrodiagnosis, and spinal injection procedures. He is also a clinical assistant professor in CMS's Department of Clinical Sciences.



## Dr. Nicole Gentile — IMG Subspecialty Dinner & Panel

**Nicole Gentile**, MD '11, participated in the annual Internal Medicine Subspecialty Dinner & Panel, an event organized and hosted by the Internal Medicine Interest Group (IMG). Dr. Gentile, a gastroenterologist, was joined by CMS faculty and other local physicians specializing in cardiology, oncology, pulmonary and critical care, rheumatology, and geriatrics. The panelists answered questions about internal medicine residencies, subspecialty fellowships, and life as an attending. ■



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# Alumni Profiles: “Chronicles of Their Grit” Exhibit

As part of the university’s Black History Month celebration, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and the Division of Institutional Advancement created an exhibit called “Chronicles of Their Grit” that profiled exceptional healthcare professionals whose achievements advanced the fields of medicine and science. Several CMS alumni were included in the exhibit, and their profiles are reprinted here.

## **Fannie Emanuel, MD 1915**

*Physician and Community Leader*

*1871–1934*

A stand-out high school student in her native Cincinnati, Dr. Emanuel moved to Chicago in 1887, initially taking coursework in social sciences at the Chicago School of Civics and Philanthropy, now part of the University of Chicago. Prior to her medical career, Dr. Emanuel and her husband, William, created and oversaw the Emanuel House, a neighborhood center that offered classes and free health care, housed a boys’ and girls’ club, and provided day care for working families.



Dr. Emanuel enrolled in Jenner Medical College in 1908 at age 37. Jenner Medical College would eventually merge with the Chicago Hospital-College of Medicine, which would become Chicago Medical School in 1919. Dr. Emanuel went on to be one of the first female graduates of the Chicago Hospital-College of Medicine, one of nine students composing the Class of 1915. The 1920 census listed Dr. Emanuel as a general practice physician. She was part of an interprofessional family, as her husband and three sons had careers as chiropodists, an early term for podiatric physician.

Dr. Emanuel was a vocal proponent of vocational training within the community, and she was affiliated with a number of civic organizations such as the Young Women’s Christian Association, the Benevolent Order of Elks, and a known social entity in Chicago prior to her death in 1934. In 2013, Chicago Medical School named one of the houses in the House and Learning Community Program in her honor.

## **Ira Maclinn Mason, MD 1916, PhD**

*Physician*

*b. 1889*

Dr. Mason was born in Birmingham, Alabama in 1889. He attended Phillips Academy boarding school in Massachusetts, and completed his undergraduate education at Yale. He taught at Talladega College, Tuskegee Institute and Howard University before enrolling in Chicago Hospital-College of Medicine (now Chicago Medical School) in 1912.

Following his graduation, Dr. Mason spent two years in France, earning his PhD in languages. He then returned to Chicago to intern at Provident Hospital in 1919–20. Meanwhile he set up private practice in Bronzeville. His two sons, Raymond and Ira Jr., usually accompanied him on his house calls into the night when they were in

grammar school to protect him from the dangerous streets. In the late 1960s Dr. Mason retired because of a severe beating he sustained on the street while making house calls.

Dr. Mason was always writing, researching, studying and composing. An outstanding pianist, he composed many songs and piano pieces in the classical European style and the African-American Tradition. He was a literary essayist and published frequently for many years in the African-American press, especially in the newspapers the *St. Louis American* and the *Chicago Defender*.

### **Agnes Lattimer, MD '54**

*Physician, Educator and Administrator*  
1928–2018

Dr. Lattimer was inspired by her kind and thoughtful family physician in Memphis to pursue a career in medicine. Valedictorian of her high school class, she went to Fisk University on a full tuition scholarship and graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in biology. She obtained acceptance to Meharry Medical College, but could not afford to attend without a full scholarship. Devastated, she moved to Chicago and worked as a housekeeper to save money for her education. Dr. Lattimer gained admittance to Chicago Medical School, as well as Northwestern University's and University of Chicago's medical schools.



She enrolled in CMS in 1950, one of two women and the only African-American in her class, and encountered prejudice from the start, enduring almost daily questions about her place as a woman in medical school. Later, during her clinical clerkship, several white patients refused to allow her to examine them, jeopardizing her ability to fulfill her clinical requirements. In a show of solidarity, her fellow students refused to examine their patients until the attending physicians convinced the patients to comply. In 1954, Dr. Lattimer became one of the first female African-American graduates of CMS.

Alternating between rounds at private Michael Reese Hospital and public Cook County Hospital, she observed unequal treatment of rich and poor patients. She vowed to “change the negative and patronizing attitudes.”

As director of Ambulatory Pediatrics at Michael Reese Hospital, she revamped the patient care delivery system, bringing efficiency and greater access to care, despite resistance from some healthcare workers. She was made chair of the Division of Ambulatory Pediatrics at Cook County Hospital in 1971, and later director at Fantus Health Center of Cook County, which treated 400,000 patients a year. Through her efforts in the 1970s, the city of Chicago passed housing ordinances to protect tenants and placed health centers in African-American neighborhoods. In 1986 she became Cook County Hospital's medical director and introduced a 'Philosophy of Caring' for the patients that emphasized focusing on competence and compassion in the delivery of medical care.

Dr. Lattimer was widely recognized for her exemplary career. Her honors included awards from her alma mater; in 1968, she received the Elsie and Phillip Sang Excellence in Teaching Award, and in 1971 she became the first female and first African-American recipient of the Chicago Medical School Distinguished Alumnus Award. ■

# Summer Research Poster Session

Students from Chicago Medical School, the College of Pharmacy, and Dr. William M. Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine displayed their research efforts during the Summer Research Poster Session held October 18. 120 students, including 78 CMS students, presented a total of 100 posters.

Each student participating in the poster session worked with a faculty mentor to develop a project proposal and spent the summer of 2017 conducting research and documenting their findings. The poster session provided students the opportunity to share the results of their research projects with the university community.

The following CMS students received awards during this year's event:

### *First place:*

**Sabina Cashin**, CMS '20: "Adhesion and Thrombus Formation of Cold-Stored Platelets in Whole Blood Using an In-Vitro Transfusion Model"

Mentor: Karin Hoffmeister, MD, senior investigator at the Blood Research Institute, BloodCenter of Wisconsin

### *Second place:*

**Emily Fioramonti**, CMS '20: "Successful Pregnancy after Integral Treatment for Recurrent Pregnancy Loss Due to Autoimmunity, Thrombophilia and Immune Dysregulation"

Mentor: **Joanne Kwak-Kim**, MD, MPH, professor of obstetrics and gynecology ■

*Prize winners Emily Fioramonti and Sabina Cashin, both CMS '20, with Ron Kaplan, PhD, vice dean for research, and Robert Marr, PhD, assistant dean for research.*



## AOA President Visits for Medical Grand Rounds



On February 13, Eve J. Higginbotham, SM, MD, visited RFU to meet with students and give a special medical grand rounds presentation. Dr. Higginbotham is the current president of the Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) Medical Honor Society and the Vice Dean for Inclusion and Diversity at the University of Pennsylvania's Perelman School of Medicine. Her lecture, "Building on a Foundation of Professionalism" focused on the importance of professionalism and inclusion, and how physicians can display those traits in their daily work.

Dr. Higginbotham discussed the history of professionalism in medical school and the medical profession, including the foundation of the AOA Medical Honor Society in 1902. The mission of the AOA is to encourage "high ideals of thought and action" medical schools and practice. The society was founded on the core values of service, professionalism, and leadership – ideals that are relevant today in fostering diversity and inclusion in the medical field.

Dr. Higginbotham emphasized that making the medical field more inclusive to all people is a change that must begin with today's medical students, since they will become the next generation of physicians. She encouraged students to always remember their core values, and to take every opportunity to create change whenever they encountered a situation that did not match up with those values. "It begins with you," she told students. "You are the drivers of health care in the future."

Before her presentation, Dr. Higginbotham had lunch with a group of medical students to answer questions about diversity and professionalism and share her experiences in medicine.

This event was organized by the Clinical Sciences Department and the CMS Office of Diversity. Dr. Higginbotham is one of several grand rounds speakers this year to give a presentation focusing on diversity and inclusion in medicine. Other upcoming speakers on the subject include Terry Mason, MD, chief operating officer of the Cook County Department of Health (April 11); Evelyn Lewis, MD, MA, FAAFP, DABDA, chief medical officer of Warrior Centric Health (April 25); Erik Whitaker, MD, MPH, executive vice president for strategic affiliations and associate dean for community-based research at the University of Chicago Medical Center (May 9); and Eliseo Perez-Stable, MD, director of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (May 23). ■



# School & Department News

## Awards & Accomplishments



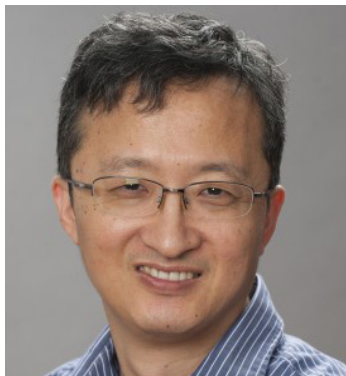
**Sarah Afzal**, CMS '19, was elected in June to the position of District VI Medical Student Assistant District Representative for 2017-2018 by the American Academy of Pediatrics Section on Pediatric Trainees. This position is designed as a two-year position, where Ms. Afzal

will become the Medical Student District Representative for 2018-2019.

This opportunity provides a wealth of great rewards that include networking with AAP leadership, attendance at the AAP National Conference and Exhibition, and the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of medical students, residents and fellowship trainees through the AAP resolution process.

**Tonya Dixon**, RN, MSN, MBA, MPH, assistant professor of medicine, was elected and completed training as a peer reviewer for the Higher Learning Commission.

**Hongkyun Kim**, PhD, associate professor of cell biology and anatomy, received a four-year, \$1.3 million grant from the National Institutes of Health for his research study, "A genetic study of BK channel trafficking and regulation in *C. elegans*."



**Connor Kriz**, CMS '20, was awarded the Looking to the Future Scholarship from the Society for Thoracic Surgeons (STS). The purpose of the scholarship program is to underwrite expenses for attendance at the STS Annual Meeting and to provide mentorship to aspiring cardiothoracic surgeons.



**Gustavo Martinez**, PhD, assistant professor of microbiology and immunology, received a four-year, \$792,000 grant from the American Cancer Society for his research study, "Transcriptional and Epigenetic Regulation of T Cell Exhaustion."

**Jordan Newman**, CMS '21 was awarded the Leo Richey Memorial Scholarship for the 2017-2018 academic year, in acknowledgment of his academic success and contribution to the university community and medical profession.



**Karen O'Mara**, DO, associate professor of medicine, was named a lead instructor for the National Association of Emergency Medical Services Educators.

# School & Department News

The CMS chapter of the medical fraternity **Phi Delta Epsilon** was recognized internationally and has been awarded the Chapter Excellence Award above all other medical chapters for three years in a row. The CMS members raised over \$1000 for the Children's Miracle Network, and in the fall of 2017 they logged 223 hours of community service.



**Hector Rasgado-Flores, PhD**, associate professor of physiology and biophysics, received a 2018 International Opportunity Program Award from the American Physiological Society to implement a physiology-related course in a foreign country. The course, entitled "Music

and Science," will offer music students and physiology students the opportunity to work together to learn how music is made and how it affects the brain. The course, which is also sponsored by the Mexican Physiological Society, will take place in Colima, Mexico.

Dr. Rasgado-Flores was also nominated by the Mexican State Department (*Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores*) for the 2017 Mexican National Prize in Sciences.

**Jessica Taylor, MSN, APN**, clinical education specialist for emergency medicine, was appointed to the Institute of Emergency Nursing Education Advisory Council of the Emergency Nurses Association.



**Janice H. Urban, PhD**, professor and chair of physiology and biophysics, received an NIH grant for a new study titled "Maternal Experience and Stress Resilience in Females."

**Nicholas Welsh, CMS '18**, was elected in June to the position of District VI Medical Student District Representative for 2017-2018 by the American Academy of Pediatrics Section on Pediatric Trainees, after serving as the Medical Student Assistant District Representative in 2016-2017.



This opportunity provides a wealth of great rewards that include networking with AAP leadership, attendance at the AAP National Conference and Exhibition, and the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of medical students, residents and fellowship trainees through the AAP resolution process.



Congratulations to **Marina Wolf, MD**, professor and chair of neuroscience, who was named a 2017 Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) for ground-breaking work on the role of glutamate receptors and synaptic plasticity in addiction, and for leadership contributions to

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teaching, academia, and professional societies. Dr. Wolf was presented with an official certificate and a rosette pin representing science and engineering during the 2018 AAAS Annual Meeting on February 17 in Austin, Texas.

Election as a AAAS Fellow is an honor bestowed upon AAAS members by their peers in recognition of scientifically or socially distinguished efforts to advance science or its applications.

Dr. Wolf also received the 2017 Chicago Society for Neuroscience Career Achievement Award. She is also the president-elect of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology; she will serve in 2019.

Several CMS students, all Class of 2021, have been elected to serve on the 2018 ICI Executive Officer Board:

- Majed Abbas**, President
- Akshay Patel**, Vice-President
- Janki Thakkar**, Executive Officer of the Interprofessional Panel
- Emil Joseph**, Executive Officer of Medical Informatics
- Alyssa Kessel**, Executive Officer of Clinical Operations
- Kyle Behrens**, Executive Officer of Community Outreach
- Emilia Norlin**, Executive Officer of Public Relations
- Tamar Garcia**, Executive Officer of Multicultural Affairs
- Zahra Abbas**, Executive Officer of Research
- Alicia Edwards**, Executive Officer of Finance

The members of the Executive Officer Board are the primary leaders of the Interprofessional Community Clinic (ICC). They help coordinate efforts between the university, RFU Health Clinics, the DeWitt C. Baldwin Institute, and ICC students.



## Presentations & Publications



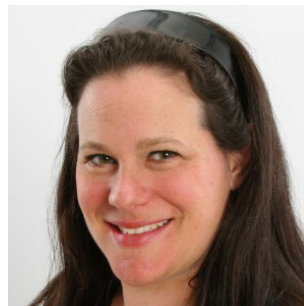
**Bharat Agrawal**, MD, FACP, associate professor of medicine, gave a medical grand rounds lecture on October 25 on “Hemolytic Anemias.” He discussed how physicians can detect

hemolysis during the physical examination and the underlying cause and treatments of hemolysis. Dr. Agrawal is Chief of Hematology and Oncology at the James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center.

**Amishi Bajaj**, CMS '18, was first author on a book chapter on pituitary tumors titled “Radiation Therapy in Tumors of the Pituitary Gland,” which was published in the book *Radiation Oncology*. She wrote this book chapter during her research year, when she conducted oncology research at Loyola University Chicago.



Amishi also presented a poster titled “Patterns of Care in Malignant Pleural Mesothelioma at Academic Versus Non-Academic Centers” at the American Society of Radiation Oncology Annual Meeting in September in San Diego, CA, where her poster was ranked in the Top 20 in the lung category.



**Melissa Bernstein**, PhD, RD, LD, assistant professor of nutrition, authored the article “Nutritional Needs of the Older Adult,” published in the Nov. 4 issue of *Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Clinics of North America*.

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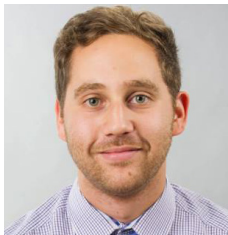
**Laurie Broutman, MD, FACP**, Director of Clinical Skills Remediation and course director of Patient Safety, presented a poster called “Teaching Second Year Medical Students to Prevent Diagnostic Errors via Online Virtual Patient Modules” at the Diagnostic Errors in Medicine conference, held in October by the Society to Improve Diagnosis in Medicine.



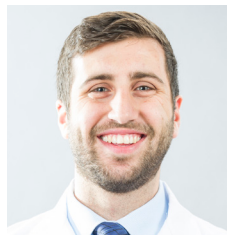
**Lise Eliot, PhD**, professor of neuroscience, published an article on women in tech titled “The Dearth of Women in Tech is Nothing to Do with Testosterone,” which addressed the myth that testosterone and innate brain differences somehow affect women’s interest and ability in STEM fields.



**Chad Cogan, CMS '19; Salvatore Aiello, CMS '20; and Michelle Perez, CMS '19**, published a paper, “Real-time Ventricular Fibrillation Amplitude – Spectral Area Analysis to Guide Timing of Shock Delivery Improves Defibrillation Efficacy During Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation in Swine” in the October 2017 issue of *Circulation*, the journal of the American Heart Association.



Chad Cogan



Salvatore Aiello



Michelle Perez

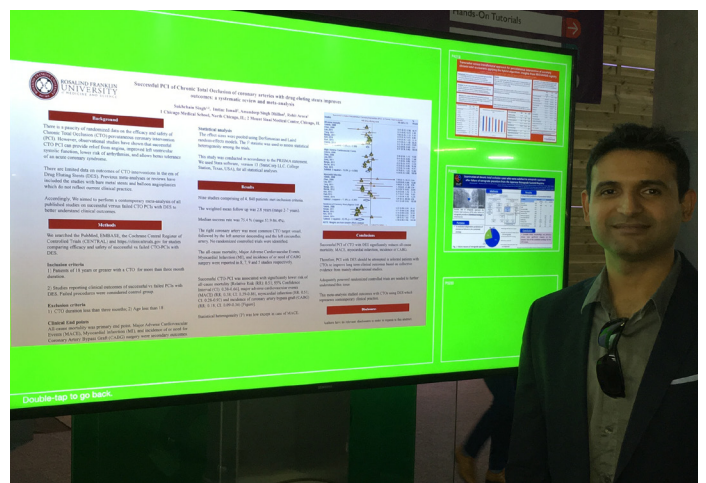
**Brittany Hunter, MD '17**, along with **Maureen Benjamins, PhD**, adjunct assistant professor of medicine, published a paper titled “Racial Disparities in Heart Disease Mortality in the 50 Largest U.S. Cities” in the October 2017 issue of the *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*. The study was conducted while Dr. Hunter was a summer intern at the Sinai Urban Health Institute.

**Imtiaz Ismail, MD**, a CMS cardiology fellow, presented a poster titled “Successful PCI of Chronic Total Occlusion of Coronary Arteries with Drug Eluting Stents Improves Outcomes: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis” at the 2017 European Society of Cardiology annual meeting in Barcelona, Spain. Dr. Ismail’s poster was chosen as one of the top four in the best poster category.

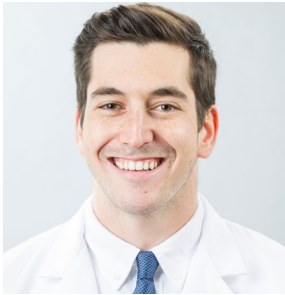


**Eugene Dimitrov, MD, PhD**, assistant professor of physiology and biophysics, graduate student **Tanvi Marketkar**, and **Matthew Andreoli, CMS '19**, co-authored the article “Contribution of Amygdala CRF Neurons to Chronic Pain,” published in the

December 2017 issue of *Experimental Neurology*.



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Joshua Kogan

**Joshua Kogan** and **Lindsey Hendricks**, both CMS '20, were invited to present their research project, "Self-reported Levels of Agitation" at the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine's Midwest Regional Conference, where they won an award for the best oral presentation. Their presentation was based on a study completed by the students at Mt. Sinai Medical Center with **Leslie Zun**, MD, MBA, professor and chair of emergency medicine and clerkship director for emergency medicine.



Lindsey Hendricks

**Donghee Kim**, PhD, professor of physiology and biophysics, published an article titled "Endocytosis: Another Pathway in Gq-TASK Signaling" in the October issue of the *Journal of Physiology*.



Dr. Kumar

**Binod Kumar**, PhD, senior research associate, and **Asha Kumari**, PhD, postdoctoral research associate, both in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, published an article titled "The emerging influenza virus threat: status and new prospects for its therapy and control" in the journal *Archives of Virology*.



Dr. Kumari

**James O'Donnell**, PhD, MS, assistant professor of cellular and molecular pharmacology, co-led a presentation, "Forensic Analysis of Adverse Drug Events and Litigation Claims in OB/GYN," at the American Society for Reproductive Immunology Annual Meeting in Chicago.



Dr. O'Donnell was also elected Secretary of the Great Lakes Chapter of the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (GLC-ASPET).



**Daniel Peterson**, PhD, professor of neuroscience, was the invited keynote speaker at the annual meeting of the International Society for Stereology and Image Analysis, held in September in Kaiserslautern, Germany.

**Jeejabai Radhakrishnan**, PhD, research assistant professor of medicine and Director of Molecular Laboratory in the Resuscitation Institute, published an article called "PlasmaCytochromeC Detection Using a Highly Sensitive Electrochemiluminescence Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay" in the December 13, 2017, issue of *Biomarker Insights*, published by SAGE Journals. **Alvin Baetiong**, MS, bioengineering technician; **Eunjung Choi**, MS; **Sharon Smite**, MS; **Lorissa Lamoureux**, MS; and **Raúl J**



Dr. Radhakrishnan



Dr. Gazmuri

# School & Department News

**Gazmuri**, MD, PhD, FCCM, professor of medicine – all from the university’s Resuscitation Institute – also contributed to the article.

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**Steven Tran**, CMS '19, published a paper titled “Outcomes of Pneumatic Retinopexy Performed by Vitreoretinal Fellows” in the November 2017 issue of *Retina*.

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**Janice H. Urban**, PhD, professor and chair of physiology and biophysics, and **J. Amiel Rosenkranz**, PhD, associate professor of cellular and molecular pharmacology (CMP), co-authored a paper titled “Sex- and estrus-dependent differences in rat basolateral amygdala,” published in the Nov. 1, 2017, issue of the *Journal of Neuroscience*. Contributors to the paper also include: **Shannon Blume**, PhD '15 (CMP); **Mari Freedberg**, MD '17; **Jaime Vantrease**, PhD, postdoctoral research fellow (CMP); **Ronny Chan**, CMS '18; Mallika Padival, research assistant (CMP); Matthew J. Record (CMP); and Gina DeJoseph, senior research associate, physiology and biophysics.

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*Dr. Urban*



*Dr. Rosenkranz*

**Nutan Vaidya**, MD, Senior Associate Dean for Academic Learning Environment and professor of neuroscience and

psychiatry and behavioral science, and **Diane Bridges**, PhD, MSN, RN, CCM, Associate Dean of Interprofessional and Distance Education and associate professor of Medical Education, Innovation, and Humanities, were panelists at Learn, Serve, Lead 2017: The AAMC Annual Meeting, held in Boston in November. They participated in a panel titled “Interprofessional Education: Quest to Meet and Exceed the Accreditation Requirements.”



*Dr. Vaidya*



*Dr. Bridges*

## Alumni News

**Richard Hellman**, MD '66, FACP, FACE, received the Kansas City Medical Society’s Lifetime Achievement Award, the society’s highest award. “Dr. Hellman has been a leader and innovator in the practice of diabetes care and also in the areas of patient safety and performance measurement both locally and internationally,” said Joshua M.V. Mammen, 2017 Medical Society president. “He has helped advance medical knowledge through service with national and international organizations and publications.”

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**David Boyer**, MD '72, presented a report on top-line results from the phase 2b DEL MAR clinical trial of ALG1001 (Luminate, Allegro) in patients with centrally involved diabetic macular edema at the American Society of Retina Specialists (ASRS) 2017 Annual Meeting.

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**James E. Fanale**, MD '76, was appointed interim president and CEO of Care New England.

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Waste Not OC Coalition, an organization co-founded by **Eric Handler**, MD '76, received congressional recognition for "notable contributions and meaningful progress made toward ending hunger in Orange County." Dr. Handler serves as Orange County (CA) public health officer.

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In September, **Cary B. Strom**, MD '80, was elected to the RFU Board of Trustees. Dr. Strom is the current President of the CMS Alumni Association Board of Governors, and he has been honored as a Distinguished Alumnus. He currently heads the Tower Digestive Health Medical Group in Beverly Hills, California, and is an associate clinical professor of medicine at the UCLA Geffen School of Medicine.

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**Lawrence Ginsberg**, MD '82, visited RFU on December 1 to deliver a lecture titled "Destitute to Distinguished: The Life of an Academic Radiologist." Dr. Ginsberg's presentation was part of a joint grand rounds series hosted by the Department of Clinical Sciences and the Department of Medical Education, Innovation and Humanities.

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**Steven Schechter**, MD '87, authored the third edition of *Understanding Parkinson's Disease: A Self Help Guide*, published by Addicus Books.

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**Hal Skopicki**, MD '88, PhD '90, has been appointed chief of cardiology in the Department of Medicine and deputy director of operations for the Stony Brook University Heart Institute in Stony Brook, NY.

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**Douglas McMullin**, MD '88, was appointed assistant professor of family and preventative medicine in clinical sciences at Chicago Medical School.

**Bruce Zagelbaum**, MD '88, co-authored the article "Peripheral Awareness and Visual Reaction Time in Professional Football Players in the National Football League," published in the August 2017 issue of the *Journal of Optometry and Visual Performance*.

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**Joyce Chams**, MD '89, a gynecologist and obstetrician, visited RFU in September as a guest speaker at a general meeting of the university's Women's Health Interest Group (WHIG).

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**Cesar Arguelles**, MD '95, was appointed associate program director of the Primary Care Sports Medicine Fellowship Program at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine.

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**Rishi N. Sud**, MD '98, was named chief medical officer of Esse Health in St. Louis, MO.

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**Darrion Mitchell**, PhD '09, MD '11, received a K12 Clinical Scientist Career Development Program Award from the National Institutes of Health. The K12 is awarded "to provide support for newly trained clinicians appointed by an institution for development of independent research skills and experience in a fundamental science within the framework of an interdisciplinary research and development program."

.....

**Caitlin Zebley**, MD '12, a third-year clinical fellow at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, TN, was accepted into the inaugural class of the hospital's Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. Dr. Zebley is one of only 12 individuals accepted into the program.

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## Events & Activities

CMS students from all four classes volunteered at the **Chicago Marathon** on October 8, 2017. The students worked at the medical aid stations located every one to two miles along the marathon route. *(Photos provided by Chantal Creighton, CMS '21)*



*Student volunteers were ready at 5:45 a.m.!*



*Medical students from each CMS class (2021, 2020, 2019, and 2018) volunteered at Tent 16 at Mile 21.*

The CMS Office of Academic Learning Environment hosted **“Leveling the Playing Field,”** a series of luncheons, presentations, and workshops aimed at providing support and resources to students from groups underrepresented in medicine. Presenters included **Mildred M.G. Olivier, MD '88**, Assistant Dean for Diversity and Learning Environment; **Nutan Vaidya, MD**, Senior Associate Dean for Academic Learning Environment; **DiAna Elcan, MA**, Dean’s Office

Chief of Staff; and **Hector Rasgado-Flores, PhD**, associate professor of physiology and biophysics.



The CMS House Council hosting their annual **Open Mic Night** on September 26. During this wellness event, students were invited to take a break from their studies to hear classmates sing, play instruments, and perform standup comedy. *(Photos provided by the CMS House Council)* ■





*CMS students, faculty, and administration attended the 2017 National Medical Fellowships (NMF) Chicago Champions of Health Awards on November 13. The awards honor individuals who have made a lasting impact on healthcare and diversity in healthcare. The event brings together medical students, physicians, healthcare leaders, philanthropic and community leaders, and the deans and diversity officers of medical schools in the midwest.*

**We want to hear from you!**

**To submit information or news for upcoming issues, contact  
Candice Kosanke at [candicekosanke@rosalindfranklin.edu](mailto:candicekosanke@rosalindfranklin.edu).**



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