

# **Dr. Dale Shepard** Elected Alumni Board President

Dale Shepard, MD, PhD (IM'06, H/O'09), will be the new President of the Alumni Association Board. He succeeds Conrad H. Simpfendorfer, MD, FACS (S'04, MIS'05, S/HEP'06), whose threeyear term ends in September.

Engagement is his main goal, as it was for Dr. Simpfendorfer, Dr. Shepard says.



"We've been working on expanding our database and

Dale Shepard, MD, PhD

would like to facilitate patient referrals both from and to those who have trained here," he says. "For example, I see patients who have rare tumors. They may come to me for an opinion, but they also may want to go back to where they're from for their care. Certainly, as alumni, we're aware of who trained here and the quality of that training. It's very reasonable to send patients to them. We see this as a reciprocal relationship."

Having trained in every clinical department at Cleveland Clinic while earning his medical degree from Ohio State University and also completing his residency and fellowship programs there, Dr. Shepard says he has "seen many things from many angles."

"Whatever I can do to give back, I am happy to help," he says. One way he plans to increase engagement is to remind staff

members of their identity as alumni.

"We have a lot of alumni who don't see themselves as alumni," he says. "But if you've been on the professional staff for five years or more, you are a member. Sometimes, if I walk up to alumni who have been here 17 years and talk to them, they'll say, 'No, I trained at . . . '"

He says he hopes that by making them aware they are members, no matter where they trained, they will feel moved to become involved in the Alumni organization. "We would benefit from that," he says.

Also top of mind for Dr. Shepard is Cleveland Clinic's centennial observation in 2021.

"We've been trying to see how, as alumni, we can be involved in the celebration activities as much as possible," he says. "Our members are a rich part of Cleveland Clinic's history." Dr. Shepard says he is looking forward to leading the board and creating and strengthening relationships with the Alumni Association. "I think this is a great organization with a strong core of people who are keeping things moving. We've made a lot of positive progress, and I want to make sure that continues."

Dr. Simpfendorfer, who also focused on outreach and engagement during his term as Board President, says he agrees with Dr. Shepard and hopes to see that momentum continue.

"Each time there is a new president, there is a continuation of previous challenges and goals; there is continuity," he says. "At the time I was coming in, I was trying to reach out to alumni to increase and capture as many as existed in the community, as well as those who had just graduated and were becoming alumni. We also started the Legacy Project fundraising, and I look forward to seeing the completion of our Alumni history wall as we celebrate our centennial in 2021."

Dr. Simpfendorfer says he enjoyed serving on the board over the past decade as a representative for General Surgery and as President.

A highlight of his tenure as Alumni Association Board President was the unique opportunity to present the Distinguished Alumnus Award to his father, **Conrad C. Simpfendorfer, MD** (CARD'78), in the fall of 2018, he says.

"We would like to facilitate patient referrals both from and to those who have trained here. We see this as a reciprocal relationship."

DALE SHEPARD, MD, PHD

He found that serving on the Alumni Association Board while working at Cleveland Clinic Florida helped him stay connected with his roots. "Being involved in Alumni is a blessing. I'm not only in contact with friends and family in Cleveland, but also with graduate medical education in both Cleveland and Florida. It brings together all my interests in one place, and all the friendships I've made with members and directors of specialties over the years are great fun."



The Alumni Association sincerely thanks all members whose terms are ending for their valuable service and warmly welcomes new members, whose terms begin in September:

### **President-Elect**

Incoming President-elect: Richard S. Lang, MD, MPH (TRS'80, IM'82) Advancing to President: Dale R. Shepard, MD, PhD (IM'06, H/0'09)

Vice President of Membership Incoming: Christine N. Booth, MD (ACLPTH'02) Outgoing: Pauline Kwok, MD (TRS'95, DR'00, ABI'01)

Vice President of Communications Incoming: Leo J. Pozuelo, MD (P/P'97) Outgoing: Divya Singh-Behl, MD (D'02, DS'07)

#### **Pediatrics**

Incoming: Gina M. Robinson, MD, FAAP (PD'98) Outgoing: Kadakkal R. Radhakrishnan, MD (PD'03, PDGE'06)

Colorectal Surgery Incoming: Eric Weiss, MD (CRS'94) Outgoing: Alexis L. Grucela, MD (CRS'10)

Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery Incoming: Richard Kaplon, MD (TS'99) Outgoing: Michael K. Banbury, MD, MHCDS (TS'98)

Rheumatologic and Immunologic Disease Incoming: Adam Brown, MD (RH'16, VSCL'17) Outgoing: Rochelle Rosian, MD (RH'96)

### **Behavioral Health**

Incoming: Karen Jacobs, DO (P'92) Outgoing: Leo J. Pozuelo, MD (P/P'97)

Endocrinology

Incoming: Adriana G. Ioachimescu, MD, PhD, FACE (IM'04, END'06) Outgoing: Mario Skugor, MD (END'02)

Gastroenterology Incoming: Ravi S Chittajallu, MD (IM'93, GE'96)

Outgoing: Michael R. Puff, MD (GE'89)

# Physicians Champion VeloSano

VeloSano is a year-round effort to raise funds for cancer research at Cleveland Clinic, "not just a bike ride in July," says Dale Shepard, MD, PhD. Community events for all ages take place throughout the year. The VeloSano weekend in July – this year, July 19–21 – draws thousands of riders, virtual riders, volunteers and supporters to the cause, with 100% of the dollars raised supporting research. Among those enthusiastically taking part are Cleveland Clinic alumni, some of whom shared their reasons with *Alumni Connection*:

### Tom Abelson, MD

(OTO'81), of team Region Legion rides because 100% of all funds go toward many departments conducting cancer research at Cleveland Clinic. "It's the real deal. All the money goes to the research and the people we see and know. We're giving back to the institution where we trained or worked. The other reason I ride is because there is nobody in the universe who doesn't have cancer or family or friends who have, or will have, cancer," he says, noting that he had prostate cancer 10 years



Tom Abelson, MD with Lori Posk, MD, co-captain of Region Legion and the first person to participate in VeloSano on a unicycle.

ago. "So, it touches every person. And it's a beautifully run event, the most positive of the year at Cleveland Clinic."



Beri Ridgeway, MD

### Beri Ridgeway, MD

(UG/PS'09), volunteers with VeloSano, the first time as a bike-and-bag checker. This year, she planned to volunteer at a rest stop with two of her children, ages 8 and 10, because "it is so important to teach them to look beyond themselves." "I have pretty small kids, so training would be hard, but I feel very committed to these events. This one exemplifies so many things about

coming together as a team for a fantastic cause that benefits patients and caregivers. Plus, individuals within my own OB-GYN Institute have received grants from VeloSano. We see our own patients benefiting from what we learned in our research. The results and the process are amazing, with everyone coming together and working as a team."

### Ellen Rosenquist, MD (Staff'11) and husband, Richard Rosenquist, MD (Staff'11), both ride on team Sleep Cycles.

"We love to bike, and we believe in the cause," Dr. Ellen Rosenquist says. "I rode in charity events in college at the University of Minnesota, but my husband had never done a group ride. We rode 50 miles last year and had so much fun because the event is so well-organized and safe that we said, 'Let's challenge ourselves and do 100 miles.' My stepson,



Ellen Rosenquist, MD and Richard Rosenquist, MD

who's in his 20s, will bike with us this year. I think we all have to do our part, whether we ride or volunteer, because of the difference it can make to our patients and the people we know."

**Dale Shepard, MD, PhD** (IM'06, H/O'09), of team Taussig Cyclotrons rides because "I spend most of my time in clinic seeing patients who don't have good treatment options. The only way to come up with options is through research. Also, VeloSano is a great way to engage the community. The first



Dale Shepard, MD, PhD

three years, we raised about \$12 million, and we have turned that into an additional \$12 million in research grants that we wouldn't have brought in otherwise. The entire weekend of the event is just tremendous energy, with everyone coming together for a common cause. Patients and families often donate to my ride with the realization that they are helping." ADVERTISEMENT

# VeloSano donations multiplied through additional research funding.

It's been said that it's impossible to give more than 100 percent, but VeloSano riders do just that.

In its first five years, VeloSano (Latin for "swift cure") has raised more than \$17 million, 100 percent of which goes to fund lifesaving cancer research at Cleveland Clinic.

However, the impact does not stop there. Cleveland Clinic cancer researchers compete for funds raised by VeloSano, with the seed money going to proposals with the greatest promise. And those projects often go on to earn research grants from the National Institutes of Health and elsewhere.

The \$5 million raised in the first two years of VeloSano alone has generated an additional \$14 million in research grants – a 280 percent return. A single 116,000 VeloSano award earned additional external funding of 1.84 million.

"Federal funding for research is extremely competitive," said Dale Shepard, MD, Director of Taussig Cancer Institute Phase 1 and Sarcoma Programs. "The seed money from VeloSano gives these projects an advantage in that competition."

"One in two men and one in three women will be diagnosed with cancer. As one of the top cancer centers in the U.S., Cleveland Clinic has the responsibility and opportunity to impact patients around the world by conducting lifesaving research," says Brian Bolwell, MD, Chairman of Taussig Cancer Institute, Cleveland Clinic Cancer Center.

VeloSano's main fundraising event – "Bike to cure" weekend – was July 19-21. Held annually, it attracts participants from all over the world, including many Cleveland Clinic researchers who raise money on their own.

There are many ways to get involved in VeloSano. Ride or volunteer during "Bike to cure" weekend, fundraise on your own or donate at any time. To learn more, visit velosano.org.

VeloSano By The Numbers YEARS 1-5

> Over **7,500** Riders

More than **4,600** Volunteers

Over **100,000** Donations

More than **\$17M** Raised

100% supporting more than 115 cancer research projects



# 100% mpactful

Every dollar supports lifesaving cancer research at Cleveland Clinic.

V E L O S A N O Cleveland Clinic 100% for the cure

Ride. Volunteer. Fundraise. Donate. Learn more at velosano.org

100% made possible by our partners:





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# Health Education Campus Advances Learning and Patient Care

ase Western Reserve University and Cleveland Clinic launched a new era of health education on April 9 in dedicating the centerpiece of their new campus, the Sheila and Eric Samson Pavilion.

"The dedication of the Sheila and Eric Samson Pavilion demonstrates the extraordinary value that the spirit of philanthropy brings to new generations of students. The Health Education Campus will have a major impact on advancing medical education and patient care," said Tom Mihaljevic, MD, Cleveland Clinic CEO and President. "Its unique curricula and design will inspire healthcare professionals to be members of interdisciplinary teams and promote lifelong learning."

The four-story, 477,000-square-foot building opened in the spring to 2,200 students from Case Western Reserve's dental, nursing, and medical schools, including those from Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine. Students from the university's social work school also will attend the Samson Pavilion for shared coursework, but will continue to take the majority of their classes in their own newly renovated building on Case Western Reserve's main campus.

As designed by London architects Foster + Partners, perhaps the most striking part of the Samson Pavilion is the 80-foot-high, 27,000-square-foot central courtyard newly named the Delos M. Cosgrove Courtyard through a generous gift from the former Chair of Cleveland Clinic's Board of Directors, Robert E. Rich Jr., and his wife, Mindy. Dr. Cosgrove is the past CEO and President of Cleveland Clinic and currently serves as an executive adviser.

The Samson Pavilion expressly encourages interaction, surrounded by each floor's open walkways and a wide staircase at every corner. It also features a dedicated shared space for students from all programs to study and relax.

"We know that team-based care is best for patients and providers alike, yet universities have continued to prepare students largely apart from one another," said Case Western Reserve President Barbara R. Snyder. "Thanks to the extraordinary support of the Samsons, our original donors from the Mt. Sinai Health Care and Cleveland foundations, and so many others, students now will learn together in a truly inspiring structure."

In recent years, the two institutions have collaborated to develop shared courses and other experiences in which students from all of the health programs learn the fundamentals of teambased care while also practicing skills together in simulated settings and at actual clinical sites. Those efforts will expand significantly in the new space, as the university and Lerner College are in the midst of a national search for an academic leader for interprofessional programs.

This shared learning will benefit from the Samson Pavilion's extensive technology features, as well.

"One of the greatest advantages of this project is that we have been able to integrate our best thinking around the deeply human elements of healthcare with the latest digital breakthroughs in education," President Snyder said. "As a result, our graduates will begin their careers uniquely prepared to contribute to their rapidly evolving fields."

Leading-edge technology includes:

- Two distinct digital anatomy programs, one using mixed reality, and the other virtual;
- Simulation programs for flight nursing and ultrasound training;
- Visualization tables that allow students to see anatomic structures in precise detail and explore clinical cases with classmates; and
- Large LED wireless touch screens in classrooms that allow students to interact with high-resolution images and easily participate in videoconferences from around the world.

# Health Education Center

Continued from page 7



David T. and Lindsay J. Morgenthaler Technology Bar. Rendering courtesy of Foster + Partners

"We are developing augmented and virtual reality to allow students to learn, comprehend, and understand the nuances of both normal human anatomy and disease states in a totally different manner than traditional cadaveric dissection allows," Dr. Mihaljevic said.

Across the street from the Samson Pavilion is the second building of the Health Education Campus, a three-story, 132,000-square-foot dental clinic. The university's existing clinic is about half the size and difficult to find within a collection of taller buildings on the university's main campus. Even so, it welcomes about 19,000 patients a year, about 60 percent

of whom are Cleveland residents.

The new space offers frontage on the well-traveled Chester Avenue, ample space for parking, and curbside dropoff for patients. It also puts "The dedication of the Sheila and Eric Samson Pavilion demonstrates the extraordinary value that the spirit of philanthropy brings to new generations of students."

### TOM MIHALJEVIC, MD

dental faculty and students closer to residents of the Hough neighborhood, allowing for increased engagement at nearby schools and community centers. Cleveland Clinic designed an intergenerational park that was dedicated near that building on April 30. The park provides the neighborhood with a safe area for walking and playing.

Involvement with adjacent communities is a priority for

all of the health programs, as well as for the university's social work program at the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences.

Students already engage with Cleveland and surrounding communities through programs like the Student-Run Health Clinic, dental sealants and health screenings in city schools, and care for the homeless. These and other new activities will be located on the first floor of the Samson Pavilion and will include the Stefanski Family Center for Community Health Education, made possible by a \$5 million commitment from the Third Federal Foundation and the Marc A. and Rhonda L. Stefanski Foundation.

The first floor also will include a conference center featuring a 7,000-square-foot auditorium and 4,800-squarefoot lecture hall, where students from all programs will gather for interprofessional lessons, featured speakers and demonstrations. The conference center is part of an \$8 million commitment to the campus by the Jack, Joseph, and Morton Mandel Foundation.

In 2012, the Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation and Cleveland Foundation each made \$10 million lead gifts for what was then a Case Western Reserve medical education building project. After the university and Cleveland Clinic later announced their partnership, leaders of both foundations agreed to move their commitments to the new project.

Case Western Reserve and Cleveland Clinic equally shared fundraising throughout the project, and supporters responded generously. To date, the two institutions together have raised nearly \$275 million for the \$515 million project, and active joint fundraising continues.

# The Future of Health Education

We know team-based health care is best for patients.

Yet for more than a century, future doctors, nurses and dentists have learned in completely separate buildings.

This spring, Case Western Reserve University and Cleveland Clinic bring all of these students together in a 477,000-squarefoot space dedicated to educational innovation.

Not only will they learn about their specific fields in the same building, but they also will share classes as part of a common interprofessional curriculum developed over nearly a decade of collaboration across campuses. More, they will be surrounded with stateof-the-future technology, from simulated in-air care to digital anatomy lessons including holograms.

With the Health Education Campus, we are preparing tomorrow's health care leaders.



- 26 classrooms, all equipped with state-of-the-future technology
- 7,000 -square-foot auditorium
  - 56 small group rooms to encourage
  - interaction and collaboration
- 4,800 -square-foot lecture hall
  - 2 two-story classrooms, with floor-to-ceiling video walls
  - 20 exam rooms and 4 acutecare spaces in the Medical Simulation Center

#### **Inside the Samson Pavilion**

Renowned London architects Foster + Partners designed the main building of the Health Education Campus—the Sheila and Eric Samson Pavilion—expressly to encourage interaction among students, faculty and staff, starting with its 80-foot high central atrium.

### At the Dental Clinic

A 132,000-square-foot dental clinic is the second new building of the Health Education Campus. Located across the street from the Samson Pavilion, it is twice the size of the university's existing clinic, which provides care for 19,000 patients a year—including 11,000 Cleveland residents—at rates 40 to 60 percent lower than traditional dentists. Designed by DLR Group/Westlake Reed Loskosky, the three-story space includes a spacious parking lot, as well as a patient drop-off area adjacent to the building.



# LANDMARK STUDY: CARDIAC DEVICE REDUCES INFECTIONS

A global research trial led by **Khaldoun Tarakji, MD, MPH** (**IM'04, CARD'09, CARD/E'11**) and **Bruce Wilkoff, MD (Staff'86)** found that using an absorbable, antibiotic-eluting envelope when implanting cardiac devices such as pacemakers and defibrillators can reduce the rate of major infections by 40 percent.

The WRAP-IT trial enrolled nearly 7,000 patients and was conducted at 181 centers in 25 countries. "This was one of the largest trials in device history," says Dr. Tarakji.



Illustration from the *New England Journal* of Medicine, "Antibacterial Envelope to Prevent Cardiac Implantable Device Infection," lead author Khaldoun G. Tarakji, MD, MPH, 380:1895-1905, May 16, 2019(C), Massachusetts Medical Society. Reprinted with permission.

The research was presented on March 17 at the American College of Cardiology's 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Session as a late breaking clinical trial and simultaneously published in the New England Journal of Medicine. It was also presented on March 18 at the European Heart Rhythm Association 2019 Congress.

### Reducing the risk of infection Each year, about

1.5 million patients

worldwide receive cardiac implantable electronic devices. While the devices, used to correct abnormal heart rhythms, are safe, there is a risk of infection, especially after device replacements or other secondary procedures such as pocket revisions, lead changes and upgrades.

"While the risk of major infections is low, when they do occur, they can be devastating for patients, resulting in invasive procedures including device and lead removal or extraction, prolonged hospital stays and potentially death," says Dr. Tarakji, Associate Section Head of Cardiac Electrophysiology at Cleveland Clinic and lead author of the study. "Other than the use of antibiotics right before the device procedures, this is the first intervention proven to reduce the risk of infection in a randomized clinical trial of this magnitude."

The envelope is made of absorbable mesh encasing the defibrillator or pacemaker and is designed to stabilize the



Khaldoun Tarakji, MD

device when implanted in the body. It is coated with minocycline and rifampin, antibiotics that are released continuously into the device pocket over a minimum of seven days. The envelope is fully absorbed in approximately nine weeks.

The trial started in January 2015 and ended in July 2017, with a one-year follow-up concluding in 2018, Dr. Tarakji says. The 6,983 patients enrolled underwent device replacement or upgrades "or what we call secondary procedures, or a

primary cardiac resynchronization therapy defibrillator device implantation," he says. These types of procedures traditionally carry increased risk of infection. To assure generalizability,

"While the risk of major infections is low, when they do occur, they can be devastating for patients."

### KHALDOUN TARAKJI, MD

each site's enrollment was limited to 100 patients, he says.

The trial was randomized, with half the patients receiving the envelope and the others not. All patients received the current standard treatment of preventive antibiotics administered prior to the operation to minimize infection risks. In the control group, 1.2 percent (42 patients) developed a major infection, compared with 0.7 percent (25 patients) in the envelope group – a reduction of 40 percent over a course of one year of follow up. Pocket infections were reduced by 61%.

"The infection rates in our study were, overall, very low compared with other trials, and yet, we found the envelope was still able to provide a significant infection reduction benefit to patients," says Dr. Wilkoff, Director of Cardiac Pacing and Tachyarrhythmia devices at Cleveland Clinic and senior author

#### Continued from page 10

on the study. "Given the seriousness of cardiac device infections, we strive to bring infection rates to as close to zero as possible."

The trial showed no increase in complication rates when the envelope was used. The envelope, manufactured by Medtronic, was approved by the FDA in 2013 for use in cardiac implantable electronic devices.

#### Long-term effects on research

Dr. Tarakji says the size of the trial and the data generated will be important to advancing research in the field for years to come.

"We may never have the opportunity again to study this many patients in a similar trial," he says. "There will be a lot to come out of this data.

"This has been a great story that started from clinical observation of patients referred to Cleveland Clinic for

device and lead extraction for infection. We built a registry and published about their presentation, management and outcomes, highlighting the significant morbidity and mortality associated with this complication. This was only possible because of the expertise available at the Cleveland Clinic with our extraction center in the section of electrophysiology and collaboration with our colleagues in infectious disease, cardiothoracic surgery, anesthesia and imaging and the leadership and expertise of Dr. Bruce Wilkoff."

Dr. Wilkoff and Dr. Tarakji are paid advisors for Medtronic, which funded the study. Cleveland Clinic Coordinating Center for Clinical Research participated in protocol development for the study, managed the data monitoring committee and provided independent validation of the trial results.



Like many of your peers who trained at Cleveland Clinic, you may want to support the education of future generations of physicians and caregivers. A gift in your will or trust can help you meet this goal while allowing you to retain control of your assets during your lifetime.

### Sample Bequest Language

"I give and bequeath to The Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, Ohio, (the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_%) to support ."

For more information on making a bequest, please contact Mindy Stroh, Senior Director, Alumni Relations, at **216.444.6534**, or **strohm@ccf.org**.

# SAVE THE DATE

# 2019 Sones/Favaloro Scientific Program and Awards

Intercontinental Hotel, Cleveland, OH

On **Friday, Nov. 8, 2019**, Cleveland Clinic's Sydell and Arnold Miller Heart and Vascular Institute will recognize William Sheldon, MD, Fawzy Estafanous, MD, Ken Ouriel MD, and Jess Young, MD as the 2019 Sones/Favaloro award recipients for their outstanding contributions to the field of cardiovascular anesthesia, medicine, and surgery.

3:30-6:30 p.m. - Scientific Program

**7:00 p.m.** – Reception + Awards Ceremony Formal invitation to follow.



# CLEVELAND CLINIC-TRAINED PHYSICIANS HONORED

During its annual Spring Reception, the Alumni Association recognized two outstanding future physicians who trained at Cleveland Clinic. **Dr. Charlie Lin, MD (PGY-2, Internal Medicine)** received the Graduate Level 1 Achievement Award, and **Charlotte Horne, MD, (PGY-6, General Surgery**), was presented with the Dr. William and Roxanna Michener Award for the Development of Leadership, Medical Humanities and Art.

**Conrad H. Simpfendorfer, MD, FACS (S'04, MIS'05, S/HEP'06)**, outgoing Alumni Association Board President, and **Dale Shepard, MD, PhD (IM'06, H/O'09)**, the Board's President Elect, introduced the awards presentation.

"Tonight, we will honor the future of our association by recognizing both the GL-1 and Michener Award recipients," Dr. Simpfendorfer said. "We also want to take this time to congratulate the 2019 Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine graduating class."

Dr. Shepard noted that the Alumni Association has a longstanding tradition of recognizing outstanding alumni. "The association also recognizes and supports future members of our prestigious network of Cleveland Clinic-trained physicians and scientists. We demonstrate our belief in, and recognition of, excellence in our residents by presenting the Annual GL-1 Award, which was established in 1987."

Dr. Lin, who was nominated by many of his colleagues, became the 32nd annual GL-1 Award Recipient. **Cory Chevalier**, **MD**, (IM'14, HPC'15), Director of Wellness and Director of the Clinical Educator Track, nominated Dr. Lin, writing that his character "is one of amazing hard work, thoroughness, attention to every detail and excellent interpersonal communication." He added that Dr. Lin has been praised by families and patients, nurses and staff physicians, who have described him as "a role model to his colleagues" with "a mature level of empathy," and "the most diligent and conscientious resident I have ever worked with."

Dr. Shepard noted that the Michener Award goes to "an individual whose peers and teachers identify, in him or her, those attributes that embody true leadership qualities. The awardee has demonstrated a commitment to learning, superior communication abilities, and a mastery of medical skills. The awardee also embodies the courage, integrity and compassion that represent the highest ideals of clinical medicine."

Dr. Horne will continue her work with laparoscopic surgery in developing nations. Earlier that day, she presented to the Alumni Board on her "inspiring work in Awka, Nigeria," he said. "Thanks to this grant, she will be returning, and the funds will help supply the necessary anesthetic medications, IV fluids, and surgical supplies for a subsequent mission. Her goal is to provide the hospital with reusable products, where possible, to be both cost-effective and environmentally friendly."

Since 2009, Dr. Simpfendorfer said, the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine has granted 343 degrees, and as of 2019, 52 percent of graduates were matched with historic or present *U.S News & World Report* Top 10 Hospitals. Seven alumni now are on staff at Cleveland Clinic. ■



Conrad Simpfendorfer, MD, FACS, center, with outstanding future physicians Charlotte Horne, MD, and Charlie Lin, MD

# cclcm class of 2010

# Events Honor Lerner College Class of 2019, Reveal Residency Matches



On May 18, the 32 members of Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine's 2019 graduating class, their family and friends gathered at the InterContinental Hotel for a special celebration of the students' hard work and accomplishments.

Executive Dean J. Harry Isaacson, MD, welcomed the students and shared caregiver stories demonstrating compassion and the value of human connection in their professional lives.

"Compassion also seems to prevent doctor burnout, a condition that affects almost half of U.S. physicians," he said. "Evidence shows that connecting with patients makes physicians happier and more fulfilled." He advised the students to consider the opportunities they will have to affect the lives of patients, other residents, faculty, nurses and other healthcare providers as they embark on their residencies.

He acknowledged the 175th anniversary of the Case Western

Reserve University School of Medicine and recognized Dean Pamela Davis, MD, PhD, who was awarded the Medal of Excellence in Health Science Innovation, the university's highest honor. He also introduced a video message from philanthropist Norma Lerner, who could not be there in person because she was attending a family graduation. A major gift from Al and Norma Lerner established the college in 2002 with the purpose of educating physician scientists who could provide patient care as well as conduct research.

The Lerner College of Medicine departs from traditional programs by eliminating class rankings, grades and lecturebased classes, and by encouraging student interactions with patients in their first year of school. It also promotes empathy and a human touch in caring for patients.

Tom Mihaljevic, MD, CEO and President of Cleveland Clinic, congratulated the students and reminded them that they always will have jobs at Cleveland Clinic, if they so choose. "You are definitely the source of our pride and an essential part of our mission," he said. He advised them to treat each other and their patients as family.

Students Ling-Ling Lee and Jose Vega presented a thank-you book to Mrs. Lerner and Dr. Mihaljevic, and students Josephine Volovetz and Kate Ituarte presented the class gift, which established the Franco Hull Class Gift for Student Wellnessrelated Activities. The fund will support activities promoting physical and mental health while fostering community and camaraderie.

# Match Day Excitement

On Match Day a few months earlier, March 15, students learned where they would be heading for their residency programs. The top programs chosen by the students, all of whom matched, were internal medicine and emergency medicine, followed by neurosurgery and obstetrics and gynecology. All eight students who are remaining in Ohio for their residencies will train at Cleveland Clinic. (One will train at University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center his first year and then return to Cleveland Clinic for his radiology residency.)

"This is the group that's going to change the world," Dr. Isaacson told the students on Match Day. "You'll bring the best of what you learned here to wherever you are going."



# CCLCM CLASS OF



Joseph Abraham Education: BA, Grinnell College, 2013; MS, Case Western Reserve University, 2019 Residency: Research Fellowship Program, Cole Eye Institute, **Cleveland Clinic** 

Karen Fang

Education: BS,

California, 2013

Hospitals

University of Southern

Residency: Pathology-

AP & CP, University of

Washington Affiliated



**Rachael Baird** Education: BS. University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2014 Residency: Obstetrics-Gynecology, **Cleveland Clinic** 



#### **Alexander Chaitoff**

Education: BS. The Ohio State University, 2013; MPH, University of Sheffield, 2015 Residency: Medicine-Primary, Harvard/ Brigham & Women's Hospital



Education: BS, Rochester Institute of Technology, 2011 Certificate Premedical Sciences, Columbia University, 2013 Residency: Orthopaedic Surgery, University of Utah Affiliated Hospitals



Education: BS. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2014 Residency: Neurological Surgery, University of Michigan Hospital, Ann Arbor



Jennifer Hu Education: BS, University of Chicago, 2014 Residency: Medicine-Preliminary, Icahn SOM at Mount Sinai Ophthalmology, Columbia/Edward S. Harkness Eye Institute



Sahar Khan Education: BA, George Mason University, 2012; MS, Johns Hopkins University, 2014 Residency: Emergency Medicine, Christiana Care Health System



Lin Lin Education: BS, Tsinghua University, 2008; PhD, UCLA, 2014 Residency: Urology, University of California, Los Angeles, School of Medicine







## Anna Faris Education: BA. University of California

at Berkeley, 2012 Residency: Urology, University of Michigan Medical Center, Ann Arbor

### **Catherine Ituarte** Education: BS, University of Oregon,

2012 Residency: Internal Medicine, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

## Michael LaBarbera

Education: BS, University of Cincinnati, 2010; MS, Case Western Reserve University, 2014 Residency: Internal Medicine, University of Washington Affiliated Hospitals

### Aaron McBride

Education: BS, Brigham Young University, 2014 Residency: Surgery-Preliminary, Case Western/Univ Hosps Cleveland Med Ctr Radiology-Diagnostic, **Cleveland Clinic** 





### Education: BS, Carnegie Mellon University, 2013 **Residency: Family** Medicine, Cleveland Clinic Fairview Hospital

Blair Mitchell-Handlev Education: BS, Valparaiso University, 2011 Residency: Obstetrics-Gynecology, Mercy

Hospital & Medical

Center



Ling-Ling Lee



Joshua Niforatos Education: BA, Univ. of New Mexico-Main Campus, 2010 Residency: Emergency Medicine, Johns Hopkins Hospital



Kelly Shibuya Education: BS, Carnegie Mellon University, 2013 Residency: Internal Medicine, University of Hawaii





Dattanand Sudarshana Education: BS, University of California, Irvine, 2013 Residency: Neurology, University of California, San Francisco

**Tulsi Patel** 

Education: BS, Emory

Residency: Transitional,

Aventura Hospital-FL

Radiology-Diagnostic,

George Washington

University

University, 2014

**Alexander Ulintz** Education: BS. University of Dayton, 2013 Residency: Emergency Medicine, Indiana University School of Medicine

Natalie Walker Education: BS, University of Kansas, 2014 Residency: Obstetrics-Gynecology, University of Oklahoma College of Medicine

Roy Xiao Education: BA, Princeton University, 2014 Residency: Otolaryngology, Harvard/Massachusetts Eye and Ear

Erin Yamamoto Education: BA, Colorado College, 2011 Residency: Neurological Surgery, Oregon Health & Science University









# University, 2014 Residency: Orthopaedic Surgery, **Cleveland Clinic**

Education: BA, MA,

Case Western Reserve

**Michael Walters** Education: BS, Xavier University, 2014 Residency: Anesthesiology, **Cleveland Clinic** 

Allen Xu Education: BS, Rice University, 2014 Residency: Emergency Medicine. Northwell Health/Staten Island University Hospital



**Carol Swetlik** Education: BA. University of Chicago, 2012 Residency: Neurology, Cleveland Clinic



Josephine Volovetz Education: BA, Harvard College, 2014 Residency: Neurological Surgery, Cleveland Clinic





James Witten Education: BA, Cornell University College of Arts and Sciences, 2013 Residency: Thoracic Surgery, Cleveland Clinic



Jason Ya Education: BS, University of Virginia, 2010 Residency: Medicine-Preliminary, Alameda Health Sys-Highland Hosp Dermatology, University

of Washington Affiliated

Hospitals









**Ellen Romich** 

**Bob Sun** 

2014

Hospitals

Jose Vega

Education: BA,

Columbia University,

Residency: Pediatrics, University of

Washington Affiliated

Education: BS, University of Pittsburgh, 2014 Residency: Internal Medicine, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania

# MEDINA HOSPITAL TURNS 75 IN OCTOBER



From a private residence in 1944 to an 86,000-square-foot modern hospital in 2019, Medina Hospital has seen a great deal of change. In October, Cleveland Clinic Medina Hospital will celebrate 75 years of serving Medina County.

The original hospital building was the home of the Theodore Weidner family. In 1936, the family's youngest son had a serious illness requiring round-the-clock medical care, and Mr. Weidner vowed that if his son recovered, he would sell their house for conversion into a hospital. That year, a group of Medina citizens helped his pledge become a reality by starting a fundraising campaign to buy and convert the home.

Medina Community Hospital opened in 1944 with 20,000 square feet, 35 beds, eight physicians, 30 employees, dual surgical suites, one X-ray camera and an emergency room that was essentially a first-aid station.

#### Hospital expansion begins

By 1990, the city of Medina and the hospital, responding to a population boom, launched a \$22 million expansion, enlarging every department, and in 1999, the hospital completed its third major construction project, a three-phase, \$28 million, 86,000-square foot expansion.

By August 2009, when Medina Hospital joined Cleveland Clinic, it had 118 beds, 44 departments and 1,000 employees, including a 24-hour emergency department and specialized urgent care for pediatric patients. It also offered high-tech surgical and minimally invasive procedures.

#### **Medina Hospital today**

Today Medina Hospital is a modern, 148-bed hospital, still located on the corridor to the Medina community. The hospital, which in 2017 had 6,286 admissions, 25,002 emergency department patients, 8,955 surgical cases, and 609 knee and hip replacements, features the latest technology and procedures. More than 300 physicians on the medical staff cover nearly 30 areas of specialization. The hospital also has a Life Support Team and is designated as a Primary Stroke Center.

Medina Hospital also features:

- An onsite pharmacy in the lobby
- A wound center providing hyperbaric treatment capability and other advanced care
- A cardiology unit and cardiac rehabilitation center, giving post-operative care to patients in their home community In recent years, the hospital's operating rooms were

expanded and renovated to accommodate newer procedures and room for high-tech equipment, and the surgery waiting room underwent a major renovation. Space was added for specialists in its adjacent office building, where outpatient care is provided, allowing patients to recuperate at home and travel within their own community for doctor visits and therapy.

#### "The best of both worlds"

Even with so much growth over the years, the community feeling continues. Cleveland Clinic and Medina Hospital partner with

the Medina Community Recreation Center, the county parks, the City of Medina and the Medina schools. Medina Hospital also offers free health talks, clinics and events for the public.

"It really is the



Original Medina Hospital building in a former private residence.

best of both worlds at Medina Hospital, the community energy and support coupled with Cleveland Clinic, the best place to receive care anywhere and the best place to work in healthcare," says Richard Shewbridge, MD, President of Cleveland Clinic Medina Hospital. "Cleveland Clinic has made a tremendous investment in Medina Hospital since 2009, and the quality of care continues to be exceptional, year in and year out. We are delighted to celebrate 75 years of care in Medina with the community that worked so hard to start this hospital and continues to partner with us in meeting our goals for better health now and in the future."

# **ALUMNI PERSPECTIVE**

Leonard Calabrese, DO (IM'78, RH'80) Chair, History Project

# Dr. Crile, Adventurer; the First Fellows

The "From the Archives" story on Dr. George and Grace Crile's plane crash and subsequent excellent care at Indian River Medical Center reveals an amazing chapter in our heritage, especially now as Cleveland Clinic and Indian River Medical Center have reunited. What a legacy of care and caring at a time when there was little to offer in terms of modern medicine.

The question on the minds of many reading this story who are not intimate with the rich history of George Crile Sr. would likely be "specimens for what?" regarding the couple's mission in Florida. We should be reminded that George Crile Sr. not only was a famous surgeon and medical researcher but also an adventurer and scientist of the natural world in the Darwinian tradition. He was keenly interested in the comparative anatomy of animals and how their tissues, particularly endocrine organs, contributed to their evolution. In 1940, along with Doctor Quiring, the anatomist researcher at Cleveland Clinic, they published "A Record of the Body Weight and Certain Organ and Gland Weights of 3,690 Animals" in *The Ohio Journal of Science* Volume 40:219-259.

With regard to our look-back at our first Fellows – only two initially – it is amazing to realize that today, our Cleveland Clinic Alumni population of over 20,000 spans the globe, working in over 80 countries. It is equally amazing to think that it all goes back to these two physicians, Dr. Hartsock and Dr. Johnson, who started our tradition of world-class medical education.

Today, the Alumni Association is committed to preserving and displaying our rich heritage in a permanent space where all can share, remember and honor those who came before us. It is hard to believe that we are less than 1,000 days from Cleveland Clinic's centennial. Now would be a great time to make your own contribution to our illustrious history of medical education by joining the Alumni Association's Centennial Legacy Society. Your membership will support our efforts to celebrate and preserve our past while we build toward the future. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Mindy Stroh, Senior Director, Alumni Relations, at 216.444.6534, or strohm@ccf.org.

# FROM THE ARCHIVES

# DR. AND MRS. CRILE'S PLANE CRASHES IN FLORIDA APRIL 3, 1941

In the spring of 1941, Cleveland Clinic cofounder George Crile Sr. and his wife, Grace, were on an expedition in Florida. Their mission was to gather specimens for Dr. Crile's Museum of Intelligence, Power, and Personality that would open next door to the original Cleveland Clinic building later that year. They spent over a week exploring the seas and wetlands around Miami, including taking a ride on the Goodyear blimp. Their final Florida destination was the newly opened Marineland, north of Daytona Beach, after which they would catch a train back to Cleveland.

On their flight from Miami to Daytona, their plane ran into thunderstorms, and the pilots of the Eastern Airlines DC-3 struggled to keep control. After entering what Dr. Crile described as a "tornado," the plane



Grace and George Crile

went into a flat spin and crashed into a swamp about 20 miles WSW of Vero Beach, Florida. Through incredible luck, no one was killed, but both Dr. and Mrs. Crile, along with other passengers and crew, were severely injured.

When the plane did not arrive in Daytona on time, the news spread quickly. Newspapers from Cleveland, New York and Miami printed headlines of "CRILE, WIFE ON MISSING PLANE" and "AIRLINER MISSING IN GALE, DR. CRILE, 15 OTHERS 'LOST'." U.S. Army and Coast Guard planes, as well as commercial planes,



searched the area. It took them over 12 hours to locate the half-submerged plane, and hours more passed before help arrived at the crash site in the alligator- and snake-infested swamp. Rescuers transported the survivors to a 15-bed hospital on a gravel road – the Indian River Hospital in Vero Beach, Florida.

Founded in 1932 by Nurse Garnett Lundsford Radin, Indian River was the only hospital within 70 miles of

Vero Beach. She invested \$22,000 of her own money to convert a small hotel on Dixie Highway into the first hospital in Indian River County.

Dr. and Mrs. Crile were received at Indian River Hospital by Dr. J.B. Kollar, (formerly of Cleveland, he had worked with Dr. Crile before Cleveland Clinic's founding). Knowing Dr. Kollar gave the Criles great comfort in a difficult time.

# FROM THE ARCHIVES

Continued from page 17



Archival photo of Indian River Hospital

They remained at Indian River Hospital for more than a month, recovering from their injuries. During their stay, they received many visits from friends, family and professional colleagues. Their son, Cleveland Clinic general surgeon Dr. George "Barney" Crile Jr., rushed to Florida when notified of the crash and consulted with Indian River staff on the injuries of his parents and other patients at the hospital. A friend and colleague from Miami transported X-ray equipment from his hospital to Vero Beach to aid in their care.

The Criles received countless letters, cards and telegrams wishing them well. The most unusual get-well card was from Dr. Otto Glasser, head of research at Cleveland Clinic, and signed by many staff members. The message was written on a 6-foot long strip of EKG tape, the first ever EKG performed at Cleveland Clinic just a few weeks earlier. The Criles also received a letter from World War I flying ace and Eastern Airlines President Eddie Rickenbacker, wishing them well and assuring them that any expenses would be covered by the airline.

The Criles were released from Indian River Hospital on May 6, 1941. For their 33-day hospital stay, the Criles were billed a total of \$694.80 for room, care, medicine and tests. Room and care combined were billed at \$8 a day, large X-rays were \$10 each, and an oxygen tent was \$20 a day.

Mrs. Crile, ever organized, kept a list of individuals who had helped them during their Florida trip and hospital stay. Their caregivers included nurse and Indian River founder G. L. Radin, Dr. E.B. Hardee, nurse Mrs. John Black, nurse Grace Gee, and a young woman named Eunice who operated the hospital laundry. After returning to Cleveland, Mrs. Crile sent personal handwritten thank-you notes and small gifts to each one. The gifts ranged from silver cigarette boxes to subscriptions to the Cleveland Clinic Quarterly journal. Deeply appreciative, she wrote years later that the kindness and care she and her husband received during their stay at Indian River Hospital "will be forever enshrined in our memories."

On New Year's Day 2019, 78 years after the Criles' plane crashed, Indian River Medical Center was welcomed into the Cleveland Clinic Health System.

For more on this story or other Cleveland Clinic historical

information, contact the Archives at 216.488.2929, archives(a) ccf.org, or visit the Archives web page at http://portals.ccf.org/archives/.

# CLEVELAND CLINIC'S FELLOWS

Every July, Cleveland Clinic welcomes a new class of residents. This year, more than 450 new residents will participate in a tradition of graduate medical education stretching back to 1921, when Cleveland Clinic welcomed its first two residents (then known as fellows), Charles L. Hartsock MD, and William O. Johnson, MD. Cleveland Clinic founder Frank Bunts, MD,

described the fellowships as "an opportunity to the men to add to their general store of medical knowledge."

Dr. Hartsock, a native of Bedford County, Pennsylvania, came to Cleveland Clinic for a twoyear fellowship in





Fay LeFevre, MD

William O. Johnson, MD

medicine after earning his medical degree at Johns Hopkins University. This fellowship was the beginning of his 40year Cleveland Clinic career practicing internal medicine, specializing in headache and gastrointestinal disease. At his death in 1961, Dr. Hartsock was the oldest active Cleveland Clinic staff member.

Dr. Johnson, born in Winchester, Kentucky, in 1894, also was a Johns Hopkins graduate. He spent one year at Cleveland Clinic as a surgical fellow. While most of his career was in

In 1921, Cleveland Clinic welcomed its first two residents. Since then, nearly 15,000 physicians and scientists have trained there. Louisville, Kentucky, he maintained his connection to Cleveland Clinic. Dr. Johnson regularly attended alumni reunions and served as President of the Alumni Association.

He even played Clinic founder William Lower in a satirical skit at the 1926 annual meeting.

The fellowship program expanded rapidly, with more young doctors participating each year. Other notable early fellows include Fay LeFevre, MD, and Miriam Eubank, MD.

# FROM THE ARCHIVES

Continued from page 18



Dr. LeFevre, center, Chairman of the Board of Governors, meets with the Board members.

Dr. LeFevre, a Cleveland Heights native, initially planned to study architecture. By his senior year at the University of Michigan, he had decided, instead, to follow his father's footsteps and study medicine, and he went on to Western Reserve University Medical School. He went to Cleveland Clinic as a fellow in 1932. After two years there, he spent several years in independent practice, only to return in 1941 and found the Department of Peripheral Vascular Disease. In 1955, Dr. LeFevre became the first Chairman of the new Board of Governors.

Dr. Eubank was Cleveland Clinic's first female resident. After earning a medical degree at the University of Kansas (thanks in part to the encouragement of her father, also a physician), she came to Cleveland Clinic as a Special Fellow in Ophthalmology in 1937. She spent most of her career in Chicago, where she was one of the first female physicians at Evanston hospital.

From Cleveland Clinic's founding in 1921, education has been central to its mission. Starting with these fellows, nearly 15,000 physicians and scientists have trained there. Some, like Dr. Hartsock and Dr. LeFevre, began long and productive careers at Cleveland Clinic. Others, like Dr. Johnson and Dr. Eubank, used their training to elevate the level of care at other institutions around the world. All of them are part of a nearly century-long tradition of "better care of the sick, investigation into their problems, and further education of those who serve."

For more information, please contact Cleveland Clinic Archives at archives@ccf.org, or 216.448.2929.

# Cleveland Clinic Archives

*Alumni Connection's* FROM THE ARCHIVES series highlights important or interesting moments in Cleveland Clinic's history, serving as a retrospective of the institution's storied past as its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary approaches in 2021.

You are invited to submit topics for us to consider. Please contact Mindy Stroh, Senior Director, Alumni Relations, at strohm@ccf.org.



# USE IRA ASSETS FOR CHARITABLE GIVING

Retirement plans now account for 36 percent of household wealth, so assets in those plans often are used for charitable gifts. Even better, IRA gifts can be used for both current and future needs to assist your favorite nonprofit, such as Cleveland Clinic.

### **Gifts for Today**

The popular charitable IRA rollover allows individuals age 70½ and older to make gifts of up to \$100,000 annually to a nonprofit organization without having to report the IRA distribution as taxable income on federal income tax returns. Additionally, these gifts can be made toward an existing pledge with no out-of-pocket expense.

#### **Gifts for Tomorrow**

At any age, you could consider using your IRA for a charitable gift by including it in your estate plan. Transfers at death continue to qualify for the estate tax charitable deduction for the family, and they do not trigger federal tax for the nonprofit. This allows you to plan your estate wisely by leaving taxable gifts such as IRAs to charity, and other assets such as appreciated stock to loved ones.

If you would like to learn more about how your IRA assets can benefit Cleveland Clinic and your family, please contact Mindy Stroh, Senior Director, Alumni Relations, at 216.444.6534, or strohm@ccf.org.

# **INSPIRING VISIT**

William Proudfit, MD, welcomed special guests at his home in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, on May 1 – Tom Mihaljevic, MD, CEO and President of Cleveland Clinic, and Toby Cosgrove, MD, Cleveland Clinic Executive Advisor and former CEO and President.

Dr. Proudfit, who turned 105 this year, was Cleveland Clinic's second cardiology fellow and head of the Department of Clinical Cardiology from 1965 to 1974.

"There are few people who witnessed as many advances in medicine as Dr. Proudfit," Dr. Mihaljevic said in his "Connection" remarks for Cleveland Clinic caregivers. "Toby and I recently visited him to hear about the early days of cardiology and cardiac surgery at Cleveland Clinic, as we prepare for our centennial in 2021. He truly inspired us."

(Clockwise in the photo, Dr. Cosgrove, Dr. Mihaljevic and Dr. Proudfit.)



# Here's to a Great Reception!

Did you know that your Alumni Association hosts receptions at medical conferences? Or that over 1,000 of your fellow alumni participate each spring?

So far this year, the Alumni Office has partnered with many Cleveland Clinic departments to host 21 Alumni receptions around the country, including the first-ever Pediatric Anesthesia reception, as well as receptions for Colon and Rectal surgeons, Joint Replacement specialists, and, as seen in the photo below, the American Academy of Dermatology (the first for this group in over a decade!).

If you are seeking a great opportunity to network with peers in your own and other medical fields, please mark your calendar for an Alumni reception at your next conference.

Check the Alumni website for information on our upcoming events: ClevelandClinic.org/AlumniEvents



# New Cleveland Clinic Podcast Explores Empathy

"Studies in Empathy" is a new podcast on Cleveland Clinic's internal website for caregivers. Hosted by Adrienne Boissy, MD, Chief Experience Officer, the podcast explores empathy and the patient experience. The first one, posted Feb. 8, is "We all Cry Salt Water and Bleed Red," about the role of Spiritual Care at Cleveland Clinic.

The podcast highlights the role of the Spiritual Care team, which is



called on when people have questions of meaning, faith and hope in the hospital. Chaplains are an integral part of the healthcare team.

In the podcast, Amy Greene, DMin, MDiv, Director of Spiritual Care, says, "They want someone whose job it is and whose training it is, and whose vocabulary is familiar to

them to help them make sense of what's happening to them, to pray with them sometimes, or just to talk to them and listen to them while they make their own way back to courage.

"We're there to meet people where they are to help them find their way of coping."

Dr. Greene discusses empathy fatigue, the concept of selfcompassion and shares a powerful story about the courage to be and remain present when situations are difficult for patients.

"Studies in Empathy" will host a diverse group of guests to delve into the human and humane experiences in healthcare. You can learn more about all Cleveland Clinic podcasts and subscribe to "Studies in Empathy" through Apple Podcasts, Blubrry, SoundCloud, Google Play Music, Stitcher or Spotify.

If you have a significant story that's shaped your healthcare career that you would like to share, you can email PatientExperience@ccf.org.

# Authors Corner



The e-book includes firsthand accounts of 50 cardiac



catheterization cases featuring coronary anomalies and severe complications that may occur during coronary angioplasty. This comprehensive resource provides information on the origins of these complications, as well as appropriate procedures required for their management. Explanations are accompanied by over 300 videos, 165 multiple-choice questions, and 250 self-review questions.

You can find Dr. Eisenberg's book on the McGraw-Hill website at https://accesscardiology. mhmedical.com/index.aspx. ■

# Outstanding Inventors Recognized At Annual Awards Reception

On May 8, Cleveland Clinic Innovations celebrated the outstanding inventors at Cleveland Clinic at the annual Innovator Awards Reception. This event is a testament to the innovative culture at Cleveland Clinic recognizing all our active inventors and exceptional successes from the previous year. Read more about the event.

- Lifetime Achievement Award: Joe Iannotti, MD (Staff'00)
- Outstanding Achievement in Medical Device: Amit Bhatt, MD (RES/U'05, IM'08, GE'12, GEAE'13)
- Outstanding Innovation in Therapeutics & Diagnostics: Steve Shih-Lin Huang, MD, PhD
- Outstanding Innovation in Health IT: Karl West and Jeffrey Yanof, PhD
- Outstanding Innovation in Delivery Solutions:
  - Adrienne Boissy, MD (IM'03, N'06, N/I'08)
  - Kathleen Neuendorf, MD (Staff'10)
  - Amy Windover, PhD (HPSYO'04)
- · Young Innovator Award: Usman Ahmad, MD
- 2nd Annual Hickey Innovation Impact Award: Sean Nagel, MD (NS'10, NS/FS'11)

# **Cleveland Clinic:** In the News



# U.S. News Again Ranks Cleveland Clinic No. 1 in Heart Care

For the 25th year in a row, Cleveland Clinic was named No. 1 in the nation for Cardiology and Heart Surgery by U.S. News & World Report's "Best Hospitals" rankings for 2019-2020.

Since 1995, Cleveland Clinic has ranked higher in heart care than any other hospital in America. In addition, it ranked nationally in more specialties this year than last - 15 total,

including 11 specialties in the Top 10 nationwide. This includes a national ranking in Psychiatry for the first time since 2011-12.

For the 21st consecutive year, Cleveland Clinic has ranked among the Top 5 hospitals nationwide.

Statewide and regionally, Cleveland Clinic ranked No. 1 in Ohio and in the Cleveland and Akron areas. In Florida, it ranked No. 1 in the Miami-Ft. Lauderdale Metro Area.

# Please don't forget to vote!

Surveys for the annual U.S. News & World Report "Best Hospitals" ballot typically are available on Doximity between mid-February and early March. We ask that you keep Cleveland Clinic top of mind when you vote for Best Hospital ranked specialties.

There are two avenues by which physicians who are boardcertified in the United States in one or more of the ranked specialties may impact these rankings:

1. If you are a Doximity member: Log onto your Doximity profile and vote for Cleveland Clinic. Doximity profiles must be claimed in order to reserve a survey.

2. If you are not a Doximity member: Paper surveys are mailed early in the year to a random sampling of board-certified physicians in each of the specialty areas.

# Researchers Receive More than \$2 Million

Over \$2 million in grants recently were made by federal funding agencies to advance three Cleveland Clinic research projects:

#### Parkinson's

Jay Alberts, PhD, (LRI, NI) (Staff'05): A five-year, \$3 million grant from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke for his "CYClical Lower Extremity Exercise for Parkinson's Trial."

The study aims to determine whether long-term, high-intensity aerobic exercise can slow the advancement of Parkinson's disease (PD). To date, no surgical or pharmacological intervention has been effective in slowing the disease's course. This collaborative project with the University of Utah will be the first long-term investigation of the potential for aerobic exercise to arrest PD progression.

#### Glioblastoma

Justin Lathia, PhD, (LRI) (RES/SCB'09): A five-year, \$2.1 million grant from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke for his research into "Deciphering Myeloid-Derived Suppressor Cells' Function for Glioblastoma Targeting."





Justin Lathia, PhD

Jay Alberts, PhD

Ela Plow, PhD

With this new study, Dr. Lathia hopes to better understand the mechanisms of immunosuppression that enable glioblastoma (GBM) to evade traditional treatment, and to develop new therapies addressing this resistance. Rather than directly targeting tumor cells, he and his team will aim to reduce tumor growth by inhibiting immunosuppressive cells called myeloid-derived suppressor cells.

### Severe Upper Limb Hemiplegia

Ela Plow, PhD, PT (LRI) (Staff'10): A five-year, \$3.1 million grant from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Continued on page 23



# Cleveland Clinic: In the News

Continued from page 22

Development for her study of "Contralaterally Controlled Functional Electrical Stimulation Combined with Brain Stimulation for Severe Upper Limb Hemiplegia."

This grant will fund a clinical trial testing a novel therapy to restore arm and hand function in patients with upper limb paralysis after stroke. These patients are not often helped by current standard-of-care therapies, since they require significant residual movement of the hand and wrist. This project is a collaboration by Cleveland Clinic, MetroHealth System and Case Western Reserve School of Medicine.

# National Geographic Features Lerner College of Medicine

Neil Mehta, MD (IM'96, IM'97), Professor of Medicine and Associate Dean for Curricular Affairs, and James B. Young, MD (Staff'95), Professor of Medicine and Chief Academic Officer of Cleveland Clinic, were interviewed by *National Geographic* for an article titled "Digital cadavers are replacing real ones. But should they?" It was published Dec. 18, 2018.

More and more, today's medical students are learning anatomy from virtual cadavers for reasons ranging from the

cost and logistics



Neil Mehta, MD



James B. Young, MD

of handling, storing and cremating human cadavers to the educational benefits of using virtual cadavers. However, some experts question how students will learn respect and empathy absent human cadavers.

At the new Health Education Campus, opening in the spring, students will learn anatomy using virtual cadavers in addition to human cadavers in the existing anatomy lab. They already have been studying anatomy using Microsoft HoloLens, a mixed reality device, and the Lerner College of Medicine is developing a virtual reality curriculum with Zygote Medical Education.



# **Global Executive Education**



# Transform into a visionary healthcare leader

Return to **Cleveland Clinic** to begin the transformation. Spend **three days** or **one week** with successful leaders who share today's best practices in healthcare leadership. See the metrics that matter most. Network. Benchmark. Includes tours and program meals.

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# contacts

## Basem Abdelmalak, MD, FASA,

(AN'00, CC'01), was installed as the 35<sup>th</sup> President of the Society for Ambulatory Anesthesia (SAMBA) at its annual meeting in May in Austin,



Texas. SAMBA aims to lead and advance anesthesia care for outpatient, office-based and non-operating room (endoscopy, IR, bronchoscopy,

etc.) procedures

Basem Abdelmalak, MD

nationally and worldwide. Dr. Abdelmalak is a professor of anesthesiology (at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine?), as well as Director of Anesthesia for Bronchoscopic Surgery and Director of the Center for Sedation in Cleveland Clinic's Departments of General Anesthesiology and Outcomes Research. He also is President of the Society for Head and Neck Anesthesia.

Jerome L. Belinson, MD (Staff'08), retired staff and former Chairman OB/ Gyn, President of Preventive Oncology International Inc., and former CEO of Medworks Inc. has received the 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Society of Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology (ASCCP). The award is for "significant contributions to screening for pre-invasive and invasive cervical cancer."

### John Bergfeld, MD (S'67, OS'70),

was inducted to the U.S. Naval Academy Sports Medicine Legacy Wall at Annapolis, Maryland. This award recognizes former active duty members who have served as team physicians or ATCs at the U.S. Naval Academy and also have made substantial contributions in the field of sports medicine.

#### Wilma Bergfeld, MD (D'68),

received The David A. Whiting, MD Leadership and Research Award from the American Hair Research Society. The award recognizes and honors a clinician or researcher who has been a significant contributor to advancing the science and understanding of hair disorders.

**Steven Campbell, MD, PhD (U'95)**, received a Distinguished Contribution

# Two Students Awarded AMEF Scholarships

Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine students **Chan Mi Lee** (CCLCM'21) and **Bryan Naelitz (CCLCM'21)** each will receive a \$5,000 scholarship from the Academy of Medicine Education Foundation (AMEF) Board of Trustees for the 2019-2020 academic year.

A formal announcement of all awardees will appear in *Northern Ohio Physician*, a magazine published by the Academy of Medicine of Cleveland & Northern Ohio. The AMEF is the charitable component of the AMCNO. Award from the American Urological Association for sentinel research in the field of urologic St

oncology,



Steven Campbell, MD, PhD

especially in the area of renal neoplasia. **Hadley Wood, MD (U'09),** received a Presidential Citation for founding the field of translational urology and improving the quality of patient care in this new area.



Deborah Chute, MD (Staff'09), has been elected as Memberat-Large on the PRODS

(National

Pathology Program Directors) Council starting in July.

#### Margot Damaser, PhD (Staff'05),

Lerner Research Institute and Glickman Urological and Kidney Institute, won first prize and a \$200K award in a worldwide innovation contest hosted by UMass Lowell for her UroMonitor technology. The UroMonitor is a flexible, durable and biocompatible device that wirelessly transmits bladder data without catheters.

#### Baruch Fertel, MD (Staff'13),

received the Ohio American College of Emergency

Physicians 2019 Emergency Physician Leadership Award.



Baruch Fertel, MD

Robert Fox, MD (N/I'02), Vice Chair of Research for the Neurological Institute, received the 2018 F. Mason Sones, MD, Innovation Award. Dr. Fox identified an

asthma medication, ibudilast, as a potential treatment for progressive MS after it had failed in an earlier study for relapsing MS.

Cecile Foshee,

PhD (Staff'13) was



Robert Fox, MD

selected by her peers to receive the 2019 Outstanding Instructor Award from Cleveland State University's Counseling, Administration, Supervision, and Adult Learning (CASAL) Department, part of the CSU College of Education



and Human Services. Dr. Foshee teaches in the Cleveland Clinic/Cleveland State University Master of Education in

Health Professions Education program.

### John Goldblum, MD (Staff'93),

has been selected to receive the 2019 ASCP H.P. Smith Award for Distinguished Pathology Educator Award. With this honor, he will become the first-ever pathologist to win the Educator of the Year award at all the major pathology organizations.

Luis A. Guzman, MD, FACC, FSCAI

(CARD'94, CARDIN'96), a Cleveland Clinic Cardiology Research Fellow at the Department of Cardiovascular Medicine from 1991-94 and Interventional Cardiology Clinical Fellow from 1994-96, received the

# contacts Continued from page 24

2019 Mason Sones Jr. Award from the American Society of Cardiovascular Angiography and Intervention.

"It is a real honor to receive this award, but even more special since I trained in the place where Dr. Sones developed coronary angiography, the beginning of what is currently the largest modality of treatment of coronary artery disease," Dr. Guzman says. "I am very proud and thankful to Cleveland Clinic for all

my training, which certainly made a tremendous impact in my professional career."

He is a professor of medicine and the Director of the Cardiovascular Cath Lab at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Matifadza G. Hlatshwayo, MD, MPH (CCLCM'10) joined the Department of Medicine in the Division of Infectious Diseases as a clinical instructor at the Washington University School of

Medicine in St. Louis. In her practice, Dr. Hlatshwayo cares for people living with HIV and hepatitis B and C infections and serves as the lead HIV clinician, GME coordinator and OPAT supervisor at the VA Medical Center in St. Louis.

She also holds a leadership position within the medical school's Office of Inclusion and Diversity, and is involved in recruiting, retaining and mentoring

underrepresented trainees.

After graduating from Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine, Dr. Hlatshwayo completed a two-year infectious disease fellowship, a oneyear non-ACGME HIV fellowship, and a dedicated two-year STD fellowship from Washington University School of Medicine.

Continued on page 26

# Team Times Two

Identical twins, physicians Barry Peskin, MD (Staff'14) and Julian Peskin, MD (Staff'00) share a philosophy about creating a team of teams. It's about "trust. Agility. Interdependence. Remembering that everyone is vital to success," Dr. Barry Peskin says.

"One place a team of teams shines is in the operating room," Dr. Julian Peskin says. "We walk in as individuals with our own expertise, but then we come together with a shared purpose."

Born and raised in South Africa, the brothers found their way to Cleveland Clinic. Both studied gynecology. Each teaches scuba diving and has a passion for sharing the beauty of the oceans. They enjoy hiking through the national parks. And they both ride Harley-Davidson motorcycles.

Dr. Barry Peskin works at Cleveland Clinic Florida and Dr. Julian Peskin, at Cleveland Clinic Beachwood Family Health Center.

"We look so alike, people often mix the two of us up," Dr. Barry Peskin says. "However, psychologically, we are even more similar than we are alike physically. In most cases, we will like or dislike the same thing for the same reason without any conversation. We communicate nonverbally and know what each other is thinking or feeling without discussion."

Dr. Barry Peskin's area of expertise is infertility and reproductive endocrinology. "From a surgical perspective, I have focused on and developed a niche in hysteroscopic surgery, a procedure that allows us to look inside the uterus to diagnose and treat causes of abnormal bleeding."

Dr. Julian Peskin is a generalist, practicing obstetrics and gynecology. "I've delivered about 6,500 babies in my career and also run a gynecologic



Dr. Julian Peskin and Dr. Barry Peskin at Hilton Head Island

practice," he says. "I have fellowship training in menopause and perform robotic procedures. I'm the Women's Health Institute East Side DiVinci Robot instructor."

He also considers himself a champion of virtual visits. "I see patients, many women with low-risk pregnancies from the comfort of their home or work," he says. "If everything is normal at week 16, I give the patient an at-home blood pressure device and a Doppler fetal heart monitor to record before the online visit. I also see patients remotely for postoperative follow-ups for minor surgical procedures and for infertility consultations."

Both brothers unequivocally treat the Cleveland Clinic family like they do each other.

"I express appreciation to my colleagues, valuing their efforts and encouraging new ideas to improve the patient experience," Dr. Barry Peskin says. "I treat the organization as if it were my own by believing in its values of innovation, integrity, teamwork, empathy, inclusion and quality and safety."

(This information is from an article by Deborah Pritchard, Communications Manager, that originally appeared in the Office of Professional Staff Affairs Update.)

# contacts

Continued from page 25

Jihad Kaouk, MD (U'02), was nominated to the Royal College of Surgeons as an honorary Fellow.



This is a rare privilege granted to physicians of international eminence after intensive scrutiny by a convened Fellowship Committee. Dr. Kaouk was nominated for his numerous contributions

Jihad Kaouk, MD

to the field of minimally invasive surgery internationally.

## Samir Kapadia, MD (CARDIN'00),

is the new Chair of Cardiovascular Medicine. He succeeded Steven Nissen, MD. Dr. Kapadia was appointed

to Cleveland Clinic in 2003 as a staff interventional cardiologist and became head of the Invasive & Interventional



Samir Kapadia, MD

Cardiology Section. A search is underway to appoint a new Section Head for Invasive & Interventional Cardiology.

### Michael Kattan, PhD, MBA (Staff'04),

has been named the inaugural statistical editor for the prestigious journal CHEST. Dr. Kattan is Chair of



the Department of Quantitative Health Sciences in the Lerner Research Institute and a leading expert

Michael Kattan, PhD

in quantitative

approaches to medical decision making.

#### Shaheen

at Sage



Shaheen Lakhan, MD, PhD Therapeutics

in Cambridge, Massachusetts, recently received FDA approval for the first treatment for post-partum depression.

He also was honored by the American Academy of Neurology with the 2019 A.B. Baker Teacher Recognition Award. Dr. Lakhan is Executive Director of the Global Neuroscience Initiative Foundation and an adjunct professor of neuroscience at Virginia Tech.

#### Atul C. Mehta, MD, FCCP

(PULMCC'83), a pulmonologist at Cleveland Clinic, recently was recognized as a "Giant in Chest Medicine" by the American College of Chest Physicians. The nomination

came from the associate editors of the official journal of the organization, CHEST. A

gracious

Atul C. Mehta, MD

acknowledgment of Dr. Mehta's accomplishments is provided by Dr. James Stoller (STAFF'85), Cleveland Clinic Education Institute Chair, [Chest, 2019: 155(2): 254-257]. Dr. Mehta's long-term contributions to the fields of interventional pulmonology and lung transplantation made him eligible



From left, Dr. Susan Rehm, Dr. Annelies Verbon and Dr. Peter J. van der Schaar

# Alumni Reunion in Amsterdam

While attending the European Congress of Clinic Microbiology and Infectious Diseases conference in Amsterdam this April, Susan Rehm, MD, says she had the pleasure of reconnecting with Annelies Verbon, MD, PhD, and Peter van der Schaar. MD. who both were Internal Medicine residents at Cleveland Clinic in the mid-1990s:

Peter J. van der Schaar, MD (IM'95), is a gastroenterologist specializing in interventional endoscopy at St. Antonius Ziekenhuis in Utrecht.

Annelies Verbon, MD, PhD (IM'96), is the Chair of the Department of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases at Erasmus Medical Center (Rotterdam) and former Chair of the Division of Infectious Diseases in the Maastricht University Medical Center. Her research and patient care specialties focus on staphylococcus aureus carriage and infections and prosthetic device-associated infections. She also works with HIV adherence in migrants, studies adverse effects of antiretroviral therapy and participates in HIV eradication studies. In total, she has published over 115 peer reviewed papers and acted as sponsor for several PhD theses. She is President of the Dutch Association of Internists Specialized in Infectious Diseases and participates in several national guideline committees.

for this honor. Thirty-some thoracic surgeons and pulmonologists from around the world are included in this elite group.

Dr. Mehta has practiced at Cleveland Clinic for the past 37 years and takes pride in being referred to as "Cleveland Indian."

Some of his prior accolades include: Maria & Sam Miller-Master Educator of the Year, 2006, Cleveland Clinic; Clinical Educator of the Year, 2006, American Thoracic Society; Gustav Killian Centenary Award by the World Association for Bronchology &

# contacts

Continued from page 26

Interventional Pulmonology, 2014; Healthnetwork Foundation, 2017: Service Excellence Award; Edward C. Rosenow III, MD, Master F.C.C.P.- Master Teacher Honor Lecture: American College of Chest Physicians, 2017; American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin [AAPI] Distinguished Physician of the Year Award, 2018. Dr. Atul C. Mehta is an inductee of the Cleveland International Hall of Fame [2018] and holds the Buoncore Family Endowed Chair in Lung Transplantation at Cleveland Clinic.

Please read the article *Giants in Chest Medicine: Professor Atul C. Mehta, MBBS, FCCP* at https://doi. org/10.1016/j.chest.2018.10.047

### Armando Paez, MD, FACP (IM'04),



in March became Chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases at Baystate Medical Center/UMMS-

Armando Paez, MD

Baystate. He also is Director of the Fellowship Program, Division of Infectious Diseases, an assistant professor at the University of Massachusetts Medical School-Baystate, and an adjunct assistant professor at Tufts University School of Medicine.

Vinod Sahgal, MD (Staff'92), was presented the Business Excellence and Innovative Best Practices - Academia Award 2019 at the 21st Convocation of the New Delhi Institute of Management (NDIM) by the Hon. Dr. Manmohan Singh Ji, former Prime Minister of India. NDIM is considered one of the top MBA colleges in Delhi NCR, India, and was awarded "Best Industry-Linked MBA School of India" by The Associated Chambers of Commerce of India (ASSOCHAM), the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

#### Alok Shrivastava, MD (Staff'09),

Cleveland Clinic Florida, is co-chair of the scientific program of the Annual Meeting of the Indian-American Urology Association. The meeting is held in

WPSA Honors Distinguished Staff, Greets Record Number of Guests

# Share Your News

Abby Spencer,

MD (Staff'14),

received a 2019

innovation

grant from

the Alliance

Your colleagues are interested in hearing your news.

conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the American Urological Association.



Abby Spencer, MD Internal

Medicine for a project titled "Key steps for women trainees to advance through leadership development."

Roshni Sreedharan, MD (AN/ CC'15), received a Presidential Citation for

outstanding

Roshni Sreedharan, MD contributions to the Society of Critical Care Medicine.

#### Michael Steinmetz, MD (NS'05),

received a Healthnetwork Service Excellence Award. Award recipients

receive a \$10,000 donation to be applied towards their research

or clinical

activities.



Michael Steinmetz, MD

### Thomas Waters, MD (Staff'07),

Center for Emergency Medicine, received the Team Physician of the Year award from the Ohio Athletic Trainers' Association. He is the team physician for the Cleveland Indians.

Two staff members were honored at the Women's Professional Staff

InterContinental Hotel and Ballroom. A record number of guests, more

Nancy Foldvary-Schaefer, DO (Staff'96), Director of the Sleep Disorders

Center, received the 2019 WPSA Champion Award for her contributions to

the advancement, development and wellbeing of women professional staff.

She was nominated by Harneet Walia, MD (Staff'12), Reena Mehra, MD

(PULMCC'02), and Jessica Vensel Rundo, MD (CS'09), for her commitment

to mentoring, promoting and developing women staff at the Sleep Center and

Association (WPSA) Annual Meeting and Dinner on March 7 at the

than 400, attended the annual event.

#### Neurological Institute.

Laura Shoemaker, DO, Staff (IM'06, H/OPM'09), Department of Hematology and Medical Oncology, was awarded the Gita Gidwani, MD, Mid-Career Leadership Development Scholarship. The award is supported by a generous gift from Dr. Gidwani to WPSA's Legacy Fund.

WPSA President Vicki Reed, MD (Staff'03), made remarks, and Kathleen Franco, MD, MS (Staff'92), delivered the keynote address on gratitude for the many ways in which professional women make a difference at Cleveland Clinic.

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# in memoriam

John ("Jack") Paul Conomy, MD, JD (Staff'75), former Chair of Neurology, died on June 9 at the age of 80. He was born July 31, 1938, and grew up in Cleveland, where he graduated from St. Joseph High School. he also graduated cum laude from John Carroll University with a bachelor of science degree in biology and chemistry in 1960. He earned his medical degree at St. Louis University in 1964 and his law degree at Case Western Reserve University School of Law in 1992. His professional interests were general neurology, neuropathology and brain injury; health law and health policy; and institutional organization.

Dr. Conomy joined Cleveland Clinic's staff on July 1, 1975, where he served as Chairman of the Department of Neurology from then until 1990. He also was Chairman of Clinical Research Projects and the Institutional Review Committee (now IRB) from 1978-1982, and Chairman of the Neurosensory Centers Task Force. He established the Mellen Center for Multiple Sclerosis Treatment and Research and was its first Director. He resigned from Cleveland Clinic in August 1992.

Dr. Conomy is survived by his wife, Jill (nee Mushkat), children Francesca, John, Lisa and Christopher, two brothers, grandchildren, nieces and nephews. The family suggests that contributions be made to The Mellen Center at Cleveland Clinic, 1950 E. 89th St., U Building, Cleveland, OH 44195.

Rakesh Engineer, MD (Staff'01), died in his sleep on May 10. He was 49.



patients for 18 years.

Rakesh Engineer, MD of Emergency Medicine, where he worked as an accomplished physician caring for

In addition, Dr. Engineer conducted research and organized conferences to advance the practice of medicine. He completed his bachelor of science degree in 1992 and medical doctorate in 1996 from The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. He then completed post-graduate training at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, and Spectrum Health at Butterworth Hospital/Michigan State University in Grand Rapids, Michigan, He also became a Fellow of the American College of Emergency Medicine in 2004.

**Cleveland Clinic Emergency Medicine** physician and colleague Baruch Fertel, MD, says Dr. Engineer "loved teaching" and "was passionate about high-quality emergency care."

"He was a nationally known expert on evidenced-based medicine in his field and a leading expert on the use of high-sensitivity troponin in the ED for the evaluation of patients with chest pain," Dr. Fertel says, adding that for this work, Dr. Engineer was nominated

for the prestigious 2018 Martin Sones Award.

Dr. Engineer also led a popular, long-running, national emergency medicine CME course, "Emergencies in Medicine." and was very active in the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine (SAEM), having served on the SAEM Program committee and Finance committee and also having chaired the Continuous Medical Education accreditation committee.

He is survived by his wife, Nivi, and three sons.

## Marco Tulio Eugenio, MD (PMR'54,

S'45, NS'57) died at his home in San Antonio, Texas, on May 22, 2019, at the age of 92. He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Mercedes Quintero de Eugenio; daughters Doris Eugenio and Leslie Bloom and their husbands and children, sons Tony and James and their wives and children, and two sisters.

Dr. Eugenio was born May 13, 1927, in Caracas, Venezuela. His medical journey began in 1945, when, by law, any high-school graduate in Venezuela could attend medical school. After graduating and serving as a rural doctor in Venezuela for a year, he decided to continue his training in the United States.

He was accepted at Cleveland Clinic, where, despite then-limited English language skills, he began training in physical medicine and rehabilitation. He discovered a passion for neurosurgery and was accepted

into the five-year General Surgery/ Neurosurgery residency at Cleveland Clinic. He had subsequent residencies at The University of Chicago, Iowa, Venezuela and Scotland, and he later practiced in Houston and Abilene, Texas, becoming one of the first microsurgeons of his day.

A naturalized U.S. citizen, at 60, his patriotism inspired him to join the U.S. Army reserves, and he was deployed to Landstuhl, Germany, in support of Operation Desert Storm. At 65, he joined the active military, fulfilling a dream of teaching neurosurgery. He taught doctors training at the Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu for five years as a Senior Surgeon.

Athletics were important to him early in life. As a young man, he won the National Venezuelan Soccer Championship as a first-division, star goalkeeper, and he maintained a love of sports throughout his life.

### Anthony Frederick Lalli, MD

(Staff'70), died on Jan. 10 after a

long illness. surrounded by his family, at the age of 88. He is survived by his wife, Donna, daughters Cynthia and Alison, sons-



Anthony Frederick Lalli, MD

in-law John and Rick, grandchildren Olivia and Anthony, and siblings Anita, Lidia and Fred.



# in memoriam

Continued from page 28

Memorial Giving

physicians and scientists.

Alumni Relations, at 216.444.2487.



Michael Licina, MD (Staff'88), died on April 24 at age 64 after a nine-year struggle with renal cell cancer.

In 1988, Dr. Licina began his career at Cleveland Clinic in the Department of

Cardiothoracic

Anesthesiology.

was a superb

administrator

Dr. Licina

clinician, educator and

for the



Michael Licina, MD

department, serving as its Vice Chair of Operations from 2007 to 2017.

He had many academic accomplishments and numerous publications. He was a recipient of multiple clinical Teacher-of-the-Year awards in the Department of Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology over the course of his career. In recognition of Dr. Licina's professional and personal excellence, the department renamed the Clinical Fellow of the Year award after him in 2017. Dr. Licina is survived by his wife, Kelly, daughter Lauren Licina, MD (Department of Pediatrics Anesthesiology), son-in-law Daniel Wyler, MD (Department of Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology), daughter Claire Licina, RN (0B/GYN Women's Health Institute), daughter Catherine Licina, son Matthew Licina, and daughter Rachel Licina.

Giving to medical education at Cleveland Clinic in memory of a

Please be assured that your gift will help preserve the highest standards of education and training of future generations of

For more information, please call Mindy Stroh, Senior Director,

fellow alum is a meaningful way to express sympathy.

Andrea B. Magen, MD (Staff '97) died in March at age 58 after a long battle with cancer.

Dr. Magen was born in Philadelphia in 1961. She graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1982, and then attended Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University, graduating in 1986. She completed her internship in 1988 at Thomas Jefferson University, followed by a two-year postdoctoral research fellowship at the Stein Research Center at Thomas Jefferson University. Subsequently, she completed her radiology residency at Milton S. Hershey Medical Center at Pennsylvania State University Hospitals in 1994, where she was named Chief Resident in 1993.

During her



Andrea B. Magen, MD

residency, she won a prestigious second-place ribbon from the Pennsylvania Radiological Society for her work with splenic pseudotumors.

In 1997, Dr. Magen joined Cleveland Clinic's Imaging Institute staff as an abdominal imaging radiologist. At Cleveland Clinic, she enjoyed teaching residents and caring for patients from around the world. She also was an avid bicyclist, ornithologist, and world traveler during her staff years. In her later years, she fought against animal cruelty.

Illness necessitated that she end her radiology career in 2010, after 13 years of service to Cleveland Clinic.

He was born in Akron, Ohio, and graduated with a B.A. from Hiram College. He earned his medical degree and completed specialist training in radiology at the University of Chicago. He met his wife while completing his internship at the Sick Children's Hospital in Toronto.

In 1970, he joined Cleveland Clinic as Head of Clinical Radiology and developed an interest in renal radiology. With the advent of CT scanning, he investigated contrast media reactions and was among the first to suggest that adverse reactions might be compounded by doctor and patient anxiety. His books and articles on these ideas and procedures led to speaking engagements at international conferences.

Dr. Lalli enjoyed teaching residents and exchanging ideas, and his last years of work were with the Hill and Thomas Group at Hillcrest Hospital, where he followed his interest in general radiology.

# SUPPORT THE ELAINE F. DANNEFER PHD AWARD

Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine colleague Elaine F. Dannefer, PhD, died in 2016 after a brief illness. She was a foundational leader in crafting the practices and processes that have come to form the strengths and uniqueness of the distinctive culture of the Lerner College of Medicine. In appreciation of Dr. Dannefer's contributions and legacy, "The Elaine F. Dannefer PhD Award: Advancing the CCLCM Culture of Active and Collaborative Learning and Reflective Practice" was created last year, with the tremendous help and support of her husband, Dale, and daughter, Rachel.

The Elaine F. Dannefer Award is given annually to an outstanding Lerner College of Medicine faculty member who exemplifies and advances the core culture of active and collaborative learning and reflective practice. These faculty are nominated and selected based on their demonstrated commitment to working with students and other faculty to help them develop their reflective skills in their education and practice, providing useful feedback to students for their growth and development, and strengthening the college's unique environment and culture. Past recipients of The Elaine F. Dannefer PhD Award include **Julie Rish, PhD (HPSYO'10)** Assistant Professor of Medicine; **Neil Mehta, MD (IM'96, IM'97)** Professor of Medicine; and **Betul Hatipoglu, MD (Staff'08)** Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine.

We invite anyone who was enriched by Dr. Dannefer's work and life to give to The Elaine F. Dannefer PhD Award (https://give.ccf.org/Elaine-F-Dannefer-Fund) so that we can acknowledge those faculty who continue to build on the strengths of the Lerner College of Medicine and advance the principles that Dr. Dannefer so skillfully worked with us to develop. In addition to the annual award, a lectureship at CCLCM will be created in her name to showcase scholarship in the areas of portfolio assessment, assessment for learning and reflection for professional growth.

Thank you for your support of this award, which not only celebrates Dr. Dannefer's contributions, but also sustains the impact and legacy of her efforts to strengthen medical education.



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# We thank the following for providing information used in this issue:

Cleveland Clinic Archives, Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine, the Office of Professional Staff Affairs, Cleveland Clinic Corporate Communications and the Medina Hospital Foundation.



Cleveland Clinic's founders were visionaries who set out to develop an integrated group practice in which diverse specialists would be able to think and act as one. Their commitment to their work and willingness to invest their own resources guaranteed the success of the new institution.

In anticipation of Cleveland Clinic's 100th anniversary in 2021, the Centennial Legacy Society is recognizing alumni who continue the tradition of excellence by making a gift of \$5,000 or more to an alumni

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fund supporting the Power of Every One Centennial Campaign. We welcome you to join the Society and encourage colleagues and friends of the Alumni Association to do likewise. Your generous gifts enable Cleveland Clinic to better serve patients and increase the quality of training for students, residents and fellows.

If you have any questions about how to become a Centennial Legacy Society Member, please contact Mindy Stroh, Senior Director, Alumni Relations, at strohm@ccf.org or visit give.ccf.org/alumni

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