July 18, 2018

Dear Einstein Community:

When I graduated from Einstein over 35 years ago, I knew that I had received a first-rate medical education and I couldn’t wait to get started on my career as a physician and, later, a physician-scientist. I never imagined returning someday as dean of the medical school, yet now, all these years later, I’m excited to assume this position—beginning this week.

My years as a researcher and clinician have been immensely rewarding, as I’ve benefited tremendously from daily interactions with colleagues, patients, students and staff. Yet the foundation of my career was established at Einstein—and it might have taken a very different, and perhaps less satisfactory, turn if I hadn’t spent four rewarding years being educated in our Bronx community.

When I was approached about the deanship at Einstein, I had no doubt it was an opportunity that I wanted to pursue. It meant returning to an institution that I care deeply about and hold in the highest regard. I also saw it as a chance to use what I have learned over a professional lifetime and apply it in a way that will, I hope, help the College of Medicine prosper in the years ahead.

For that to happen, we’ll need to work together. In the coming weeks, I’ll reach out to as many of you as possible to hear your thoughts on the research we conduct and the education we provide at Einstein. I also look forward to hearing your ideas on how to further the Einstein-Montefiore partnership, which is so critical to our future success.

Einstein famously said “Imagination is more important than knowledge.” Personally, I’m a fan of both—and wholeheartedly support our mission, which stresses excellence in medical and graduate education, patient-centered clinical care and making major contributions to scientific research that improves human health in our communities and beyond.

That’s the ideal. And I believe it’s one that we can continue to excel at for years to come.

Gordon F. Tomaselli, M.D.
The Marilyn and Stanley M. Katz Dean
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