

September 9, 2015

Promising Future for “New” Einstein

Dear Einstein Community:

Today marks one of the most important and transformative events in Einstein’s history. Hours ago, an agreement was signed between Yeshiva University and Montefiore Health System to transfer financial and operational responsibility for the College of Medicine to Montefiore.

The agreement, which took most of this year to negotiate, transforms our 50-year affiliation with Montefiore—our University Hospital and academic medical center—from a partnership to a single institution in which the College of Medicine will function as a new 501(c)(3) that is part of Montefiore. From a historical perspective, this transition further reinforces core values that Einstein and Montefiore share, including a deeply held commitment to social justice. As you are likely aware, among the factors that led Albert Einstein to lend his name to our institution was the notion that the new medical school “will welcome students of all creeds and races.” That openness remains a hallmark of Einstein today, and also is the focus of Montefiore’s service to diverse, largely underserved populations.

Through the new entity we can more fully integrate all the complementary strengths of both institutions, building on the decades-long synergy among our educational, research and clinical enterprises. We also can capitalize on our shared, strong foundation in translational medicine, developing closer ties between Einstein research and Montefiore clinical operations to generate new bench-to-bedside discoveries that can improve human health, as we work together to pioneer treatments and models of care. Our combined strength—in education/basic and translational research and in clinical care/research—makes for an extraordinary down payment on the future. Further details will be highlighted on our home page and in a special edition of our e-newsletter, *Einstein Connection*; both will be available tomorrow.

Personal Significance

You may be wondering what this transition means for each of you. To date, nearly all of our qualified faculty, staff, students and postdocs have completed Montefiore’s onboarding process to become employees of the “new Einstein”—which will be known as Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Those who are eligible also have received offer letters from Montefiore to join the new Einstein.

First and foremost, the realignment allows for additional investments in basic and clinical research—areas where Einstein and Montefiore already excel. We will again be in a position to actively recruit faculty to bolster Einstein as a robust research enterprise. And we’ll be able to strengthen this research in significant ways to benefit patients and their communities.

From an educational standpoint, Einstein students will continue to attend a highly competitive medical school that offers tremendous benefits for all its students—medical, M.D./Ph.D. and graduate—many of whom train at Montefiore. Under the comprehensive terms of the agreement, Einstein is seeking the

authority to grant degrees (which is expected to be approved in approximately three years' time). Until then, Yeshiva University will retain its academic role as a degree-granting institution for Einstein.

Should you have any questions about the details of our transition to Montefiore, please visit our [password-protected Transition website](#), which you can access using your e-mail login information. You also can submit questions to EinsteinOnboarding@einstein.yu.edu.

A New Board and a Renewed Vision

Finally, to guide the new Einstein in its continued pursuit of its three-pronged mission of offering stellar academics, leading scientific investigations and improving health for local and global communities, a new board has been established. This reconfigured Board of Trustees includes a significant number of individuals who served as Einstein Overseers. Einstein's new Board chair, Roger Einiger, who has played a pivotal role throughout the transition process, will provide ongoing leadership. He and former chair Ruth Gottesman have had an enormously positive influence on shaping Einstein's past and future, and I look forward to working with them and our new Board members in navigating the exciting challenges and celebrating the promising achievements that lie ahead.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the vision for, and devotion to, Einstein that Dr. Steven Safyer—president and CEO of Montefiore (and Einstein class of '82)—has displayed. From the historic partnership that he and I signed in 2009 to this transformation that builds on our institutions' complementary strengths, he has demonstrated tremendous leadership. I have no doubt, in joining forces with Montefiore, that there will be many rewarding opportunities for all of us in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Allen M. Spiegel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Allen M. Spiegel, M.D.
The Marilyn and Stanley M. Katz Dean