

# Einstein Today

## Ira M. Millstein Elected Chairperson

## Groundbreaking Set For October 13

**I**ra M. Millstein, a senior partner in the international law firm of Weil, Gotshal & Manges and a renowned expert in corporate governance, was elected chairperson of the Board of Overseers of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine at the Board's meeting in June.

Michael F. Price, a pioneer in the mutual fund industry, was elected chairperson of the Board's Executive Committee, a position previously held by Mr. Millstein. (See story, page 3)



Ira M. Millstein

"I am very honored to chair the board of this distinguished institution. I hope that I can lead new endeavors that will help the College continue to train future physicians as well as to make major advancements in finding new and better treatments, cures and means of prevention for cancer, heart disease, Alzheimer's, AIDS and other devastating afflictions," Mr. Millstein said. He succeeds Robert A. Belfer, who chaired the Board from 2000 to 2004.

Mr. Millstein takes office as the Albert Einstein College of Medicine prepares to break ground this fall for its Michael F. Price Center for Genetic and Translational Medicine, which will be housed in the new Harold and Muriel Block Research Pavilion, a 201,000 square-foot biomedical research building.

Additionally, the College of Medicine is planning for its 50th Anniversary in 2005. The yearlong celebration will include the College's annual Palm Beach Gala in February, at which Mr. Millstein will be the guest of honor.

Since it first opened its doors to students in 1955, the impressive accomplishments of Einstein's scientific investigators and the excellence of its programs in basic and clinical research have been widely recognized. The College consistently ranks among the nation's leaders in basic research support from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Mr. Millstein is currently serving as *pro bono* counsel to the Board of Directors of the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation, the agency overseeing the redevelopment of lower Manhattan.

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**a**lbert Einstein College of Medicine will break ground on October 13, 2004 for its new medical research facility—the Michael F. Price Center for Genetic and Translational Medicine and the Harold and Muriel Block Research Pavilion.

Michael F. Price, recently elected chairperson of the Board of Overseers' Executive Committee, is the donor of Einstein's largest philanthropic gift to date: \$25 million. Mrs. Block's gift, valued at more than \$21 million, is the second largest donation ever received by the medical school. (A profile of Mrs. Block appears on page 3.)

The new 201,000 square-foot research building will significantly expand the Einstein campus. Located on Morris Park Avenue, across the street from Einstein's Jack and Pearl Resnick Campus, the Price Center and Block Pavilion will house 40 new, state-of-the-art research laboratories as well as nine shared or core facilities and a 100-seat auditorium.

"We are extremely grateful to Mrs. Block and Mr. Price for their extraordinarily generous gifts," said Dr. Dominick P. Purpura, the College's Marilyn and Stanley M. Katz Dean. "The research that will take place in the Price Center and Block Pavilion will be at the frontier of biomedical science and has the potential to lead to the medical advances that

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An architectural rendering of the Michael F. Price Center for Genetic and Translational Medicine and the Harold and Muriel Block Research Pavilion.

# 50 Years Ago: Board of Overseers Established

*(Ed Note: This is the fourth in a series of articles marking the significant events leading to the opening of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine on September 12, 1955.)*

The Board of Overseers of the new Albert Einstein College of Medicine held its first meeting in November 1954, ten months before the medical school opened, with New York State Attorney General Nathaniel Goldstein as its first chairman.



*Dr. Marcus Kogel, the first dean of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, with Nathaniel Goldstein, the first chairman of the Einstein Board of Overseers.*

The Board, established by the Board of Trustees of Yeshiva University, was to consist of 30 outstanding civic and community leaders, charged with administering and gaining financial support for the new College of Medicine.

In addition to Mr. Goldstein, the Board's founding members were George Alpert, Walter H. Annenberg, Joseph Cherner, George Frankel, Cecil Kaufman, William S. Lasdon, Frank C. Moore and Louis E. Wolfson.

Year by year, the Board grew in strength and numbers. Its members organized meetings and spoke at dinners in order to spread their enthusiasm, increase support and gain new friends for the medical school.

As the first president of Einstein's National Women's Division, Blanche Etra became the first woman to serve on the Board and started a tradition in the Einstein philanthropic family. The president of the National Women's Division, the chairman of the Men's Division and the president of the Alumni Association now serve as Board members.

The success and importance of the Board of Overseers far exceeded the initial expectations of its founders. Today 58 business, professional and philanthropic leaders serve with distinction as Overseers. They share, as did their predecessors, a great pride in the outstanding accomplishments of the medical school and work to ensure its ongoing success. <

## Einstein Establishes New Affiliation With North Shore-LIJ Health System

Albert Einstein College of Medicine has established a new affiliation with North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System, strengthening education programs and academic activities between the two institutions. Under the agreement, medical students at Einstein will now be able to complete clinical rotations at both North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset and Long Island Jewish Medical Center in New Hyde Park.

"This new affiliation will ensure that our students will continue to receive outstanding educational experiences, and by their presence, further enhance the academic excellence of the North Shore-LIJ Health System," said Einstein Dean Dominick P. Purpura, M.D.

"Both Einstein and North Shore-LIJ Health System will benefit greatly by this agreement, which enhances the institutions' bond by creating greater opportunities for training graduate students and pursuing academic areas of mutual interest," explained Ira M. Millstein, chairperson of the Einstein Board of Overseers.

"Einstein medical students will now benefit from training at two major teaching hospitals, making our future doctors more well-rounded and broadening their experience in treating patients with a range of illnesses," said Michael J. Dowling, the health system's president and chief executive officer.

Since 1988, Long Island Jewish Medical Center has served as the Long Island Campus and a University Hospital of the



*Signing the new affiliation agreement between Einstein and North Shore-LIJ Health System are (seated, left) Dan de Roulet, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, North Shore-LIJ, and Ira M. Millstein, Chairman of the Einstein Board of Overseers; (standing, left to right) Lawrence Scherr, M.D., Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs and the Betsey Cushing Whitney Dean and Chief Academic Officer, North Shore-LIJ; Michael J. Dowling, LIJ Health System's CEO and President; Dominick P. Purpura, M.D., The Marilyn and Stanley M. Katz Dean, Einstein, and Michael Reichgott, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Dean For Clinical Affairs and Graduate Medical Education at the College.*

College of Medicine, with approximately 180 students training there annually. In 2002, Einstein and North Shore LIJ-Research

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# Michael Price Chairs Board's Executive Committee

**M**ichael F. Price has been elected chairperson of the Executive Committee of the Board of Overseers of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. He succeeds Ira M. Millstein, newly elected chairperson of the Einstein Board.

"We are privileged that Mr. Price has agreed to serve in this leadership position," said Mr. Millstein. "His business and philanthropic acumen will greatly enhance the Board's efforts in support of Einstein's educational and research programs."



Michael F. Price

"It is an honor to be affiliated with this world-class center for biomedical research and medical education," said Mr. Price. "The College has an important niche in the medical community. I hope to play a major role in its efforts to educate future physicians and help alleviate illness," he continued.

In 2001, Mr. Price made the largest philanthropic gift in the College's history—\$25 million—toward the construction of a research facility named in his honor. (See story, page 1).

Mr. Price joined the Board of Overseers in 2001, and was elected a vice chairperson in 2003. He currently is president of The Michael F. Price Foundation, Inc., managing partner of MFP Investors, LLC, and director of LiquidNet Holdings. He serves on the boards of John Hopkins University and Jazz at Lincoln Center, among others.

Mr. Price earned his bachelor's degree at the University of Oklahoma. He is the recipient of an honorary degree from his alma mater, where he has endowed the Michael F. Price College of Business. He served as chairman of the board of Franklin Mutual Advisers and Franklin Mutual Series Fund. He had been associated with both entities and their predecessor organizations, Heine Securities Corp. and Mutual Shares Fund, since 1975. <

# Muriel Block: Philanthropist Extraordinaire

**M**uriel Block, a member of Einstein's National Women's Division, is a philanthropist *extraordinaire*. Her gift of real estate to the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, valued at \$21 million and the second largest in Einstein's history, is being used to expand research and education facilities



Muriel Block

at the medical school through the construction of the Harold and Muriel Block Research Pavilion.

"I realize how fortunate I am to be able to help the College fulfill its mission. I hope that my gift will enable

hundreds of millions of people to benefit from the work done at Einstein and lead healthier lives," said Mrs. Block, when her gift was announced last year.

On October 13, Mrs. Block's dream of a healthier world will begin its journey to reality when Einstein holds groundbreaking ceremonies for the Block Research Pavilion, which will house the Michael F. Price Center for Genetic and Translational Medicine.

"We are very grateful to Mrs. Block for her extraordinary philanthropy, which will assure the future growth and excellence of our already renowned medical research and education programs," said Dean Dominick P. Purpura. "The Harold and Muriel Block Pavilion will expand our crucial efforts to understand and develop better therapies for preventing, treating and curing disease. Within this facility, we will emphasize the translation of laboratory discoveries into clinical trials and then into the everyday practice of medicine," he explained.

Mrs. Block is a longtime supporter of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. She is a member of both

the Board of Directors of the National Board of the Women's Division and the Executive Board of its New York Chapter. Her late husband, Harold, was a partner in H&J Block, a manufacturer of children's coats, and a real estate investor. <

## Of Note

### **Einstein To Conduct "Mini-Med School"**

*Albert Einstein College of Medicine will conduct its first-ever "Mini-Med School" on Thursday, October 28 at Einstein's Jack and Pearl Resnick Campus. The idea of Dr. Ruth L. Gottesman, a vice chairperson of the Board of Overseers and professor emeritus of pediatrics at the College, this three-hour session is designed to give Einstein's Board members and other philanthropic leaders insights into trends in medical education.*

*The Mini-Med School curriculum will cover such topics as genomic medicine, preventive medicine, global health and ethics and professionalism. Scheduled speakers are distinguished Einstein faculty members including Dr. Robert Marion, director of the Division of Genetics in the Department of Pediatrics; Dr. Paul Marantz, head of the Division of Education in the Department of Epidemiology and Population Health; Dr. Clyde Lanford Smith, assistant professor of medicine and of family and social medicine; Dr. Deborah M. Swiderski, assistant professor of medicine, and Nancy Neveloff Dubler, head of the Division of Bioethics, Department of Epidemiology and Population Health.*

*To register for "Mini-Med School," or for additional information, please contact Jerry Kleinman, senior director of development, at (718) 430-3810.*

# Foundation Gift Creates Diabetes Institute

**a**lbert Einstein College of Medicine has received a \$1.5 million gift from The Skirball Foundation to create the Jack H. Skirball Institute for Nutrient Sensing in Diabetes and Obesity. The Institute will study one of the most pressing medical problems in the nation today—the relationship between obesity and diabetes—by focusing on the mechanisms of the brain that stimulate or suppress appetite.

“We are extremely grateful to the Skirball Foundation for its generosity and uncommon wisdom in supporting this innovative research program,” said Dean Dominick P. Purpura. “There is no question that the Skirball Institute for Nutrient Sensing will be of seminal importance in stimulating a new emphasis in diabetes and obesity research.”

Obesity—a key risk factor for the development of type-2 diabetes—will soon overtake tobacco as the leading cause of preventable death, according to a recent study conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Government statistics show that some 44 million Americans are considered obese, and 41 million have pre-diabetes

or levels of blood sugar high enough to increase their risk of developing full-blown diabetes. More than 18 million Americans suffer from diabetes, which is a leading cause of blindness, kidney failure, amputations and heart disease.

Einstein’s new Skirball Institute will bring together experts in diabetes, obesity, reproductive biology, developmental neurobiology and behavior to focus on the factors that regulate hunger and reproductive fitness.

Heading the Institute’s four component areas of study will be Drs. Luciano Rossetti, Mark F. Mehler, Ann M. Etgen and Gary Schwartz.

Dr. Rossetti, internationally known for his research in diabetes and obesity, will direct a study of mechanisms in the hypothalamus of the brain that play a role in stimulating and suppressing appetite. He is the Judy R. and Alfred A. Rosenberg Professor of Diabetes Research at Einstein and director of the College’s Diabetes Research Center.

Dr. Mehler, a recognized expert in developmental neurobiology and a member of the Einstein Class of ‘80, will explore the development of energy centers in the hypothalamus. Newly appointed chairman of the Department of Neuroscience, he holds the Alpern Family Foundation Professorial Chair in Cerebral Palsy Research.

Professor of medicine and of neuroscience, Dr. Gary Schwartz is highly recognized within the scientific community for his studies of the role of the brainstem in the short-term regulation of feeding behavior.

Dr. Ann Etgen is a world-renowned neuro-endocrinologist whose research focuses on the role of the hypothalamus in modulating reproductive function. Dr. Etgen’s project is built upon recent findings from her lab showing a relationship between female reproductive function and nutrient sensing. She is professor

of neuroscience, psychiatry and social behavior and pediatrics at the medical school. ◀



Dr. Ann M. Etgen



Dr. Mark F. Mehler



Dr. Luciano Rossetti



Dr. Gary Schwartz

## Of Note

### Federal Grant Helps Combat Bioterrorism

*Albert Einstein College of Medicine has received \$250,000 in Federal funding for research on mycotoxins—toxins made by fungi—to prevent their use as biological weapons. Congressman Joseph Crowley whose district includes the College of Medicine announced the funding at a press conference held on Einstein’s Jack and Pearl Resnick Campus on August 5.*

*Dr. Marta Feldmesser, assistant professor of medicine and of microbiology and immunology, is the project’s principal investigator. She and her colleagues will seek to identify monoclonal antibodies that can neutralize mycotoxins, develop rapid diagnostic tests, treat exposure and decontaminate exposed areas.*

### Groundbreaking

*continued from page 1*

will create a healthier life for us all,” the Dean continued.

Members of Einstein’s National Women’s Division and its Men’s Division are among the forward-looking philanthropists who are helping to make this new building a reality. Each Division has embarked on a \$5-million fundraising project to name a floor in the facility.

The Price Center will take a programmatic approach to understanding the genetic aspects of human disease, so that the lessons learned about cellular behavior in one laboratory may be applied to other areas and other diseases.

Einstein has a unique history of fostering scientific collaboration among its own faculty members and with individuals in other institutions around the world. The structure of the new Center will continue to foster such collaborations. Each floor will be an “open laboratory” where biomedical researchers may easily consult with one another. These investigators will continue to focus on genetic medicine and translate, or turn, laboratory findings into practical remedies.

Since it first opened its doors to students on September 12, 1955, the College of Medicine has been a leader in genetics. Einstein established the first Department of Genetics at any medical school in the country. Recently, researchers at the medical school successfully helped to map the human genome. ◀

# Innovation Lab Shines New Light on Biology

In the new Innovation Laboratory at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Drs. John Condeelis and Robert Singer are helping to redirect the focus of biology to the study of single cells and single molecules as they relate to cancer and basic biological processes. They attribute this shift in focus as the reason for Einstein's ranking, since 2001, as number one in the nation in terms of funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for basic research in anatomy and cell biology.

"There is a real revolution in biology, made possible by technology that allows



Dr. John Condeelis

us to look at gene expression in single cells," explained Dr. Condeelis, who directs the motility and invasion program at Einstein's Cancer Center. "We're learning that no two tumors are alike just as no two

individuals are alike. We need to find out how these tumors differ from one another and treat them accordingly," he continued. "We may learn that there are 10 different types of lung cancer, and not every patient should be receiving the same therapy."

As co-chairs of the Department of Anatomy and Structural Biology and as founders of the Innovation Lab, Drs. Condeelis and Singer share a vision that is opening new insights into how human organ systems work in sickness and in health. "We are pushing the envelope in microscopy and using it to see things in living tissue that have never been seen before," said Dr. Singer.

Drs. Singer and Condeelis are developing equipment and software, and training colleagues and students at Einstein in the use of this technology. "We're defining the technology as hardware, software and outreach," explained Dr. Condeelis, who also is professor of anatomy and structural biology.

The focus of Dr. Condeelis and Dr. Singer's trailblazing research is the study of single cell and subcellular biology in the context of the whole animal. Their aptly named Innovation Lab, a core facility currently located in the Forchheimer building, will become the hub of

a Biophotonics Center in the College's new Michael F. Price Center for Genetic and Translational Medicine. The technology they develop and patent will be available to Einstein faculty and possibly to researchers at other institutions.

Single-cell biology is already offering new insights and unanticipated discoveries that, in themselves, may offer proof that the parts are greater than the whole. Dr. Singer likens the detailed information gleaned from single-cell biology to the information obtained from the Mars Rover when compared with the information revealed by looking at the planet through a telescope.

Using advanced light microscopy, Drs. Condeelis and Singer are able to coax specific cells, molecules and genes to reveal their secrets. "We can ask the invasive cells in a tumor to identify themselves. We can also ask them how they move in the tumor and they can tell us," said Dr. Condeelis.

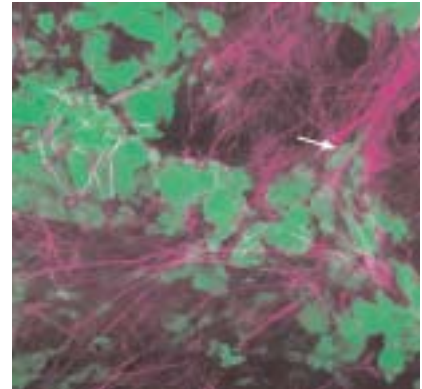
"We will eventually be able to use a pulse of light or photon to activate a single gene in an animal model," explained Dr. Singer. He and Dr. Condeelis, along with Dr. David Lawrence, professor of biochemistry, developed the microscope and the gene that is light sensitive. They plan to insert the gene into a cell that will tolerate it and implant the cell in an animal. The animal will grow a tumor when the gene becomes activated by the photon, allowing the researchers to study the disease progression.



Dr. Robert Singer

This work has recently been funded by a \$3.4 million grant from the NIH Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering as part of the Nanomedicine Roadmap Initiative. Researchers engaged in this project include Dr. Ben Ovrin, a new faculty member in the Department of Anatomy and Structural Biology, who has a background in optical physics.

The researchers also use "spectral barcoding" to gain the maximum amount of information from a single gene. To do this they encode probes for specific genes



Microscopic image from the Innovation Lab shows mouse breast cancer cells (green) that have migrated from the tumor and are attaching to (arrow) and crawling along supportive tissue (purple).

within the cell with colored dyes. Using newly developed instruments, they can image through the spectrum and parse out the information that tells them which genes are being expressed. In this way, they can determine which genes are active in a tumor and which are not. This knowledge has the potential to lead to new therapies aimed at cancer-causing genes.

Drs. Condeelis, Lawrence and Singer are also applying "uncaging technology" to the study of biochemical pathways within the cell. They can chemically "cage" or trap an enzyme along a specific pathway and then "uncage" or free it with a pulse of high energy light directed at a specific cellular region. This allows them to assess the outcome depending on the area of the cell that is illuminated.

"Uncaging technology" offers insights into the crucially important signaling pathways as they are actually occurring within individual cancer cells. "These results help move us toward our goal, which is to unravel the mechanisms of metastasis and to develop agents that can halt or prevent this process," explained Dr. Condeelis.

According to Dr. Condeelis, it is also possible to insert a "caged" molecule into a cell and then "uncage" it. He and Dr. Singer are developing a new technology that will allow them to genetically encode the "caged" molecules in the cell. "This is a new twist on caging technology that will probably be astounding in its application," he said.

"And that," he added, "is the beauty of an Innovation Lab. It leads to developments that can't possibly be predicted." ◀

# Dr. Laurie Jacobs Heads Resnick Gerontology Center

**d**r. Laurie Jacobs, professor of clinical medicine and chief of the division of geriatrics, has been named director of the Jack and Pearl Resnick Gerontology Center at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Dr. Jacobs succeeds Dr. David Hamerman, who for nearly five decades has spearheaded Einstein's efforts in improving the health and quality of life



*Dr. Laurie Jacobs and Dr. David Hamerman*

of the elderly. Dr. Hamerman, distinguished university professor of medicine, will remain as the Resnick Center's director emeritus.

"I am honored by this appointment and thankful for the confidence that has been given me," said Dr. Jacobs. "With the support and collegial input of our superb community of investigators and health care professionals, I know that the Resnick Center will continue to play an important role in helping to define and ameliorate the complex conditions that threaten successful aging," she continued.

The Center's "leadership torch" was passed from Dr. Hamerman to Dr. Jacobs

*Resnick family members (from left) Ira Resnick, Marilyn Katz and Burton P. Resnick are joined by Dean Dominick P. Purpura at the reception celebrating the accomplishments of the Jack and Pearl Resnick Gerontology Center.*



at a reception celebrating the accomplishments of the Resnick Gerontology Center, hosted by Dean Dominick P. Purpura last May.

The Resnick Center, established in 1980 by the late Pearl and Jack Resnick, long-time friends and Einstein Benefactors, has formed the foundation of the College's efforts in the field of geriatrics. Under its aegis, Einstein medical scientists have made significant contributions to basic and clinical research concerned with the health of the elderly. Among these:

- The creation of the innovative Teaching Nursing Home program
- The creation of one of the first Alzheimer's Disease research programs in the nation
- The addition of geriatrics as a discipline in the medical school curriculum
- The development of Gerontologic Clinical Research and Training.

"Mr. and Mrs. Resnick anticipated the issues raised by life's extension beyond the biblical three score and ten, and envisioned a way for the Albert Einstein College of Medicine to meet the challenges posed by growing old," said Dr. Hamerman, who served as the Center's director since 1989. "Their endowment of the Gerontology Center meant that there would be a means to unify research and educational endeavors concerned with aging."

More than 35 million people in the United States are aged 65 and older. That number is projected to grow to 70 million by 2030, with those over the age of 85

representing the largest increase.

"The Resnick Center will play an increasingly important role in efforts to preserve both physical and mental functions vital to the elderly person's sense of well-being," said Dr. Jacobs.

Since its inception in 1980, the Resnick Center has provided a critical forum for the exchange of creative ideas among Einstein faculty members. "It is my goal to enhance this link between science and the bedside by encouraging increased collaborations among our research and clinical care faculty, by continuing to enhance our programs in geriatrics education and to sponsor young investigators with an interest in pursuing aging-related research," explained Dr. Jacobs.

Dr. Jacobs joined the Einstein faculty in 1991 and was appointed Pearl and Jack Resnick Fellow in Geriatrics in 1992, studying under the mentorship of Dr. Hamerman. "His quiet and charming demeanor complements his focused efforts to increase knowledge of the aging process by sharpening the minds and the motivation of our future scientific and clinical investigators," Dr. Jacobs said. "His accomplishments and vision are the building blocks of our continuing efforts." ◀

## Of Note

### ***Ira M. Millstein To Be Honored in Palm Beach***

*Ira M. Millstein, newly elected chairperson of the Einstein Board of Overseers, will be the guest of honor at the 2005 Palm Beach Gala, to be held Sunday, February 20 at Mar-a-Lago.*

*Proceeds from the event will benefit cancer research at the medical school.*

*The Gala, which will celebrate the College's 50th Anniversary, is widely regarded as a highlight of the Palm Beach social season. Since 1956, the Palm Beach community has provided continuing, generous support for biomedical research and educational programs at Einstein.*

*For information about participation on the Gala Committee, or for ticket reservations, please contact Mindy Ginsberg at (561) 659-5637 or (888) 788-4206.*

# Einstein *in the News*

*The people, programs and activities of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine are the subject of regular and frequent coverage in the major news media. Following are some recent examples from **The New York Times**, **Wall Street Journal**, and key **TV news programs**.*

*A more complete listing of Einstein faculty, students and alumni who have been in the news during the past year can be found on-line at [www.aecom.yu.edu/home/news/press\\_coverage.htm](http://www.aecom.yu.edu/home/news/press_coverage.htm)*

## In The New York Times...

A profile of Dr. Jo Hannafin, physician for the U.S. Olympic team in Athens, Greece, appeared in the **Public Lives** column. The article noted that Dr. Hannafin is an Einstein graduate (class of '85), and was encouraged to pursue orthopedics by one of her Einstein mentors. (August 3)

The **Science Times** section in its lead front-page story focused on the work and views of Dr. Philipp Scherer, associate professor of cell biology at Einstein. The story reported on new discoveries about the role of fat cells in diseases such as diabetes, stroke and cancer. (July 6)

Dr. Scherer was also quoted in a major article reporting on a study that found that liposuction does not provide the protection from heart disease and diabetes that would result from losing the same amount of weight through diet and exercise. (June 17)

The **Westchester Section** of **The Times** did a "question and answer" interview with Dr. Susan M. Coupey, professor of pediatrics, on health problems of teen-agers and the medical subspecialty known as adolescent medicine. (June 20)

In an article on the continuing need for anatomical dissection in training medical students, the **Science Times** section quoted Dr. Todd Olson, professor of anatomy. (March 23)

Dr. Olson also was interviewed for a front-page story about the handling and shipping of cadavers. The article was prompted by disclosures of improper activities at UCLA and other medical institutions. **National Public Radio** and **CBS News** were among the other news media that interviewed Dr. Olson on this topic. (March 12-18)

A major article on the high-rate of asthma among children in homeless shelters (50 percent) was based on new research from Einstein and other institutions. (March 2)

**The New York Times Magazine** referenced Dr. Nir Barzilai's research into the genetic roots of aging and longevity in its cover story on the lifestyles of the elderly. (February 22)

Two days later the **Science Times** section profiled Dr. Barzilai in an in-depth report on his research. Dr. Barzilai, associate professor of medicine, directs Einstein's Institute for Aging Research. (February 24)

**The Times** reported on new research from the Women's Health Initiative at Einstein that established a link between depression and heart disease in older women. (February 9)

The **Science Times** section quoted Dr. Ruth Macklin in a commentary on the new challenges facing teaching hospitals. Dr. Macklin is the Shoshanah Trachtenberg Frackman Faculty Scholar in Biomedical Ethics at Einstein. (February 3)

## In the Wall Street Journal...

Dr. Peter Davies, the Judith and Burton P. Resnick Professor of Alzheimer's Disease Research at Einstein, was quoted in the **Science Journal** column in an in-depth analysis of the current controversy in scientific circles over the cause of Alzheimer's disease. (August 6)

Dr. Davies also was quoted in a page-one article about the search for a vaccine for Alzheimer's. (July 22)

Dr. Jill Tardiff, assistant professor of medicine (cardiology), was quoted in an article about the dangers of non-cancerous heart tumors. (July 29)

The **Science Journal** column quoted the views of Dr. Mark Mehler, chair of the Saul R. Korey Department of Neurology at Einstein. Dr. Mehler also holds the title of Alpern Family Foundation Professor of Cerebral Palsy. The column reported on the potential value of stem-cell research in finding better treatments for Alzheimer's disease. (July 2)

Dr. Michael Alderman, professor of epidemiology and population health, was quoted in a health column on new approaches to treating hypertension. Dr. Alderman also is professor of medicine at Einstein and holds the Atran Foundation Chair in Social Medicine. (March 30)

Dr. Alderman's views were also reported in a major article on new approaches in preventive medicine. (January 26)

Dr. Sylvia Wassertheil-Smoller was extensively quoted in reports on the Women's Health Initiative's finding that linked depression and heart disease in older women. **Associated Press**, **CBS News**, **ABC News** and **CNN** were among the media that covered this story. Dr. Smoller is the principal investigator for the Women's Health Initiative at Einstein and is the holder of the Dorothy and William Manealoff Foundation and Molly Rosen Professorial Chair in Social Medicine. (February 9-February 12.)

Dr. Smoller was again quoted in a follow-up column by health reporter Tara Parker-Pope. (February 24)

## On TV and Radio...

**WABC-TV, Channel 7 News**, ran a 15-minute interview with Dr. Thomas Weber on the need for greater colon cancer screening programs in minority communities. Dr. Weber is associate professor of surgery and of molecular genetics at Einstein. (August 10)

**Cable News Network (CNN)** did an extensive interview with Dr. Susan Coupey, professor of pediatrics, on teen pregnancy and adolescent health. (July 15.)

**WNBC-TV Channel 4 News** broadcast an in-depth feature on Einstein medical student Sandra Torres, who graduated last June. The story chronicled how Dr. Torres, a mother of two children, overcame various obstacles to fulfill her dream of becoming a doctor. (July 11)

Charles Osgood on the **CBS Network**, in a commentary on diet fads, quoted Dr. Michael Alderman, Atran Professor of Social Health, on the primary importance of exercise in a healthy lifestyle. (June 18)

**WNBC-TV Channel 4 News** featured Dr. Susan Bressman, professor of neurology, in an extensive report on dystonia, a prevalent but little-known disease. (May 9)

**ABC News** quoted Dr. Keith Ayoob, associate professor

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# Men's Division Honors Philip Alheim, Raises \$650,000

**O**n July 20, as the sun descended slowly behind the Westchester hills, members of the Einstein Men's Division paid tribute to one of its most outstanding leaders—Philip Alheim—and in the process raised \$650,000 towards its \$5-million project to establish a floor



Left. (From left) Marc Karetzky, Philip Alheim and Paul J. Konigsberg. Above. Philip Alheim (left) greets Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and his wife, Judi.

for research in cell transplantation and human genomics.

“We are proud to honor Philip for his passionate leadership and extraordinary service to Einstein and its Men's Division, said Marc Karetzky, chairman of the event, at which Mr. Alheim received the Division's Lifetime Leadership Award. A past chairman of the Men's Division, Mr. Alheim currently serves as a vice chairman of the Board of Overseers and chairs its Development Committee. He is a member of the Men's Division's Executive Board.



Adam Gottbetter (left), the Division's new chairman, and Neil Clark, outgoing chairman

The event—the Division's annual golf and tennis tournament and dinner—took place at the GlenArbor Golf Club in Bedford, New York.

“Our current project will play an important role in expanding research facilities at Einstein and helping medical science find better and more humane treatments for such afflictions as stroke, liver disease, diabetes and neurological trauma,” said Neil Clark, the Division's outgoing chairman.

Contributing to the success of the event was the record-breaking Journal and Yearbook, which raised \$530,000. Michael Feigin, Scott Hirsh, Jack Somer and Jeff

Spiritos served as Journal chairmen.

Since launching the project in 2001, Division members have raised \$2.4 million toward their goal.

During the evening program, David Schwartz, chairman of the nominating committee, announced that Adam Gottbetter would be the Division's new chairman. Mr. Gottbetter joined the organization in 1999 and quickly became one of its most active members. A vice chairman of the Division, he has chaired both its program committee and 40th Anniversary Dinner.

Citing Philip Alheim for his warmth, caring and deep commitment to Einstein and its Men's Division, Paul J. Konigsberg, treasurer of the Board of Overseers, presented the Lifetime Leadership Award to Mr. Alheim, who received a standing ovation. ◀

## New Affiliation

*continued from page 2*

Institute signed an affiliation agreement creating joint graduate opportunities for Einstein's Ph.D. students.

The new agreement further strengthens the institutions' bonds. “Working closely with a medical school in training future generations of physicians creates an environment where medical care is scrutinized, scientific inquiry is encouraged and students and faculty are functioning on a higher level,” said Lawrence Scherr, M.D. Dr. Scherr is senior vice president of academic affairs and the Betsey Cushing Whitney Dean and chief academic officer of the North Shore-LIJ Health System. ◀

## Einstein in the News

*continued from page 7*

of pediatrics, in a report on the pros and cons of low-carbohydrate diets. (April 16.)

Dr. Cedric Raine, professor of neurology, was interviewed by **WNBC-TV** for a report on new advances in multiple sclerosis research. Dr. Raine holds the Wollowick Family Foundation Professorial Chair in Multiple Sclerosis Research at Einstein. (April 15)

**CBS Evening News** with Dan Rather interviewed Dr. Michael Alderman, Atran Foundation Professor of Social Medicine, in a report on the “starvation diet” fad. Dr. Alderman also was featured the following day on the “Osgood File” program on the **CBS Network**. (April 7 and April 8)

**WNBC-TV Channel 4 News** did an extensive health feature on an ongoing Einstein study examining whether yoga can have a beneficial effect on cancer patients. The study's principal investigator, Dr. Alyson Moadel, assistant professor of epidemiology and population health, and two study participants were interviewed. (March 29.)

**National Public Radio (NPR)** interviewed Dr. Peter Arno, professor of epidemiology and population health, for a story on the FDA's new initiatives to expedite drug development. (March 16)

**WABC-TV Channel 7 News** and other major media provided extensive coverage of the first annual Colon Cancer Challenge, a run/walk to raise awareness of the disease. The event was spearheaded by Dr. Thomas Weber, associate professor of surgery and of molecular genetics. (March 7 to March 15)

**WABC-TV's Eyewitness News** cited the research of Dr. Joe Verghese, assistant professor of neurology, in a report on remaining mentally fit in old age. (February 16)

Dr. Nancy Green, associate professor of pediatrics, did a lengthy interview with **ABC-TV News** about preventing premature births. Dr. Green also is medical director of the March of Dimes. (January 23)

**ABC-TV's Good Morning America**, in a report by Diane Sawyer on the physiological basis of romantic love, referenced the work of Dr. Lucy Brown in magnetic resonance imaging studies in this field. Dr. Brown is professor of neurology and neuroscience at Einstein. (January 20) ◀

# An Abundance of Achievement: 50 Years of Luncheons Aid Medical Research

When Stephen Sondheim wrote, tongue-in-cheek, about the “ladies who lunch,” he certainly did not have the members of Einstein’s National Women’s Division in mind. For the past 50 years, the Spirit of Achievement Luncheons have garnered major support for medical research programs at the College, while honoring women of exceptional accomplishments. This year was no exception.

More than 400 guests, celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Spirit of Achievement Luncheon at the Waldorf Astoria on May 4. The historic event, chaired by Lois Zelman and Carol Roaman, raised over \$250,000 in support of their current \$5 million fundraising effort for Einstein’s new Michael F. Price Center for Genetic and Translational Medicine.

Mistress of Ceremonies Joan Lunden, TV journalist and author, presented awards to Broadway star Tovah Feldshuh, day-time television’s Susan Lucci, costume designer Patricia Field (“Sex and the City”), former Texas Governor Ann Richards, and author Trisha Meili (*I Am the Central Park Jogger: A Story of Hope and Possibility*.) Rita Rosen, an Einstein Overseer and honorary president of the National Women’s Division, received the coveted Lizette H. Sarnoff Award for Volunteer Service. Dr. Deborah Kligler, associate dean at the College, received the Lifetime Achievement Award.

The first Spirit of Achievement luncheon was held in 1954, during the Division’s formative year. Recognizing the need to reach out to as many women as possible, the new organization held a pre-Mother’s Day luncheon at The Pierre honoring outstanding mothers and daughters. The award recipients at that premier event included Marlene Dietrich and her daughter, Maria Riva; Minnie Guggenheimer and her daughter, Sophie Untermeyer; Dr. Virginia Travell Weeks and Dr. Virginia Davidson Weeks; Nettie Rosenstein and Claire Rosenstein.

To the delight of everyone, the event, chaired by Judy R. Rosenberg, was a huge success with more than 350 women in attendance.

“We did not know it at the time,”



At the first Spirit of Achievement Luncheon honoring mothers and daughters in 1954 were (seated from left) Dr. Virginia Travell Weeks, Mrs. Charles Guggenheimer, and Nettie Rosenstein. Standing behind them were their daughters (from left) Dr. Virginia

Davidson Weeks, Sophie G. Untermeyer, Claire Rosenstein and Maria Riva, daughter of Marlene Dietrich (not pictured.)

At left, Judy R. Rosenberg, now a member of the Einstein Board of Overseers, chaired the 1954 Spirit of Achievement luncheon.

remembered Mrs. Rosenberg, “but this was our first Spirit of Achievement Luncheon.” The name would come three years later.

The annual luncheon honored—and continues to honor—women of outstanding accomplishment and valor. Eleanor Roosevelt, who served as honorary chairperson of the Women’s Division, and Margaret

Mead were honored in 1960. Later, Lizette Sarnoff, recognized for her major humanitarian efforts, became one of the organization’s most tireless supporters.

Following her death in 1972, the Women’s Division established the Lizette H. Sarnoff Award for Volunteer Service, which is presented annually to an outstanding humanitarian. The award is a sculpture cast from an original work by Mrs. Sarnoff. Today, the Sarnoff’s daughter-in-law, famed soprano Anna Moffo, and the Sarnoff’s granddaughter Rosita, present the award at Spirit of Achievement Luncheons.

“This group is the most successful women’s division of its kind in medical academia,” says Dean Dominick P. Purpura. “The Women’s Division’s activities, with the Spirit flagship event, are vital to our cause.” ◁

1. (From left) Former Texas Governor Ann Richards, author Trisha Meili, costume designer Patricia Field and actress Tovah Feldshuh were Spirit of Achievement Award recipients. Not pictured is daytime television’s Susan Lucci.

2. Spirited chairwomen Lois Zelman (left) and Carol Roaman (right) flank Mistress of Ceremonies Joan Lunden.

3. Linda Altman, president of the National Women’s Division, presented the Lifetime Achievement Award to Dr. Deborah Kligler, associate dean at Einstein.

4. Rita Rosen (center) received the Lizette H. Sarnoff Award for Volunteer Service from Rosita Sarnoff (left) and Anna Moffo Sarnoff.



# Commencement '04: A Day of Joy

**a**lbert Einstein College of Medicine celebrated the annual rite of passage from medical student to new physician at its 46th annual commencement on June 2. On a day filled with promise, 212 students—some with babes in arms or toddlers at their sides—walked across the stage at Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall to receive their degrees.

"We celebrate your accomplishments. We are inspired by you," Yeshiva University President Richard M. Joel told the graduates before awarding 151 M.D. degrees, 45 Ph.D. degrees and 16 M.D.-Ph.D. degrees.

Dean Dominick P. Purpura presented the degree candidates. He also recognized the 46 doctors who had completed postgraduate study at Einstein's Belfer Institute for Advanced Biomedical Studies and the 11 students who were receiving Master of Science degrees.

The ceremonies featured a keynote address by Dr. James E. Cimino, who recently retired as director of Calvary Hospital's Palliative Care Institute. He also served as Calvary's first chief of medicine and first medical director. Although renowned for his emphasis on providing compassionate and excellent care to terminally ill patients, Dr. Cimino also was instrumental in developing the Cimino Fistula for Vascular Access, which has greatly simplified treatment for, and prolonged the lives of, patients with end-stage kidney disease.

Dr. Cimino was introduced by his son, Dr. Christopher Cimino, associate professor of clinical neurology and director of the Office of Computer Based Education at Einstein.

Dr. Ronald DePinho, a member of the Class of '81 and a nationally renowned cancer researcher, received the College's 2004 Distinguished Alumnus Award. Dr. Betty

Diamond, a faculty member since 1979, who is highly respected for her research in lupus, received the 2004 Honorary Alumnus Award.

Dean Purpura also presented a special Lifetime Achievement Award for Outstanding Teaching to Dr. Joan Casey, professor of medicine and assistant dean for students at Montefiore Medical Center, The University Hospital of the College of Medicine. <



(From left) Richard M. Joel, Yeshiva University President, Dr. Christopher Cimino, Dr. James E. Cimino and Dr. Dominick P. Purpura, Einstein Dean



(From left) Honorary Alumna Dr. Betty Diamond, Alumni Association President Dr. Elizabeth Stoner, and Distinguished Alumnus Dr. Ronald DePinho.

## Ira Millstein

*continued from page 1*

Mr. Millstein joined the Einstein Board of Overseers in 1977 and was elected a vice chairman in 1981. He was named chair of the Board's executive committee in 2000. Mr. Millstein and his wife, Diane, are Benefactors of the College. In 1993 they received the Einstein Humanitarian Award for their outstanding public service and their exceptional commitment to the fight against AIDS.

His numerous honors also include an honorary degree from Yeshiva University. He is a graduate of Columbia University Law School.

He is a Life Trustee and former

chairman of the board of the Central Park Conservancy. He also is the Eugene F. Williams Visiting Professor in Competitive Enterprise and Strategy and the honorary chairman of the Board of Advisors of the International Institute for Corporate Governance, both at the Yale University School of Management, where he is a former board member.

He serves as chairman of the Private Sector Advisory Group to the Global Corporate Governance Forum founded by the World Bank and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. A member of the Advisory Council of Transparency International, he is governance counsel to the Board of the National Association of Corporate

Directors. He has chaired several blue ribbon committees on corporate governance.

An elected fellow of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, Mr. Millstein is a frequent lecturer and author on corporate governance, antitrust and government regulation. He is the recipient of the first Award for Excellence in Corporate Governance presented by the International Corporate Governance Network, and has published widely on the topic. His most recent book, *The Recurrent Crisis in Corporate Governance*, co-authored with Paul MacAvoy, was published in January by Palgrave Macmillan. <

# From Germany to Einstein: Two Doctors Bequeath Scholarship Funds

Two special women—one a faculty member at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, the other a relative of Professor Albert Einstein—have bequeathed scholarship funds for deserving students at the medical school.

Dr. Gertrude Marx, who was known as Gertie, died on January 29, 2004 at the age of 91. Professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Einstein, she designated that her estate provide scholarships for Einstein students. Dr. Hertha Einstein Nathorff, a public health practitioner who died in 1993 at age 98, left more than \$223,000 establishing a student loan fund. Dr. Nathorff's gift results from the recovery of art and other property stolen by the Nazis.

Dr. Marx and Dr. Nathorff were both born and raised in Germany. Both escaped as Hitler came into power, and both played important roles in the health-care field.

Dr. Marx came to the United States from Switzerland, where her family settled after fleeing Germany. In 1939, she began her internship at Beth Israel Medical Center. She was the only woman doing an internship at the medical center, which is now a University affiliate of the College of Medicine.

An anesthesiologist at Beth Israel when the Albert Einstein College of Medicine opened in 1955, she became a member of Einstein's founding faculty as an assistant professor. She remained at Einstein for the duration of her career.

Dr. Marx helped popularize use of the regional block in obstetrics. She also helped to develop an improved needle—the Gertie Marx Spinal Needle—for spinal taps. Her husband, Eric Reiss, died in the 1960s.

Dr. Hertha Einstein Nathorff practiced medicine in Berlin and was active in that city's public health service before coming to the United States around 1940 with her husband, Dr. Erich Nathorff, and their son, Heinz.

Settling in New York, she worked as a home-health aid, supporting her family while her husband studied to pass the required examinations and establish a practice. Although she never practiced medicine in the United States, she did establish a career in public health as a nurse and teacher of home-healthcare workers. She also gave regular radio talks in German on station WBMX. After her husband died in 1954, she became a licensed psychologist.

Dr. Nathorff was an heir of the family of Alfred Sommerguth, the director and co-owner of the Loeser and Wolff tobacco factory, one of the largest in Germany before World War II. In 1920, he became an official in the German Ministry of the Interior. A prominent member of Berlin society, he also was a prolific art collector with an impressive collection of 106 paintings, including works by Camille Pissaro, Adolph von Menzel and Max Liebermann.

Mr. Sommerguth and his wife, Gertrude, were forced to leave the collection behind when they fled Germany in 1940.

Sixty years later, in 2000, the Ministry of Finances in Germany contacted Joel Levi, an attorney in Israel representing the heirs of Mr. and Mrs. Sommerguth, regarding the restitution of an oil painting by Franz van Lenbach that belonged to the Sommerguth collection. The painting was returned to the Sommerguth heirs, who then sold it to a museum.

Since the medical school is the sole beneficiary of Dr. Nathorff's estate, the College received funds from the sale of the painting. In accordance with Dr. Nathorff's wishes, the medical school has established a scholarship fund "in memory of Dr. Hertha Einstein Nathorff and Dr. Erich Nathorff to be used for the sole purpose of awarding student loans to needy and deserving students at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine." ◀

## Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University

Richard M. Joel  
*President, Yeshiva University*

Norman Lamm  
*Chancellor, Yeshiva University*

Dr. Dominick P. Purpura  
*The Marilyn and Stanley M. Katz Dean  
Albert Einstein College of Medicine*

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# Calendar

## Wednesday, Oct. 13...

*Groundbreaking Ceremonies for the Michael F. Price Center for Genetic and Translational Medicine and the Harold and Muriel F. Block Research Pavilion.*

On Einstein's Jack and Pearl Resnick Campus, 11 a.m. For information: (718) 430-3810.

## Thursday, Oct 28...

*Mini-Med School for Overseers, Benefactors and Friends.* At the Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

1:30-4:30 p.m. Topic: "What's Ahead in Medical Education." For information: (718) 430-3810.

## Sunday, Feb. 20, 2005...

*Palm Beach Gala honoring Ira M. Millstein, Chairperson, Board of Overseers.* At Mar-a-Lago. For information: (561) 659-5637, (888) 788-4206 or (718) 430-3810.

For information about gifts or bequests to the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, please contact Jerome A. Kleinman, Senior Director of Development, (718) 430-3810 or Ira Lipson, Associate Director, (718) 430-3842.

## Einstein Today Summer/Fall 2004

Published by the Philip and Rita Rosen Department of Communications and Public Affairs

Director: Abraham I. Habenstreit

Editor: Sue Brody

Production Assistant: Deborah Olaseun

Design: Stephanie Tevonian

Photography: Norman Goldberg, Enrique Cubillo, Peter Robertson, Jane Windsor

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