Greetings,

During the month of October there were several new events in our community. We hosted our first Research Faculty Dinner to provide a forum for faculty to connect and learn about each other's work. The dinner was well attended by faculty not only at WCM but from MSKCC as well. Dr. Erica Phillips-Caesar presented her research on obesity in low-income ethnic minority populations.

The community came together and respond in several ways to the crisis in Puerto Rico due to Hurricane Maria. There was a campus-wide donation campaign and a phone rally. In addition, NYP/WCM has deployed medical relief teams consisting of physicians, nurses, and physician assistants. The current team is treating over 200 patients per day. Care is being provided for both walk-in emergencies and inpatients. We thank all for their efforts.

We would like to bring attention to two upcoming events. WCM's first Breaking Bread Dinner (November 20th) will be attended by Dr. Renee Alexander, founder of the award winning series on the Ithaca campus. We hope that you will join us in a forum designed to provide a safe environment to discuss difficult topics related to diversity. And the annual Diversity Holiday Mixer will be held December 11th, so please SAVE THE DATE. We hope that everyone has a Happy Thanksgiving!

Kind Regards,

Dr. Linnie Golightly  Dr. Rache Simmons
Monday
November 20, 2017
5:30 - 7:30pm

WCM’s Office of Diversity and Inclusion invites you to break bread and join us for dinner and open conversations that explore our diverse belief systems, worldviews, preconceived notions, biases and stereotypes.

Our first event welcomes Dr. Renee Alexander, Cornell University’s Dean of Students and founder of the award-winning Breaking Bread series at Cornell’s Ithaca campus.

We encourage positive interaction and embrace the opportunity to create a safe environment for all to join.

Weill Greenberg Center | 1305 York Avenue, 2nd Floor

RSVP: https://breakingbreadwcm.eventbrite.com

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Holiday Mixer!

YOU'RE INVITED

Monday, December 11 at 5:30-8:00pm
Griffis Faculty Club
521 East 68th Street, New York, NY 10065

HOSTED BY WCM OFFICES OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION, STUDENT DIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

RSVP: HTTPS://diversityholidaymixer.eventbrite.com
Weill Cornell Medicine
Office of Student Diversity

Weill Cornell Medicine
Diversity & Inclusion

meet & greet

Dr. Sherilynn Black, Ph.D.

Associate Vice Provost for Faculty Development
Director of the Office of Biomedical Graduate Diversity, Duke University School of Medicine
Assistant Professor of the Practice in Medical Education, Duke University School of Medicine
Co-Principal Investigator of the Duke Initiative for Maximizing Student Development (IMSD)
Co-Advisor for the Duke Chapter of the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS)

Developing a Climate that Supports Diversity in Science and Medicine

Tuesday, November 14th | 6-8p.m.

1300 York Avenue 4th Floor, Room A-450 New York, NY 10065

Her office works to bring talented underrepresented graduate students to Duke and to enrich their experiences over the course of their doctoral studies through a series of professional development opportunities, academic enrichment programs, mentoring programs, and cohort formation activities.

RSVP at https://meetgreetdrblack.eventbrite.com/
Developing a Climate that Supports Diversity in Science and Medicine

Wednesday, November 15 | 2PM
Belfer Research Building, Room 204-B/C

Dr. Sherilynn Black, Ph.D.
Associate Vice Provost for Faculty Advancement, Duke University School of Medicine
Assistant Professor of the Practice in Medical Education, Duke University School of Medicine
Co-Principal Investigator of the Duke Initiative for Maximizing Student Development (IMSD)
Building the Next Generation of Academic Physicians (BNGAP)  
December 1st-2nd, 2017

**ACADEMIC MEDICINE CAREER DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE**

Hosted by NYU School of Medicine  
December 1st-2nd, 2017

BNGAP is a national initiative which aims to heighten diverse medical student and resident interest, participation and success along an academic medicine track.

During the conference:
1. Explore academic medicine careers to fit with their personal and professional interests.
2. Navigate the array of academic medicine career paths and opportunities.
3. Develop and enhance their academic medicine portfolio.
4. Expand their network among academic medicine colleagues and role models.

For more information and registration, please visit [www.bngap.org](http://www.bngap.org)

**Contact Host Institutional Leader:**
Renee Williams, MD  
renue.williams@nyumc.org

**Workshop Topics**
- Diversity and Inclusion in the Academic Workforce
- Academic Medicine Career Roles and Responsibilities
- Leadership Development
- Educational/Research/Service Scholarship
- Finding an Academic Residency
- Finding an Academic Position after Residency
- Financing an Academic Residency

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**Special Seminar Event: “Optimize Your Mentoring Skills”**  
November 15th, 2017

Memorial Sloan Kettering invites WCM faculty to join a seminar on how to become better mentors. The invited speaker will be Luanne Thordnyke MD, Vice Provost of Faculty Affairs and Professor of Medicine from the University of Massachusetts Medical School and winner of the 2013 Individual Leadership Development Award by the AAMC Group on Women in Medicine and Science. Please RSVP to [ofd@mskcc.org](mailto:ofd@mskcc.org) if you'd like to attend.

**Location:** Rockefeller Research Labs Auditorium (entrance 430 East 67th Street)

**Time:** 12-1 pm (box lunches to follow after the seminar)
Introducing the American Academy of Ophthalmology Medical School Student Ophthalmology Engagement Webinar Series

**Learn about the broad scope of ophthalmic practice with this free webinar series**

The practice of ophthalmology is one of the most satisfying and fulfilling medical professions.

Join Academy-selected experts to hear about the opportunities in the field of ophthalmology, avenues for ophthalmic community involvement and how to best navigate the national residency match process.

All webinars begin at 5:30 p.m. PT/6:30 p.m. MT/7:30 p.m. CT/8:30 p.m. ET.

Upcoming 60-minute webinars:

- **Oct. 25** – Ophthalmology field choice stories, including academic, research, and private practice
- **Jan. 31 or Feb. 1** – Local/international community involvement
- **March 29** – How to prepare for the match

Webinars are free to attend, register today. Visit aao.org/medical-students.

For more information contact Michael Rhea at mrhea@aao.org.

Protecting Sight. Empowering Lives™
The Latino Medical Student Association hosted a Breakfast Phone Rally to help those in need due to Hurricane Maria. Students, faculty, and staff made more than 100 phone calls to members of congress asking for increased aid and for the repeal of the Jones Act to help hurricane recovery efforts and encourage long-term economic growth on the island.

In addition to the Breakfast Phone Rally, Dana Zappetti, Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Weill Cornell Medical students, Karina Ruiz-Esteves, Amanda Acosta-Ruiz, and Raul Martínez-McFaline organized collection drives in response to the growing needs of Puerto Ricans in desperate need of food, and basic necessities. Generous donations from the campus community resulted in the collection of 2,110 diapers, 1,728 feminine hygiene products, 1,595 first aid supplies, 348 batteries and flashlights, 328 food items, 332 hygiene items, 253 baby food items, 176 school supply items, 45 package of baby wipes, 15 liters of water, and 2 bags of clothing. Karina, Amanda, and Raul thank the Weill Cornell community immensely with the following note: "Gracias! Thank you for standing with us during these difficult times. We are continuing to work for Puerto Rico in different ways; please keep an eye out for our future events!" Donations were given to Puerto Rican Family Institute, an organization in New York that works directly with Feeding America and el Banco de Alimentos de Puerto Rico.

Students also organized a fund raiser with a local business hosting "Trivia Night" in efforts to raise funds for Puerto Rico. The donations collected amounted to more than $2200. All contributions were sent to "Students With Puerto Rico", an organization created by Puerto Rican students pursuing education in the United States. This organization was able to raise $250,000 which will be sent to Unidos por Puerto Rico to specifically buy water filters since the island is facing shortages of clean water.
WOMEN IN SURGERY MIXER

On October 2nd, a Women in Surgery Mixer was held. It was attended by ~40 women from various surgical fields. Dr. Rache Simmons (Chief of Breast Surgery and Associate Dean of Diversity and Inclusion) and Dr. Laura Forese (Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of NYP/WCM) spoke about the importance of networking for women in surgery.

ROGERS COLLOQUIUM, DIVERSITY AT CORNELL

Dr. Linnie Golightly, Associate Dean of Diversity and Inclusion spoke at the David Rogers Health Policy Colloquium October 11th. In her talk, titled “2017: Diversity at Weill Cornell,” Dr. Golightly outlined WCM’s newly proposed strategic plan to enhance diversity. She also discussed current events and programs designed to build a sense of community and provide a more inclusive environment for all. Dr. Elizabeth Wilson-Anstey, Assistant Dean of Diversity and Student Life, provided additional insight on programs, events, and professional development opportunities offered to graduate and medical students. Drs. Golightly and Wilson-Anstey welcome the submission of ideas on diversity programs or initiatives that could benefit our community. lgolight@med.cornell.edu.

Photo caption: Dr. Oliver Fein (middle), Co-Director of David Rodgers Health Policy Colloquium, Associate Dean of Affiliations and Professor of Clinical Medicine, Healthcare Policy and Research presented Dr. Golightly (left) with the David Rogers Health Policy Colloquium medallion. Dr. Elizabeth Wilson-Anstey was also in attendance (right).
On October 26th, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion hosted its first Research Faculty Dinner. The dinner format is designed to provide an informal, collegial setting for those in research careers to meet each other and build community while learning about each other’s research. The Thursday night event featured a presentation by Dr. Erica Phillips-Caesar, WCM Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine from the Division of General Internal Medicine. Dr. Phillips shared her research on the trending obesity epidemic across low-income ethnic minority populations in New York City. Her research explores the relationship between stress and the ability to lose weight as well as intra- and interpersonal eating environments that affect weight loss or gain and negative or positive changes in eating habits. The evening included an exercise utilizing the “Convoy Model” which encouraged attendees to explore their social relationships in order to evaluate whether their total number of relationships made them more or less prone to lose weight. The evening ended with an engaging discussion and networking amongst Weill Cornell Medicine and Memorial Sloan Kettering research scientist.

The Office of Student Diversity hosts Coffee Hour for the WCM community every other Friday. Students, faculty, and staff have the opportunity to come and connect with fellow students and colleagues about issues affecting the community. Coffee Hour is open to all students, faculty, and staff of WCM. All are welcomed. The next Coffee Hour sessions are on Fridays: **November 17th, December 1st, and December 15th.** Please feel free to join us!
FACULTY AND STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

ROLAKE ALABI AWARDED DR. DAVID MCDONOGH SCHOLARSHIP

Rolake Alabi, MD/PhD student was awarded the National Medical Scholarships, Dr. David McDonogh Scholarship in Ophthalmology/ENT. Congratulations Rolake!

DR. NELSON SANCHEZ MEMBER OF THE NIH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dr. Nelson Sanchez, Assistant Professor of Medicine at WCM and Assistant Attending Physician at Memorial Sloan Kettering, was invited to serve on the NIH's Advisory Committee to the Director's (ACD) Diversity Working Group. The ACD is chaired by Dr. Hannah Valantine, the NIH Chief Officer for Scientific Workforce Diversity (COSWD) and Keynote Speaker for WCM's Diversity Week, which will begin April 23, 2018. Dr. Sanchez is the Chairperson of the LGBT Steering Committee at WCM, Chair of the LGBT Health Workforce Conference's Executive Committee, and Vice President of Building the Next Generation of Academic. As a member of the committee, Dr. Sanchez will provide advice regarding the evaluation, and dissemination of impactful and sustainable programs that will enhance the diversity of the NIH-funded scientific workforce. Congratulations Dr. Sanchez!
GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

UNCF-MSK Symposium on Postgraduate Opportunities and Career Pathways in the Life Sciences
November 10, 2017

- Sponsored by UNCF and the E. E. Just Life Sciences Society and hosted by Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in NYC
- African American MD, PhD, MD-PhD, postgraduate fellows conducting research in either academic or government research institutions and centers; and who are interested in pursuing including African American PhD graduate students who are conducting PhD thesis research (post-qualifying exams)
- A total of up to 10 postgraduate and 15 graduate fellows will be selected for this opportunity. For those outside the immediate NYC area, we have a limited budget for travel but will do all we can to support those in need.
- For any questions concerning this opportunity, please contact Dr. Chad Womack, chad.womack@uncf.org for any questions

Location: Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York City
Time: 9 AM - 6 PM

We are asking interested candidates to apply using this link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/UNCFMS

Grant Editing Service for Weill Cornell Members

The Samuel J. Wood Library now offers a free editing service for WCM grant applicants. The editing service is designed to review the language of the grant, cross-check text with figures and tables, ensure that the writing style is consistent, and the text is clear and concise. Grant categories will be prioritized by the following:

1. Resubmissions of Scored but not funded grant applications
2. Junior faculty writing their first R01 grant, including GRASP participants
3. Junior faculty career award
4. Limited submission grants (for institutional nominees only)
5. Sections of large collaborative awards – for example, the introduction for a P01
6. Grants in other categories will be considered, if possible

Please visit here for more information: http://bit.ly/2h1w45V
GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

San Diego IRACDA Postdoctoral Fellowship Application
Due November 15th, 2017

Program Overview

- NIH/NIGMS-supported Postdoctoral Fellowship Program at the University of California, San Diego
- 3 years of support for mentored postdoctoral training in biomedical research combined with training in teaching and other critical academic skills
- 4th year of support may be provided for those fellows that need more training
- Applicants can be either near graduation, new PhDs, MDs, MD/PhDs or postdoctoral fellows with no more than ~2 years of training
- Must be a U.S Citizen or permanent resident
- Supports fellows engaged in research related to cell biology, biophysics, genetics, developmental biology, pharmacology, physiology, biological chemistry, bioinformatics and computational biology

Application Deadline: November 15, 2017

Hannah H. Gray Fellows Program
Due January 10th, 2018

Program Overview

- Fellows receive funding ($80,000 annually) for up to four years of their postdoctoral training and may continue to receive funding ($270,000 annually) for up to four years during their early career years as independent faculty.

Eligibility

- Open to individuals from gender, racial, ethnic, and other groups underrepresented in the life sciences at the career stages targeted by this program, including those individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds
- Open to basic science researchers and physician-scientists in the biomedical and life science disciplines
- The program is open to applicants of any citizenship or nationality who:
  - have a PhD and/or MD or equivalent conferred by an institution in the U.S. (including Puerto Rico) by the start of the grant term
    - have been accepted to join a laboratory as a postdoctoral researcher at a research institution located in the U.S. (including Puerto Rico) at the time of the application due date
  - The postdoctoral training mentor must hold a tenured or tenure-track position (or equivalent) at an institution in the U.S. (including Puerto Rico).
  - Applicants can have no more than 12 months of postdoctoral research experience at the time of the application due date

Application Deadline: January 10, 2018

For more information, please visit: www.hhmi.org/hanna-h-gray-fellows.
GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Laurie H Glimcher, M.D. Award for Excellence in Mentoring Women Faculty
Due December 1, 2017

The Office of Faculty Development and the Office of Diversity and Inclusion are proud to announce the 2018 Laurie H. Glimcher, M.D. Award for Excellence in Mentoring Women Faculty. This annual award recognizes outstanding men and women faculty at Weill Cornell Medicine who demonstrate commitment to advancing the academic careers of women in the areas of clinical care, research, or education. The individual must have a track record of providing strong mentorship, as well as fostering a nurturing and supportive environment for all faculty. Re-nominations of candidates who have not already received the award are welcome.

The recipient of this award will be announced during Diversity Week annually each spring and will receive a $5,000 prize as well as a plaque in honor of his or her contributions to promoting the academic careers of women.

Eligibility Criteria
- Be full-time faculty at Weill Cornell Medicine;
- Have an outstanding record of supporting women faculty to become academic leaders in clinical care, research, or education;
- Demonstrate a record of providing exemplary mentorship support to women mentees lasting at least two years for each mentee, and
- Show a longstanding commitment to mentorship, by participating in formal programs aimed at promoting the careers of women faculty, providing research training or opportunities for collaborations to women faculty, developing policies to foster the academic growth of women, or serving as an advocate or guide to women in a professional environment.
- Self-nominations are not allowed

Guidelines for Submitting a Nomination
The nominator should submit the following materials by the deadline:

1. Letter of support from the faculty member’s Department Chair, Division Chief, or another senior faculty member (2 pages or less)
2. Names, positions and contact details of five former mentees of the nominee who can serve as references. Please note that letters of support will not be accepted as part of the nomination packet. Of the mentees listed as references, three will be contacted independently by the Selection Committee to seek their feedback on the nominee.
3. Submit the above items in the order listed as one PDF document using the naming convention: nominee’s ‘Last name.First initial_2018GlimcherAward.pdf’ (Example: Smith_J_2018GlimcherAward)
4. Email this file to Natalie Gabay at nag2020@med.cornell.edu no later than December 1, 2017, with the subject heading “Nominees for Laurie H. Glimcher, M.D. Award for Excellence in Mentoring Women Faculty.”

After the nomination deadline, the Selection Committee will solicit the following materials directly from the nominees:
1. A 1-page vision statement describing the nominee’s philosophy and practical approach to mentoring.
2. A detailed table listing the long-term women faculty mentees of the nominee (a template will be provided)
3. Excerpts of the nominee’s CV that reflect her/his past and present mentoring activities.

*The letter of support should provide:
- The name(s) of individuals who were mentored by the nominee and their subsequent achievements
- Examples of the nominee’s excellence in mentorship. These may include descriptions of how the nominee has advanced and supported the career goals of women mentees; served as an advocate in regards to administrative, organizational and procedural concerns; played an active role in the promotion of mentees; assisted in the professional and personal development of mentees’ talents, intervened during moments of academic or personal crisis, developed specific programs for mentoring women, or published on the topic in peer-reviewed journals.

For further information, please contact Natalie Gabay (nag2020@med.cornell.edu or 646-962-4220).
ASH MINORITY MEDICAL STUDENT AWARD PROGRAM

Promoting minorities in hematology through invaluable research experience and mentorship

The ASH Minority Medical Student Award Program (MMSAP) provides underrepresented minority medical students with an opportunity to conduct a research project under the supervision of an ASH member, receive guidance from a career-development mentor, gain valuable knowledge of hematology, and ultimately, advance their careers. The program aims to expand its reach to the next generation of hematologists at each stage of their medical training. Applicants to the program can choose a research option that best fits their schedule.

Apply to explore the exciting field of hematology!

“As a result of my ASH MMSAP experience, I realized that academic hematology was the realm in which I desired to practice medicine. Exposure to hematology at such an early stage in my medical training added in honing my perspective for my career path. Additionally, the ongoing guidance and mentorship that I have received from my research and career development mentors have been critical to my decision-making and success.”

Melody Smith, MD
MMSAP Participant 2005 and 2006; Instructor, Adult Bone Marrow Transplant, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Work With an ASH Mentor
Students collaborate on their research project with an ASH member who serves as their research mentor. Program participants are also paired with an ASH member who serves as a career-development mentor throughout their medical schooling and residency.

Interact With Leading Hematology Researchers
Meet prominent leaders in the field of hematology and network with more than 25,000 physicians, scientists, educators, trainees, and industry professionals from around the world who attend the ASH annual meeting.

Research Options and Eligibility
Summer research experience: Students in their first or second year of medical school
Flexible research experience: Students in their first, second, or third year of medical school
Yearlong research experience: Students must take a year off from medical school during what would otherwise be their second, third, or fourth year of medical school.

Receive a Research and Travel Stipend
MMSAP recipients receive the following support during their research experience:
Summer and flex students: $5,000 stipend
Yearlong students: $32,000 stipend and $6,000 allowance for research supplies, medical insurance, and educational expenses.
All recipients: receive a $2,000 travel allowance to attend the ASH annual meeting in early December, and complimentary ASH membership, which includes online subscriptions to Blood and The Hematologist, during medical school and residency.

To learn more about MMSAP, including specific eligibility requirements, visit www.hematology.org/mmsap or email awards@hematology.org.

Request a Mentor deadline: November 15
Application deadline: January 15
Program year begins in June
ASH MINORITY RESIDENT HEMATOLOGY AWARD PROGRAM

Promoting minorities in hematology through valuable research experience and mentorship

The ASH Minority Resident Hematology Award Program (MRHAP) is designed to provide support for underrepresented minority residents in the United States or Canada. Through MRHAP, trainees are matched with a career development mentor who provides guidance to the program participant throughout their residency, gain valuable knowledge of hematology, and ultimately, advance their careers. The intended outcome is increasing interest in hematology research and choice of fellowship.
Apply to advance your hematology research experience!

Meet prominent leaders in the field of hematology and network with more than 25,000 physicians, scientists, educators, trainees, and industry professionals from around the world who attend the ASH annual meeting.

Collaborate with ASH members who serve as mentors during your residency years on your research project and in your career development.

Present your research during a special event for recipients of ASH Minority Recruitment Initiative award programs and discuss your findings with ASH leadership, peers, and other annual meeting attendees.

Receive $5,000 to support your research experience; a $2,000 travel allowance to attend the ASH annual meeting in early December; complimentary ASH membership including subscriptions to Blood and The Hematologist; the Society’s journal and newsletter.

To learn more about MRHAP, including specific eligibility requirements, visit www.hematology.org/ashap or email awards@hematology.org.

Request a Mentor deadline November 15
Application deadline January 15
Program year begins in June
RAMP SCHOLAR GRANTS
SEEKING AFRICAN-AMERICAN AND LATINX MEDICAL STUDENTS INTERESTED IN HIV VACCINE RESEARCH

The development of a safe and effective HIV vaccine is one of the greatest biomedical research challenges of our time. The HIV Vaccine Trials Network (HVTN) is now accepting applications for Research and Mentorship Program (RAMP) Scholar Awards to attract African-American and Latinx medical students who want to make a difference in their communities and contribute to the development of an effective HIV vaccine.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:
- 2-4 month or 9-12 month independent research projects in the areas of clinical, laboratory, or social-behavioral research
- Structured mentorship by leading HVTN vaccine scientists
- Travel to an HVTN Clinical Research Site
- Attendance at an HVTN Conference
- Opportunity for international travel
- Oral and poster presentation and potential for publication

PROGRAM RESOURCES:
- Up to $25,000 for 2-4 month project
- Up to $70,000 for 9-12 month project
- Funding includes salary, materials, and travel
- Career mentoring and access to HIV vaccine research expertise
- Four training webinars throughout the course of the year, and a professional development workshop at the conclusion of the program

Please visit hvtn.org/RAMP or contact: Jenna Udren at judren@fredhutch.org

Applications are due January 3, 2018.
Deadline for initial contact with mentors is December 6, 2017
Recommended by Dr. Linnie M. Golightly (Associate Dean of Diversity and Inclusion), "Without Inclusion, Diversity initiatives may not be enough" that discusses the importance of an inclusive environment in fostering a diverse scientific community.

Science, 15 September 2017 by Chandler Puritty, Lynette R. Strickland, Eanas Alia, Benjamin Blonder, Emily Klein, Michael Kohl, Earyn McGee, Maclovia Quintana, Robyn Ridley, Beth Tellman, and Leah Gerber. DOI: 10.1126/science.aai9054

Link: http://science.sciencemag.org/content/357/6356/1101.full

Recommended by Keith A. LaScalea (Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine) "Underprivilege as Privilege" in which Dr. Stephanie Zhou discusses her life experiences on her journey to becoming a physician.


Link: http://bit.ly/2yY0r7I

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**JOIN US ON FACEBOOK**

- Private Facebook group
- Interested in fostering diversity and inclusion
- Requirements: Active Facebook account and must be affiliated with WCM either as a current or past trainee or faculty member

**For more information, please contact the social media administrator, Elaine Barfield, elb2020@med.cornell.edu**