



Weill Cornell Medicine

Diversity & Inclusion

The Office of Diversity and Inclusion invites nominations for the

2021 “Pioneers in Diversity” Awards

Deadline for applications: March 1, 2021

Each year, we request your help in identifying “Pioneers in Diversity”. Nominations are requested and Awards are made to members of our community who foster and aid in cultivating a diverse community at Weill Cornell Medicine. In this unprecedented year, we are pleased to announce a new award in honor of Weill Cornell Medicine alumna **Dr. Marie Metoyer**! The first known Black woman to graduate from Weill Cornell Medicine, Dr. Metoyer was a healer who took an unorthodox route to serving communities during difficult times. She passed away in the Spring of 2020. This award is to be presented to a faculty or alumnus of the medical college who has gone above and beyond to serve communities despite difficult conditions. Please find more information on Dr. Metoyer at:

<https://alumni.weill.cornell.edu/programs-events/news/dr-marie-metoyer-md-51-leaves-lasting-legacy>.

Therefore the “Pioneers in Diversity” Awards that will be granted in 2021 and annually going forward are:

- The *Ida Sophia Scudder, M.D. Award for Excellence in Public Service* awarded to a student.
- The *Louis Wade Sullivan, M.D. Award for Excellence in Public Health Advocacy* awarded to a resident or postdoctoral fellow.
- The *Bruce Laine Ballard, M.D. Award for Excellence in Mentorship* awarded to a faculty member.
- The *Marie Metoyer, M.D. Award for Excellence in Community Service* awarded to a faculty member or alumnus of the Medical College.
- *Administrative Staff Award* for a staff member who embodies the spirit of cultural diversity and service.

Each recipient will receive a \$1,000 prize and a plaque in honor of their contributions to diversity. Nominations should include the following:

- Nominee’s curriculum vitae highlighting his/her contributions
- Nominee’s description of up to one page of how the nominee fulfills the selection criteria for this award

Instructions on how to apply:

- Documents should be emailed in PDF format with subject heading “Nominees for Pioneers in Diversity Award” to **Amna Aslam (ama4015@med.cornell.edu)**
- Please state which one of the five awards the nomination is for in the subject heading of the PDF
- Please provide the following items in the order listed as a single PDF file (single spaced, 12-point font, Arial with 1-inch margins)
 - Curriculum vitae (CV) /resume
 - Nomination (1 page document)
- All PDF applications submitted should have the following document heading for the award you are applying for: “LastName.FirstInitial_PID_Award Name”
 - Examples:
 - Jones.F_PID_Ida Sophia Scudder.pdf
 - Jones.F_PID_Louis Wade Sullivan.pdf
 - Jones.F_PID_Bruce Laine Ballard.pdf

- Jones.F_PID_Marie Metoyer.pdf
- Jones.F_PID_Administrative Staff.pdf
- Self-nominations are permissible.

Presentations of the award to recipients will be made at the virtual Celebration of Diversity and Awards Ceremony during Diversity Week in April 2021.

The criteria for the awards are as follows:

The Ida Sophia Scudder, M.D. Award will be presented to an MD, PhD, MD\PhD, MS, PA medical or graduate student who has made significant contributions in the field of community service and provided care and/or opportunities to the underserved.

Dr. Ida Scudder was a graduate of the first medical class that accepted women at Weill Cornell Medical College. After witnessing Indian women die needlessly in childbirth, Dr. Scudder was motivated to pursue a career in medicine to help them. Upon graduating from Cornell Medical College, she returned to India and founded a small clinic for women that gradually grew and became the Mary Taber Schell Hospital. Recognizing the dire need for more providers, she began training women, initially as nurses. In 1918, she started a medical school for girls which eventually became coeducational and is now one of India's premier hospitals, the Christian Medical College & Hospital in Vellore. Dr. Scudder dedicated her life to the plight of Indian women and the fight against bubonic plague, cholera and leprosy, by providing services for patients as well as educating thousands of nurses and doctors in underserved areas to carry on her work. Dr. Scudder exemplified compassion, courage and extraordinary service to patients in need.

The Louis Wade Sullivan, M.D. Award will be presented to a resident or a postdoctoral fellow who has been an outspoken champion for health promotion and a public health advocate, especially for medically underserved populations.

Dr. Louis Wade Sullivan is a former house officer in the Department of Medicine at the New York Presbyterian Hospital. Dr. Sullivan was appointed Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services by President George H.W. Bush. He was also the founding dean, director, and president emeritus of the Morehouse School of Medicine. His current positions include serving as the chairman of the board of the National Health Museum in Atlanta, Georgia and as a member of the Board of Overseers of Weill Cornell Medical College. As a policymaker, Dr. Sullivan advocated for a tobacco free society, improving food labels, expanding the Head Start Program, advocating for funds for HIV/AIDS, and increasing the NIH research budget. As an educator, Dr. Sullivan has worked tirelessly to improve medical education and increase diversity in medicine. In addition to founding the Medical Education Program which later became a full-fledged medical school at the historically African-American Morehouse College, Dr. Sullivan also founded the Boston University Hematology Service and the Association of Minority Health Professions Schools. Dr. Sullivan exemplifies a commitment to promoting medical education, research, and public health.

The Bruce Laine Ballard, M.D. Award will be presented to a faculty member who demonstrates commitment to improving student life and to fostering a nurturing and supportive environment where students are able to thrive and succeed.

Dr. Bruce Ballard is the former Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Equal Opportunity Programs at Weill Cornell Medical College. Dr. Ballard directed students training in psychiatry first at Harlem Hospital Center, and later at New York Hospital-Westchester. He also directed the Travelers Summer Research Fellowship Program, which aims to increase the number of underrepresented minorities enrolled in medical schools. Dr. Ballard has chaired the Committee of Black Psychiatrists of the American Psychiatric Association (APA) and the Selection and Advisory Committee for the National

Institute of Mental Health Minority Fellowship Program of the APA, published numerous scholarly articles, served on the editorial boards of several textbooks, and given presentations to various groups on ethnicity and psychiatry. As the Dean of Student Affairs, Dr. Ballard mentored, provided career guidance and often, emotional support to all students. Dr. Ballard is known for having an open-door policy and for giving his home telephone number to students in the event they needed to contact him. Dr. Ballard exemplifies the nurturing and supportive qualities of a mentor.

The Marie Metoyer, M.D. Award will be presented to a current faculty member or alumnus of the Medical College who exemplifies Dr. Metoyer's highest values of healing and community engagement, and has gone above and beyond to serve underprivileged communities in an unorthodox manner.

Dr. Marie Metoyer was the first known Black woman to graduate from Weill Cornell Medicine. Upon graduating in 1951, Dr. Metoyer took over her mother's Obstetrics/Gynecology practice. In the 1960s, she heeded the call from President Kennedy emphasizing community mental health, so she moved from New Jersey to Vermont to pursue a residency in psychiatry at the University of Vermont from 1968-1972 and received a Fellowship in Community and Child Psychiatry. A resident of Manchester, N.H. for nearly four decades, Dr. Metoyer was the first African American female psychiatrist in the state, and she spent decades serving those less fortunate in community mental health, and the health and welfare of women and minorities. She retired in 1996 at the age of 70 and dedicated her retirement to women, minorities and medicine, seeking to promote African American heritage, racial equality, cultural diversity, and the fine arts. She passed away in the Spring of 2020.

The Administrative Staff award will be presented to a staff member who embodies the spirit of cultural diversity and service.

The staff award is a new award which will go to an administrator or a staff person whose work has helped build a culture of service and diversity at Weill Cornell. This award honors staff members who have gone beyond the call of duty to make sure the environment is inclusive, engaging and welcoming, and whose efforts may often go unnoticed. Working with patients, students, residents, and/or faculty, the recipient of this award provides the glue that binds the institution together, and helps create the supportive and nurturing environment that is needed to pursue Weill Cornell's tripartite mission of education, research and high-quality patient care.