

milestones



Dr. Ronald Adelman, Emilie Roy Corey Professor of Geriatrics and Gerontology and Medical Director of the Irving Sherwood Wright Center on Aging (back right), mentors a group of first year medical students as they learn from a patient from the Wright Center.

PHOTO: ROGER TULLY

A New Curriculum for a New Age of Medicine

What factors go into the making of a great doctor? The foundations of greatness, firmly rooted in medical training and education, are at the heart of Weill Cornell's new academic curriculum.

As innovative medical technologies emerge and scientific discoveries rapidly advance, a new curriculum at Weill Cornell will ensure that medical students continue to become 21st century leaders in patient care, research, education and health care policy.

In 2010, a committed group of faculty, students and leadership, led by Carol Storey-Johnson, M.D., Senior Associate Dean of Education, began working together to plan a new curriculum in response to changes in medicine and the healthcare environment. This collaboration was further bolstered by the arrival of Laurie H. Glimcher, M.D., the Stephen and Suzanne Weiss Dean, in 2012. This education unit "think tank" made key recommendations that were guided by Weill Cornell's own mission, strengths and education priorities, as well as detailed analyses of medical education by the Carnegie Institute, the Institute of Medicine, the Macy Foundation, and the Liaison Committee on Medical Education.

Inspired by these findings, Vice Chair Overseer and Campaign Co-Chair Jeffrey Feil through the Feil Family Foundation made a \$4 million gift to spearhead the curriculum efforts. This gift supports student scholarship and establishes the new **Gertrude Feil Associate Dean of Curriculum Affairs**, now held by Peter Marzuk, M.D., Professor of Psychiatry. Dr. Marzuk has played an integral role on the team developing the new curriculum.

"Supporting students and boosting medical education has always been central to our philanthropy at Weill Cornell," says Mr. Feil. "We see this as an absolute imperative."

The new curriculum will begin to be phased in for the fall 2014 semester and will unfold in its entirety by fall 2018. It incorporates three themes through all four years of medical school – *the scientific basis of medicine*, *patient care* and *physicianship* (i.e. the special set of skills required of physicians such as communication with patients and colleagues, medical ethics and professionalism). Some other key changes include:

- A longitudinal patient experience which provides an opportunity for students, under the guidance of faculty mentors, to follow patients with chronic illnesses over the length of their training
- Each student will devote time to becoming "semi-experts" in a specialized area of interest (i.e. an area of concentration analogous to a college major), culminating in a final scholarly project
- Pioneering educational formats will be used, including e-learning, flipped classrooms (where students drive classroom discussion), additional clinical skills sessions, patient simulations and other progressive techniques
- Enhanced integration of clinical medicine and biomedical science throughout all four years

The education initiative will also include establishing faculty directors to guide the curriculum and implement changes, as necessary.

"Our students are the healthcare pioneers of tomorrow," says Dean Glimcher. "They will be leading the way in patient care and biomedical research, and shaping healthcare policy in an ever-changing medical landscape. It is our responsibility to continue to equip them with the best possible tools to prepare them for the future."

A Gift That Saves Lives: Priceless.

A \$500,000 gift from MasterCard will support research efforts designed to develop new treatments and cures for women's cancers and save lives.

With this recent gift, Weill Cornell created the new **Ajay Banga Scientist** position, named in honor of Weill Cornell Overseer Ajay Banga, President and CEO of MasterCard. The Banga Scientist, currently Brooke M. Emerling, Ph.D.,



PHOTO: RENE PEREZ

The new Ajay Banga Scientist
Brooke M. Emerling, Ph.D.

Instructor of Cancer Biology in Medicine, is a researcher-in-residence who works closely with other investigators to combat cancer, under the direction of Lewis C. Cantley, Ph.D., the Meyer Director of the Meyer Cancer Center.

"We are humbled by MasterCard's extraordinary generosity in support of our efforts to make treatment of female cancers more precise and effective," says Dr. Cantley. "This gift ensures that Weill

Cornell can continue the critical scientific investigation that leads to breakthrough therapies."

Dr. Cantley also directs Stand Up to Cancer's Dream Team targeting PI 3 kinases (PI3K) – enzymes that are linked to a wide variety of cellular functions, including cell growth and proliferation – in women's cancers. Much like Dr. Cantley's research at Weill Cornell, this dream team is focused on developing protocols, procedures and cutting-edge clinical trials that will deliver personalized care to address a variety of women's cancers, including breast, ovarian and uterine cancer. MasterCard has helped raise more than \$17 million over the past four years for Stand Up to Cancer's efforts to fund cancer research.

Later this year, Weill Cornell will open the **MasterCard Principal Investigator Office Suite**, in recognition of the company's longstanding commitment to cancer research. Housed in the state-of-the-art Belfer Research Building, this office will help maximize collaboration between interdisciplinary teams focused on critical cancer research.

"We support communities, programs and causes that impact our employees, cardholders and customers," says Mr. Banga. "Through our relationship with Weill Cornell, we hope to spark the research that will deliver treatments that turn cancer patients into cancer survivors, providing them bright futures."

The Soros Scholarships

"I hope to give these students an opportunity to do the things that, without our help, they would not have been able to achieve."



PHOTO: JOHN ABBOTT

Overseer Daisy M. Soros

Support for the Future

Overseer Daisy M. Soros and her late husband, Paul, spent their lives together supporting education. In establishing the **Paul Soros Scholarship for Clinical Medicine** with a new \$500,000 gift, Mrs. Soros has honored her husband's memory by providing funding for medical students at Weill Cornell.

"I wanted to do something in my husband's honor," says Mrs. Soros. "He believed in this."

Both Hungarian immigrants, the Soroses are well-known for creating The Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowships for New Americans, which provide tuition and living expenses for recent immigrants and first generation Americans pursuing graduate degrees at any educational institution in the United States. These merit-based national fellowships – emphasizing creativity, originality, initiative and sustained accomplishment – are given to 33 students a year, in any field, for a two year period, who are either permanent residents or naturalized citizens in the United States.

Now, by establishing the Soros Scholarship at Weill Cornell, Mrs. Soros will again provide generous assistance to students – this time for their medical education.

"The qualities that make for great scholarship recipients are talent, perseverance, inventiveness and being a little bit out of the box," says Mrs. Soros. "I hope to give these students an opportunity to do the things that, without our help, they would not have been able to achieve."

Mrs. Soros is an active and longtime member of the Weill Cornell community. In addition to serving on the Board of Overseers, she is the founding chair of the Dean's Council, and the founder of the educational *Information Please* luncheon series, which she created in 1997. She and her husband also established the Daisy and Paul Soros Clinical Scholar Award, and named the Daisy and Paul Soros Student Meeting Room, a dedicated space for medical students to congregate and collaborate in the Belfer Research Building.

Her ongoing commitment and dedication has also inspired many friends to give to Weill Cornell in her honor, leading to the recently established **Daisy M. Soros Scholarship**, which also provides funds for medical students.

"It's always nice to realize that people believe in you, or they want to support you," she says. "And I feel very fortunate and very honored to have people who are doing that."

With both Soros Scholarships, Mrs. Soros hopes to encourage students on their path to becoming world-class clinicians and researchers.

"Backing education is important, because you are helping the next generation of researchers," she says. "I have faith in today's young people; I like to support them."



THE NEW Weill Department of Medicine

Weill Cornell Medical College has named its department of medicine the **Joan and Sanford I. Weill Department of Medicine** in honor of the couple's longstanding dedication to the medical college. The naming is in recognition of the Weills' recent \$100 million gift toward the *Driving Discoveries, Changing Lives* Campaign and their historic \$250 million gift to the *Discoveries that Make a Difference* Campaign.

"This is a tremendous moment for Weill Cornell and for its largest department – a moment that will allow us to continue delivering innovative treatments and cures to patients in New York City and throughout the world – and we are grateful to Joan and Sandy for making this possible," says Dean Glimcher.

The Weill Department of Medicine's mission is to offer and enhance comprehensive patient care programs; shape the next generation of physicians and scientists through modern curriculum, residency programs and fellowships in subspecialty areas of medicine; recruit the top physicians in the world and fuel research synergies within and between departments. The Department is led by Augustine M.K. Choi, M.D., the newly appointed **Sanford I. Weill Chairman**. Weill Cornell is one of only a few medical schools to have a named department of medicine.

"We are honored and deeply humbled to have our name associated with this excellent department," says Board Chairman Sanford I. Weill. "The Weill Department of Medicine spans nearly all disciplines and disease areas, with faculty conducting cutting-edge research and outstanding clinical care. It is the embodiment of our vision for collaborative, translational medicine."

The Weill Department of Medicine comprises more than 1,700 faculty members, clinicians and research scientists in 21 divisions, programs and centers that span medical disciplines. Faculty are also collaborators on the medical college's myriad multidisciplinary translational research centers and institutes, using their expertise to rapidly translate research breakthroughs into advanced treatments and therapies for patients.

"Our renowned faculty in the Weill Department of Medicine is at the frontlines of teaching, basic and clinical research, and patient care – making a difference every day," says Dr. Choi. "We are immensely thankful to Joan and Sandy Weill for their generous contributions and devoted support over the years to shape the future of medicine."



Joan and Board Chairman Sanford I. Weill wearing lab coats from the new Weill Department of Medicine

PHOTO: RICHARD LOBEL

Betty Lee's Legacy of Giving

Betty Neuwirth Lee was one of Weill Cornell's most dedicated supporters, and after she passed away last October she left behind a legacy of giving that will continue to have an impact in science and healthcare for many years to come.

By using a wide variety of planned giving options offered by the medical college, Betty always made sure to plan for her future while also taking care of her loved ones and supporting causes that were dear to her heart.

Betty began her philanthropy at the medical college by establishing two fellowships – one in pediatric oncology and one in adult oncology – followed by two Clinical Scholar Awards. The Charles, Lillian and Betty Neuwirth Foundation Clinical Scholar Awards in Oncology and Pediatric Oncology were named, in part, after Betty's beloved parents.

"My mother and father will not be forgotten," said Betty in a prior interview. "Now that I'm doing this, they will live on forever."

In 2008, Betty established the Betty Neuwirth Lee and Chilly Professorship in Stem Cell Research, named in honor of her dearly loved Maltese – Chilly's name is a combination of Betty's parents' names – who was always by her side. That professorship supports research in the use of stem cells to treat disease.

Betty also provided a generous gift through her estate.

"Betty's patronage was invaluable, and she was very enthusiastic about the research she supported," said Dean Emeritus Antonio M. Gotto, Jr., M.D., D.Phil, Co-Chair of the Board of Overseers and Lewis Thomas University Professor. "She truly understood the impact her gifts

could have on the progress of medical science, and she made giving a top priority."

Betty was passionate about supporting new science initiatives that could lead to advancements in cancer research and treatment. She found great value in promoting the work of doctors and researchers, and was actively engaged in learning about their progress. She said of supporting the young researchers who were recipients of her clinical scholar awards: "There is nothing more gratifying. Their work is so important."

To learn more about planned giving options at Weill Cornell Medical College, please contact Vikki Jones, Planned Giving Officer, 646-317-7400 or vej2003@med.cornell.edu.



The late Betty Lee with her beloved dog Chilly

Betty always made sure to plan for her future while also taking care of her loved ones and supporting causes that were dear to her heart.

From Our Dean

A top-notch and well-rounded education is paramount as we shape the healthcare leaders of the future.



Spring has finally arrived, and after a long and productive winter we have begun a flurry of events on campus to mark the end of another successful academic year.

Our fourth-year students, some of the brightest in

the country, celebrated our best ever match day in March – 86% of all postgraduate residency positions are located at top-tier institutions. With commencement around the corner, this class will soon join the ranks of Weill Cornell alumni, who are among the finest doctors out there. I am so proud of the education that each of our graduates has received at the medical college, and I look forward to continuing this tradition of providing the best possible educational experience to our students as we launch our new curriculum in the fall.

A top-notch and well-rounded education is paramount as we shape the healthcare leaders of the future. This is why providing our students with critical resources – through scholarship, curriculum support and faculty recruitment – is central to the *Driving Discoveries, Changing Lives* Campaign. With the help of our donors and friends, we will continue to empower the next generation of world-class researchers, scientists and clinicians for the benefit of our patients.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Laurie H. Glimcher". The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a white background.

Laurie H. Glimcher, M.D.
Stephen and Suzanne Weiss Dean
Provost for Medical Affairs

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PALM BEACH SYMPOSIUM

PRESENTERS:

- **Orli R. Etingin, M.D.**, Lisa and Sanford B. Ehrenkranz Professor in Women's Health and Director of the Iris Cantor Women's Health Center
- **Robert J. Min, M.D., '90, M.B.A.**, John A. Evans MD Associate Professor of Radiology and Chairman of the Department of Radiology
- **Richard D. Granstein, M.D.**, George W. Hambrick, Jr. Professor and Chairman of the Department of Dermatology

Hundreds of guests gathered at the Breakers Hotel in Palm Beach on March 3rd to learn about the importance of healthy living and preventive medicine. Presenters covered a wide range of topics including: the sense and nonsense behind vitamins, supplements and statins by Dr. Etingin; a discussion of radiology imaging by Dr. Min; and essential practices to keep skin healthy by Dr. Granstein.

A special thanks to our host committee, without whom this event would not have been possible: Helen and Overseer Robert Appel, Renée and Overseer Robert Belfer, Karen and Overseer David S. Blumenthal, M.D., '75, Donna and David W. Dodson, M.D. '80, Lisa and Overseer Sanford B. Ehrenkranz, Fleur and Overseer Leonard M. Harlan, Barbara and Overseer Lawrence A. Inra, M.D., and Margrit Bessenroth-Lynn and Richard A. Lynn, M.D. '71.



Dean Glimcher delivers opening remarks to attendees at the Palm Beach Symposium



Dean Glimcher moderates a panel discussion featuring Dr. Min, Dr. Etingin and Dr. Granstein

APPEL SYMPOSIUM

PRESENTERS:

- **Gregory A. Petsko, D.Phil.**, Arthur J. Mahon Professor of Neurology and Neuroscience and Director of the Appel Alzheimer's Disease Research Institute
- **Alison M. Goate, D. Phil.**, Washington University in St. Louis
- **Steven M. Paul, M.D.**, Burton P. and Judith B. Resnik Distinguished Professor of Neurodegenerative Diseases and Professor of Neuroscience, Psychology and Pharmacology
- **Scott A. Small, M.D.**, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons
- **Matthew E. Fink, M.D.**, Louis and Gertrude Feil Professor of Clinical Neurology, Chairman of the Department of Neurology and Assistant Dean of Clinical Affairs

The second annual Appel Alzheimer's Disease Research Institute Symposium, which took place on April 1st in the Belfer Research Building, brought leading neuroscience researchers, clinicians and scientists to the stage to discuss groundbreaking research and discoveries in the field. Guests learned about the pathology of the disease, the impact of genetics on prevention, diagnosis and treatment, and the expanding possibilities for intervention in disease progression.



From L to R: Dr. Petsko, Dr. Fink, Dr. Goate, Helen Appel, Dr. Paul and Dr. Small

CHILDREN'S HEALTH COUNCIL MEETING

PRESENTERS:

- **Jennifer F. Cross, M.D., Ch.B.**, Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics
- **Anjali Rajadhyaksha, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Neuroscience in Pediatrics
- **John T. Walkup, M.D.**, Vice Chair and Professor of Psychiatry and Director of the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry



Amanda Schumacher, Lara Leaf and Natasha Leibel, M.D. '98

The inaugural meeting of the Children's Health Council took place in the Weill Greenberg Center on January 23rd. The meeting, which was open to the community, drew an enthusiastic response thanks to a Host Committee of Overseers, donors and faculty with an interest in children's health research. The focal point of the evening was a panel discussion entitled "Keys to Happy Kids: Spotlight on Child Development," with Dean Glimcher moderating.



Dean Glimcher with M. Steven Silberman and his daughter Karen Silberman

The panel concluded with a lively question-and-answer session, and was followed by a reception that gave attendees an opportunity to interact with Weill Cornell experts in children's health. The Children's Health Council is a new group that provides opportunities for engagement for those committed to the advancement of children's health research. The council is led by co-chairmen Jack D. Barchas, M.D., Barklie McKee Henry Professor of Psychiatry and Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry and Gerald M. Loughlin, M.D., Nancy C. Paduano Professor of Pediatrics and Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics. For more information on the Children's Health Council, contact Jaime-Faye Malik at childrenshealthcouncil@med.cornell.edu, or by phone at 646.317.7358.

Milestones is a publication of the Office of External Affairs at Weill Cornell Medical College.

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