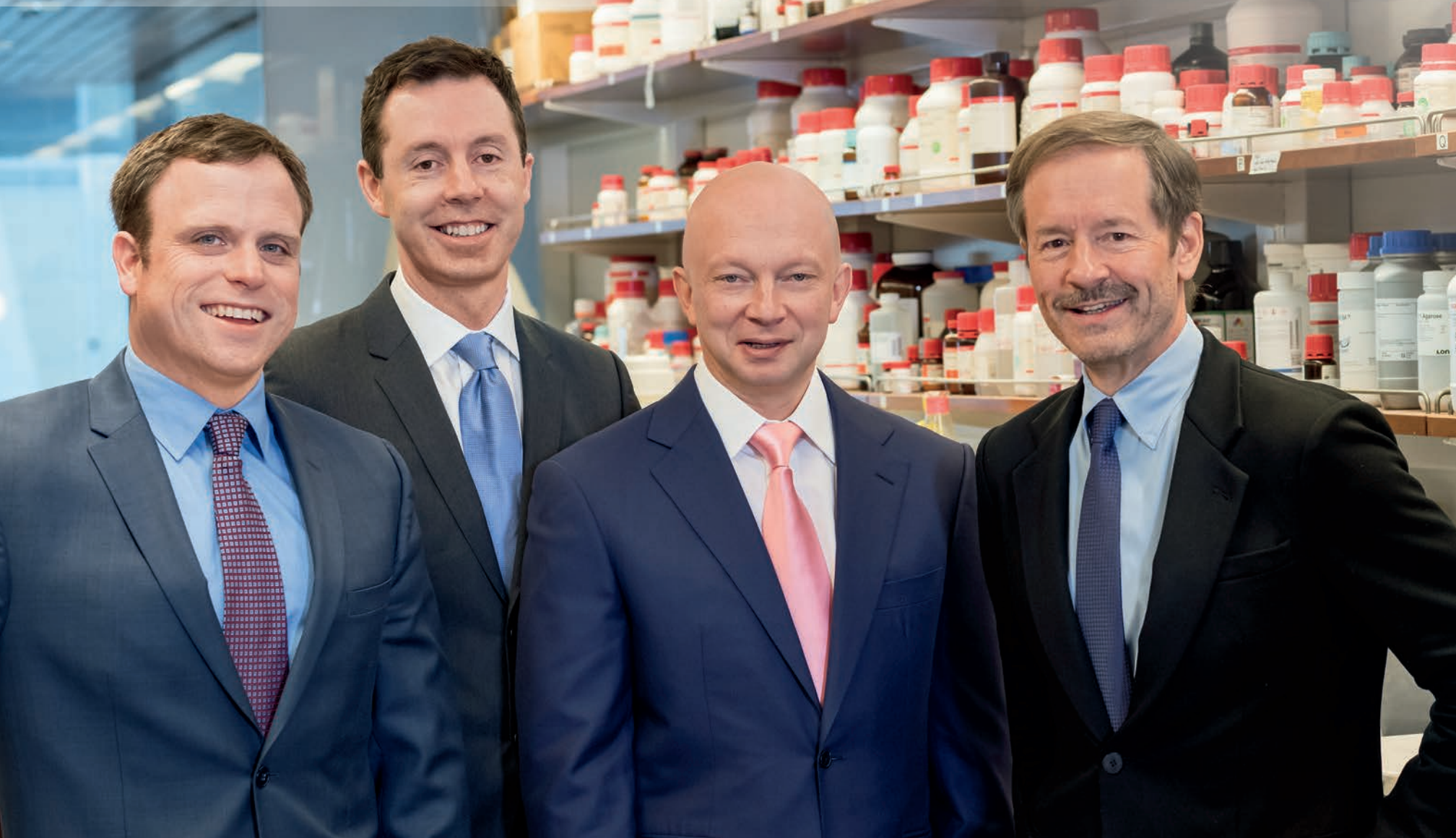




# milestones



From left: Dr. Christopher Mason, Dr. Olivier Elemento, Igor Tulchinsky, Dr. Lewis Cantley

ROGER TULLY

## Tulchinsky Gift Uses Finance Strategies to Move Medicine Forward

A bold, new initiative made possible by a generous gift from Overseer Igor Tulchinsky will enhance the diagnosis and treatment of a variety of illnesses, including cancer, infectious diseases and a range of neurological disorders.

Mr. Tulchinsky's gift of \$5 million, made through his company, WorldQuant, LLC, will establish the WorldQuant Initiative for Quantitative Prediction at Weill Cornell Medicine, a biomedical research initiative that will function in collaboration with scientists and physician investigators at the Caryl and Israel Englander Institute for Precision Medicine and the Sandra and Edward Meyer Cancer Center.

The initiative aims to expand current strategies used in precision medicine by combining state-of-the-art molecular profiling technologies with

advanced financial algorithms and computational methods, creating personalized disease and health models that will optimize treatment for patients.

**"This extremely creative gift will accelerate and expand Weill Cornell Medicine's approach to precision medicine, providing new predictive tools that will lead to even better outcomes for patients."**

**Jessica Bibliowicz**  
Chairman, Board of Overseers

The program will be co-directed by Dr. Christopher Mason, the WorldQuant Foundation Research Scholar and associate professor of physiology and biophysics, and Dr. Olivier Elemento, the Walter B. Wriston Research Scholar and associate professor of physiology and biophysics. Drs. Mason and Elemento are longstanding collaborators and colleagues; with this gift, they plan to pioneer new algorithms and technologies that will broaden the scope of personalized medicine.

"This extremely creative gift will accelerate and expand Weill Cornell Medicine's approach to precision medicine, providing new predictive tools that will lead to even better outcomes for patients," says Jessica Bibliowicz, chairman of the

Board of Overseers. "We are very grateful to Igor Tulchinsky and WorldQuant, LLC for making this initiative possible."

Although the worlds of finance and medicine may appear vastly different, both fields use "big data" to discover important patterns, observes Mr. Tulchinsky. He first became intrigued by the potential application of digital data to enhance biomedical research several years ago. In 2014, he established the WorldQuant Foundation Research Scholar Award, at Weill Cornell Medicine, currently held by Dr. Mason.

"Interestingly, it is likely that the types of computing needed to analyze big data and solve certain complex problems – whether they're related to changing consumer needs or variabilities in tumor cells – may be converging," says Dr. Lewis Cantley, the Meyer Director of the Meyer Cancer Center and professor of cancer biology in medicine. "Mr. Tulchinsky realizes the importance of developing this technology, and this very generous gift will accelerate our momentum in this highly competitive and rapidly moving area of cancer research."

*Continued on p. 2*





Weill Cornell Medicine is home to some of the most innovative and dynamic physicians and scientists in the country. As an institution, we thrive on accelerating scientific discovery and working diligently to speed the latest cures and treatments to our patients. Dean Choi, along with our dedicated leadership, donors, faculty and staff, are visionaries in the true sense of the word. Together, we share a vision that pairs novel scientific research and state-of-the-art technology with forward-thinking ideas to advance medicine and healthcare. Our overarching goal: to help our patients lead healthier lives for generations to come.

The generous gift from Igor Tulchinsky, through WorldQuant, LLC, featured in our cover story is a powerful example – and there are many – of the synergy that is sparked when groundbreaking science and medicine work hand-in-hand with industry and philanthropy. Partnerships like these have fueled so many of our accomplishments to date, and are essential to our ongoing growth. With the support of our leadership, donors and friends, Weill Cornell has become a world-class pioneer in academic medicine. And with Dean Choi guiding our path in the years to come, we are poised for even greater accomplishments ahead.

As we continue to break boundaries in scientific discovery, empower our students to be skilled and compassionate physicians, and provide the finest care to our patients, I am particularly grateful to our partners for their continued support and commitment toward these efforts. Weill Cornell is truly at the forefront of a new era in medicine – and our patients’ lives continue to benefit from the momentum that we have created together.

With gratitude,

**Jessica Bibliowicz**  
Chairman, Weill Cornell Medicine Board of Overseers

Our overarching goal: to help **our patients lead healthier lives** for generations to come.

**Care.**  
**Discover.**  
**Teach.**

## Tulchinsky Gift Uses Finance Strategies to Move Medicine Forward continued from cover

“We are looking forward to using the tools and methods that will spring from this philanthropic investment to tease apart cancer cells’ secrets and create predictive models of health for patients,” says Dr. Mason, who, along with Dr. Elemento, is associate professor of computational genomics at the HRH Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud Institute for Computational Biomedicine. “Not only does this gift enable new science and predictive models in medicine, it also creates an unprecedented collaboration between Weill Cornell Medicine and WorldQuant.”

WorldQuant, an international quantitative investment management firm founded by Mr. Tulchinsky, who is chairman and CEO, uses proprietary algorithms to develop investment strategies. “There is a great opportunity to take the technologies we’ve been developing and using in finance, and apply them in other areas, particularly in predictive medicine and cancer, where the stakes are so high,” Mr. Tulchinsky says.

By converging quantitative finance and precision medicine, the new initiative will allow for “unprecedented predictive analytics of disease,”



From left: Igor Tulchinsky, Dr. Christopher Mason, Dr. Olivier Elemento

says Dr. Elemento. “This incredibly generous gift will likely spur a whole new generation of biomedical discoveries by helping bring predictive disease analytics to precision medicine.”

“The use of quantitative prediction for patients represents an important new tool at Weill Cornell Medicine,” says Dr. Augustine M.K. Choi, the Stephen and Suzanne Weiss Dean. “We appreciate Mr. Tulchinsky’s generosity, which will help us

achieve new goals in the constantly evolving field of precision medicine.”

Mr. Tulchinsky, who joined the Board of Overseers earlier this year, says he looks forward to witnessing the exciting advances that will emerge as a result of the new initiative.

“I predict – and this is our first prediction – that we’re going to achieve great things here,” he says.



# Scholar Awards Support the Best and Brightest

*To encourage support of the best and brightest physician-scientists at Weill Cornell Medicine, an anonymous donor has established a challenge grant to fund a scholar award. The grant will enable the creation of a \$1 million naming opportunity of an Education Scholar Award (ESA) or Research Scholar Award (RSA) with a \$750,000 gift.*

Research Scholar Awards provide endowed funding to rising-star scientists at the forefront of breakthrough discoveries. One rising star who has benefited from an RSA is Dr. Daylon James, the Queenie Victorina Neri Research Scholar and director of the Reproductive Endocrinology Laboratory at the Ronald O. Perelman and Claudia Cohen Center for Reproductive Medicine.

Dr. James, a research scientist whose expertise spans regenerative and reproductive medicine, explains that a variety of new techniques now make it easier for women to become pregnant after being treated for cancer.

Some of those techniques utilize regenerative cell-based therapy, adds Dr. James, who – in addition to his work in fertility preservation – leads research collaborations aimed at improving the health of patients who suffer from a wide range of cardiovascular diseases.

“Unfortunately, many successful cancer treatments can damage young women’s ovaries, putting them into early menopause and negatively affecting their fertility,” says Dr. James, an assistant professor of stem cell biology in reproductive medicine and obstetrics and gynecology, and an assistant professor of genetic medicine.

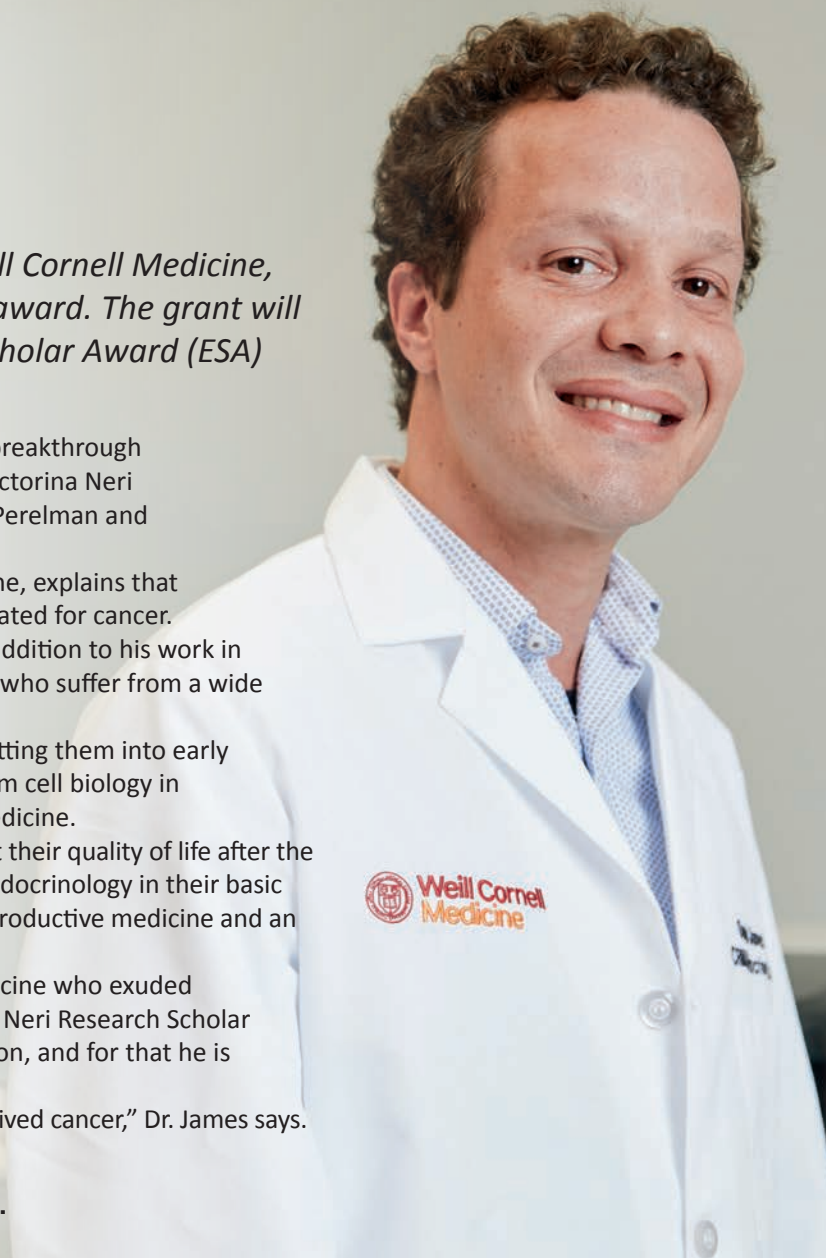
“Our focus is to provide and preserve reproductive options for these patients in order to boost their quality of life after the cure,” he says. In his multifaceted role, Dr. James also mentors clinical fellows in reproductive endocrinology in their basic research year at the Perelman-Cohen Center, led by Dr. Zev Rosenwaks, physician-in-chief of reproductive medicine and an overseer at Weill Cornell Medicine.

Named in memory of a beloved young scientist and research associate in reproductive medicine who exuded great enthusiasm, selflessness and dedication to scientific achievement, the Queenie Victorina Neri Research Scholar Award will have a lasting impact by supporting Dr. James’ continued work in fertility preservation, and for that he is extremely grateful.

“The idea touches my heart, that we are helping preserve a full life for women who have survived cancer,” Dr. James says.

**For more information, please contact**

**Lucille Ferraro, Campaign Director, at 646-962-9491 or [luf2003@med.cornell.edu](mailto:luf2003@med.cornell.edu).**



TRAVIS CURRY

# Gratitude Inspires Gift to New Spine Center

It’s difficult to smile when your back hurts. But the Rev. David Rich Sr. has always stayed positive, even after enduring a series of failed surgeries that did little to relieve his severe lower back pain.

It wasn’t until he met Dr. Roger Härtl and the team of experts at the Center for Comprehensive Spine Care at Weill Cornell Medicine that the Rev. Rich and his wife, Lorry, felt confident they were finally in the right place.

“I would have gone to the moon to find somebody who would make my back stop hurting,” says the Rev. Rich, a retired Anglican pastor, who traveled from his home in southern Florida for treatment at the spine center. “It was two hours on a plane, and now I’ve got people who know what they’re doing.”

In appreciation for the care he has received, the Rev. Rich and his family recently made a gift of \$250,000 to Weill Cornell Medicine in support of the spine center.

“We are very grateful for this donation that will allow us to improve comprehensive spine care in New York City,” says Dr. Härtl, a director of the spine center and professor of neurological surgery.

“The Rich family’s support will help us continue to deliver highly effective and coordinated care to patients with spine-related issues,” says Dr. Jaspal Ricky Singh, the Willibald Nagler Clinical Scholar in Rehabilitation Medicine, co-director of the spine center and assistant professor of rehabilitation medicine.

The Center for Comprehensive Spine Care, which opened in October 2016, is a state-of-the-art facility that provides integrated care from 15 physicians across four spinal specialties, including neurology, neurological surgery, rehabilitation medicine and pain management.

For the Rev. Rich, the ability to see multiple specialists in one office visit makes the spine center uniquely convenient. “They can also get you into Weill Cornell Medicine’s imaging center immediately, without a wait,” he says. “The process is seamless in every way.”

After experiencing such a high level of care, the Rev. and Mrs. Rich decided that helping the spine center fulfill its mission seemed the ideal way to express their gratitude.

“There is a saying, ‘To whom much is given, much is required,’ ” says the Rev. Rich. “We consider that our giving is part of our faith walk.”

From left: Dr. Jaspal Ricky Singh, the Rev. David Rich Sr., Dr. Roger Härtl



CARLOS BIDO



# Pancreatic Cancer Program to Advance Breakthrough Research

With the aim of advancing transformative discoveries in pancreatic cancer care and research, the Leandro P. Rizzuto Foundation has pledged generous gifts totaling \$6.5 million to support pancreatic cancer initiatives in the Department of Surgery and the Sandra and Edward Meyer Cancer Center at Weill Cornell Medicine.

A significant portion of this gift – \$5.5 million – will establish a new program to be co-directed by Dr. Fabrizio Michelassi, the Lewis Atterbury Stimson Professor of Surgery and chairman of the Department of Surgery; and Dr. Todd Evans, the Peter I. Pressman, MD Professor of Surgery, vice chair for research and chief, Division of Research.

“For quite some time, we have been looking to build a focused program on pancreatic cancer, a devastating disease for which there has been very little progress through the years,” says Dr. Evans. “Our goal is to forge translational strategies, and to move discoveries from the basic research side into the clinical arena.”

The gift supports ongoing research in understanding the critical genes and environmental factors that influence the development of pancreatic cancer, which is often undiagnosed until quite late, say Drs. Michelassi and Evans.

“This important initiative at Weill Cornell Medicine will generate personalized therapies for patients with this challenging disease,” says Dean Augustine M.K. Choi. “We are grateful to the Leandro P. Rizzuto Foundation for helping support this critical bench-to-bedside research.”

The foundation also pledged an additional \$1 million gift to create the Leandro P. Rizzuto GI Oncology Research Fund.

The new pancreatic cancer program in the Department of Surgery springs from a “very robust effort in clinical and basic science,” says Dr. Michelassi.



From left: Dr. Todd Evans, Dr. Fabrizio Michelassi

“This gift is building on a fertile ground of research and discoveries developed over the past few years.”

Members of Dr. Evans’ research team include Dr. Shuibing Chen, assistant professor of chemical biology in surgery; Dr. Marco Seandel, assistant professor of cell and developmental biology in surgery; and Dr. Yariv Houvras, assistant professor of medicine in surgery.

The gift has also enabled the Department of Surgery to recruit a pancreatic cancer surgeon-scientist, Dr. Rohit Chandwani, who will join the program in June.

“We are marrying the clinical expertise with the research expertise, and building bridges with surgeon-scientists who are great clinicians, but also understand the basic science of pancreatic cancer,” says Dr. Michelassi. “To me, that is the ultimate platform for which ideas generated at the bedside can be brought to the bench, and vice versa, leading to progress in patient care.”

## Cohen Gift Supports Cardiothoracic Surgery Training Center

When Overseer David Cohen joined the board at Weill Cornell Medicine last summer, he and his wife, Gail, were committed to backing the institution through active participation and financial support for important initiatives.

The Cohens, who relocated to Manhattan after raising their children in New Jersey, were already impressed with the doctors who provided their routine care. But it was their immersion in the innovative work going on behind the scenes at Weill Cornell that inspired them to get more involved.

After meeting with numerous physicians and researchers, the Cohens decided to make a gift of \$1.1 million, \$1 million of which will support the establishment of a Cardiothoracic Surgery Robotics Training Center, under the direction of Dr. Leonard Girardi, the O. Wayne Isom Professor of Cardiothoracic Surgery and chairman of the Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery.

The robotics training center will provide cardiothoracic surgeons, fellows, residents and medical students with hands-on training in the specialized techniques associated with robotic surgery. Over the past several years, Dr. Girardi has launched a robotic-surgery initiative – directed by Dr. T. Sloane Guy, associate professor of clinical cardiothoracic surgery – that offers minimally invasive surgical options for patients with heart illnesses. Since the first robotic surgery

case was conducted here in January 2016, many patients have experienced excellent outcomes with less blood loss and post-operative pain, shorter hospital stays and a quicker recovery.

“Our goal was to help one of Weill Cornell Medicine’s surgical teams stay at the cutting edge of new technologies and provide extraordinary patient care,” says Mr. Cohen. “From this vantage point, we felt the establishment of a Cardiothoracic Surgery Robotics Training Center was consistent with the three pillars of Weill Cornell Medicine’s mission: Care. Discover. Teach.”

The Cohens also allocated \$100,000 of their gift to support the Daedalus Fund for Innovation, which accelerates early-stage drug discoveries to become pioneering treatments for patients. “We view this involvement with Daedalus as the beginning of an affiliation with the innovation and entrepreneurship at Weill Cornell Medicine,” says Mr. Cohen. “We are very intrigued and impressed with the progress that the overall entrepreneurial initiatives have achieved in a relatively short period of time.”

As Mr. and Mrs. Cohen continue to strengthen their bond with the institution, they hope friends will catch their enthusiasm and excitement – and ultimately feel the same passion for Weill Cornell Medicine.

“I’ve totally enjoyed my immersion, and hope to get even more involved,” says Mrs. Cohen.



Overseer David and Gail Cohen



# What Inspires Giving?

## Meet Dean Augustine M.K. Choi, MD

In January of this year, Dr. Augustine M.K. Choi was named the Stephen and Suzanne Weiss Dean of Weill Cornell Medicine and Cornell University's provost for medical affairs. In 2013, Dr. Choi was recruited to chair what is now the Joan and Sanford I. Weill Department of Medicine at Weill Cornell Medicine and became physician-in-chief of NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center. Prior to coming to Weill Cornell, Dean Choi was a professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School and chief of pulmonary and critical care medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. His wife, fellow physician-scientist Dr. Mary Choi, is an associate professor of medicine in the Division of Nephrology and Hypertension here.

Dean Choi recently sat down with Larry Schafer, vice provost for external affairs, to speak about the transformative impact of philanthropy on the institution and his vision for how donor support will make future growth achievable for Weill Cornell Medicine.

**LS:** What type of support do you think is going to be most meaningful for philanthropy, moving forward? Where do you see philanthropy fitting in, in the most meaningful way?

**AC:** Well, in the old days, philanthropy could have been referred to as "icing on the cake." But in this era, there is no question that fundraising is critical to supporting all three parts of our institution's mission: Care. Discover. Teach. In order to plan strategically for the future, at a time when there can be cuts and other risks for reductions in funding, we need philanthropy to maintain our momentum. So philanthropy is no longer just "icing"; it *is* the cake.

**LS:** What are some areas that may serve as unique funding opportunities for our institution, going forward?

**AC:** In the last 20 years, through a series of strategic plans, Weill Cornell has transformed itself. This could not have been done without visionary leadership and exceptional donor support. Today, we are part of an elite class of academic medical centers nationwide with strong translational research programs in areas of critical medical need. We now have world-class research in cancer, cardiovascular disease, inflammatory bowel disease, neuroscience, Alzheimer's disease, precision medicine and children's health that will drive forward improvements in clinical care. Now we have the capacity, the faculty and the scientific foundation to really accomplish great things. Five years ago, when the Belfer Research Building was being built, we didn't have many of those programs – not at the level they are now. So our job now is to continue to invest in and grow these key areas so that we can remain at the forefront of academic medicine.

**LS:** What do you see as some of the greatest challenges and opportunities for Weill Cornell Medicine?

**AC:** One of our main challenges is to determine the best ways for us to continue to grow all parts of our three-pronged mission to care, discover and teach. Through thoughtful planning, our clinical footprint has expanded significantly the last few years as we have opened new physician practice

offices on the Upper West Side and lower Manhattan, as well as in Queens and Brooklyn. Our research enterprise has experienced an impressive surge in productivity and NIH funding now that we have nearly filled the Belfer Research Building. And our new medical education curriculum has truly transformed the way we teach. So now we need to move very swiftly to begin planning for our next phase of growth and evolution.

There are many opportunities to consider, but having adequate space for our programs is one of our largest challenges. You always hear that in New York City, there is more money than available real estate. As dean, I definitely find that to be the case and we will need to find ways to more efficiently use the space we already have and explore new opportunities to identify additional space to enable us to fulfill our mission. Without a doubt, philanthropy is essential to helping us plan effectively for the future. The gifts we receive from our generous donors support programs and ideas that make Weill Cornell the innovative institution it is.

**LS:** Student debt burden has become a real concern for institutions of higher learning. Since 2010, Weill Cornell has raised about \$8 million each year in funds dedicated to student scholarships. How do you hope to lessen that concern for medical students who choose to enroll here?

**AC:** This is an important issue to me. At Weill Cornell, medical students carry an average debt load of \$149,000, which is less than the national average for medical students attending private schools. I think the real tragedy is when students are forced to pick a specialty based on economics, rather than upon their true passion. For example, salaries in the areas of primary care, pediatrics and internal medicine are not as high as in surgical services. And some students who may love the field of primary care may not choose to enter that field if they have a \$200,000 student loan debt. We need to fix this problem, and so far, Weill Cornell is doing well in that regard. But even so, it is my hope that continued donor support will further reduce our students' debt load.

**LS:** One of the things that makes Weill Cornell Medicine great, in my opinion, are its people, including the patients, volunteers and donors. Although there are responsibilities, and business to accomplish, we seem to do it all like a family.

**AC:** Absolutely. First, this is a friendly place to work, let me tell you. When Mary and I first moved to New York and became a part of the Weill Cornell community, we were a little taken aback. People would just greet you everywhere – on elevators, in hallways – everywhere! Weill Cornell is the friendliest place I have been a part of, bar none.

Second, our Board of Overseers, volunteers and donors are truly engaged here. Many of our supporters know that we need certain resources, and our donors are right there for us. Our Board of Overseers and other donors are lovely people, and truly like a family. I'm looking forward to everything we will accomplish together.

RICHARD LOBELL



## Dean's Council Spring Meeting

Dr. Rahul Sharma, chief of the Division of Emergency Medicine at Weill Cornell Medicine, spoke to an engaged audience at the Dean's Council Spring Meeting on April 4. His presentation, "Emergency Medicine: Achieving Innovative, High Quality, Patient-Centered Care," highlighted recent achievements in education, research and innovation, including the introduction of telehealth services, a NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical

Center program that allows patients to receive expedient and expert medical attention. The Emergency Department at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell could be referred to as the "front porch" of the medical center because it is often a patient's gateway to the institution. In his first year as chief of emergency medicine, Dr. Sharma has made a number of innovations to improve patients' experiences in that department.



From left: Dean Augustine M.K. Choi, Dr. Rahul Sharma, Overseer Sanford Ehrenkranz, Overseer Leonard Harlan



## Healthy Living Symposium in Palm Beach

Dean Augustine M.K. Choi moderated Weill Cornell Medicine's Healthy Living Symposium on February 27 in Palm Beach, Florida. Three top-tier specialists shared their expertise and knowledge of a variety of topics before a crowd of more than 450 attendees. The annual event brings together leading physicians and scientists to speak about some of the most pressing health concerns of our time.



From left: Dr. Leonard Girardi, MD '89, Dean Augustine M.K. Choi, Dr. Himisha Beltran, Dr. Robert Brown



This year's symposium featured the following speakers and topics:

### Himisha Beltran, MD

Assistant Professor of Medicine  
Assistant Professor of Medicine in Urology  
*Precision Medicine's Promise*

### Robert Brown, MD

Gladys and Roland Harriman Professor of Medicine  
Clinical Chief, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology  
*Healthy Liver and Healthy Living*

### Leonard Girardi, MD '89

O. Wayne Isom Professor of Cardiothoracic Surgery  
Chairman, Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery  
*How to Mend a Broken Heart*

On Feb. 25, the Weill Cornell Medical College Alumni Association held an Alumni and Friends Breakfast, which included presentations by Dean Choi, Student-Overseer Raul Martinez-McFaline and Alumni Association President Stuart Mushlin, MD '73. In addition to the all-day symposium, Judith and Thomas Iovino hosted a delightful reception at their home in Palm Beach on Feb. 26 for Dean Choi and supporters of Weill Cornell Medicine.



Judith and Thomas Iovino



# Alumni Association Hosts Family Day



Family and friends of students at Weill Cornell Medicine were invited to visit the Medical College at the annual Family Day, hosted by the Weill Cornell Medical College Alumni Association. The event, held on March 28, allowed visitors to deepen their understanding of the educational experience. The day included a panel discussion featuring first-year medical students who offered a glimpse into the early challenges of medical school, along with presentations by Drs. Barbara Hempstead, senior associate dean for education, and Peter Marzuk, the Gertrude Feil Associate Dean of Curricular Affairs. Following the presentations, visitors and students were treated to a guided campus tour, demonstrations of problem-based learning and an evening reception.

From left: students Andrew Yin, Karina N. Ruiz-Esteves, Devin Ray, Jonathan S. Galati, Latha Panchap



# Gale and Ira Drukier Prize in Children’s Health Research

Weill Cornell Medicine awarded the second annual Gale and Ira Drukier Prize in Children’s Health Research to Dr. Joshua D. Milner, an allergist and immunologist who has made key discoveries into the origin of previously unidentified disorders that affect children and families.

Dr. Milner, chief of the Genetics and Pathogenesis of Allergy Section at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the National Institutes of Health, was recognized for his innovative research focusing on the discovery and understanding of the genetic and physiologic basis for allergic diseases and his work to find advanced treatments and cures.

The Drukier Prize honors an early-career pediatrician whose research has made important contributions toward improving the health of children and adolescents. Dr. Milner received this award and spoke about his research at a seminar that took place on March 29.

“As a young investigator dedicated to advancing the field of pediatric research using inventive scientific approaches, Dr. Milner exemplifies the spirit of the Gale and Ira Drukier Prize in Children’s Health Research,” says Dr. Augustine M.K. Choi, the Stephen and Suzanne Weiss Dean of Weill Cornell Medicine. “We are thrilled to honor him this year.”



From left: Dean Augustine M.K. Choi, Gale Drukier, Ira Drukier, Dr. Joshua D. Milner, Dr. Gerald Loughlin

“As a young investigator dedicated to **advancing the field of pediatric research using inventive scientific approaches**, Dr. Milner exemplifies the spirit of the Gale and Ira Drukier Prize in Children’s Health Research.”  
Dr. Augustine M.K. Choi



# We Are Weill Cornell Medicine

The We Are Weill Cornell Medicine campaign highlights the unique Weill Cornell Medicine community and introduces many of the people and achievements that make this institution the world-class place that it is. To learn more about this campaign, and to read more stories like this one, please visit [news.weill.cornell.edu](https://news.weill.cornell.edu).

**Dr. Lia Logio**  
**Vice Chair for Education, Weill Department of Medicine**  
**Herbert J. and Ann L. Siegel Distinguished Professor of Medicine**

As a young girl, Dr. Lia Logio put a lab coat over her best clothes and accompanied her surgeon father as he made his hospital rounds each Sunday. It was her father’s passion for medicine – and her mother’s dedication to teaching – that inspired Dr. Logio to pursue a career that combined the best of both worlds. Her current duties as an educator and physician include caring for patients, teaching doctors-in-training and mentoring faculty. “Every patient deserves a doctor who really cares and listens to them, and in my role, I get to shepherd the next generation of physicians to do just that,” says Dr. Logio, vice chair for Education in the Weill Department of Medicine, and the Herbert J. and Ann L. Siegel Distinguished Professor of Medicine. “I am honored to hold the Siegel Distinguished Professorship, and grateful for the many opportunities it has provided for me. I don’t think I have any special sauce in being a teacher, except that I really love what I do, and that can be contagious in itself.” In fact, Dr. Logio – who calls herself an “education innovator” – has been recognized repeatedly for her teaching skills.



TRAVIS CURRY

In 2015, the Joan and Sanford I. Weill Department of Medicine Residency Program at Weill Cornell Medicine and NewYork-Presbyterian was named an Apple Distinguished Program for integrating the iPad into the curriculum – an initiative that Dr. Logio created. “We developed cutting-edge content that can be accessed in real time, when faced with a patient with any disease,” she says. In her role as assistant dean for faculty development, she also aims to help faculty “find the sweet spot” in balancing clinical and teaching duties with academic pursuits. But when it comes to educating the next generation of physicians, Dr. Logio always reminds them that a good doctor-patient relationship is critical to providing the best outcomes. “When we care for another human being, it’s actually a form of love,” she says. “That’s what healthcare should be for every patient.”

**#WeAreWCM**

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*as of April 2017*

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