

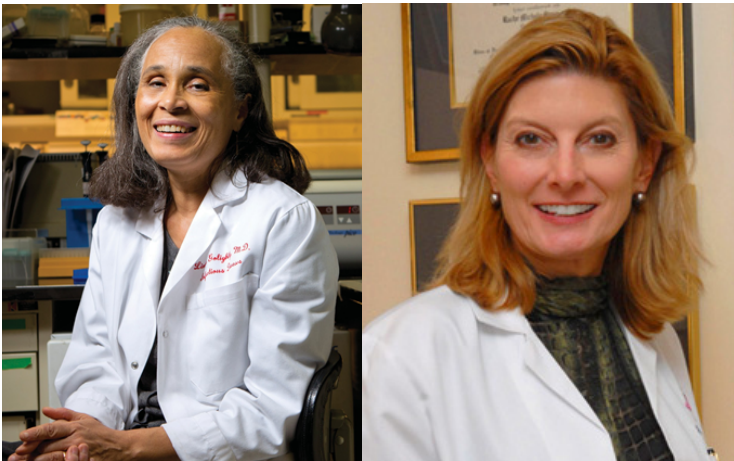


# Weill Cornell Medicine Diversity & Inclusion

## DECEMBER 2017

### MESSAGE OF ASSOCIATE DEANS OF DIVERSITY

7th  
NEWSLETTER  
EDITION



Dr. Linnie Golightly    Dr. Rache Simmons

Greetings!

We are delighted to report that Dean Augustine Choi has announced the "Dean's Diversity and Healthcare Disparities Research Awards". Please see page 8 for details. We encourage all faculty, trainees and students to consider applying!

In November, our office hosted WCM's first Breaking Bread Dinner to provide a safe space for students, faculty, residents, fellows and staff to share their thoughts on diversity. Dr. Renee Alexander (Dean of Students, Cornell University), who originated the concept at Cornell U., joined with us for the event! We would like to thank everyone for coming and we look forward to seeing those of you who didn't make it at the next event.

In addition, our office and the Office of Student Diversity hosted a "Meet and Greet" welcoming Dr. Sherilynn Black (Associate Vice Provost for Faculty Development, Duke University). For 7 years, Dr. Black has worked in fostering an inclusive and diverse environment for graduate students of all backgrounds in the basic sciences. We were excited to have her on campus!

We hope to see everyone at the **Diversity Holiday Mixer** on **December 11th**. Please note that Dr. Joseph L. Wright, Professor and Chair of Pediatrics at Howard University Medical College will be attending, and giving **Pediatric Grand Rounds** on **December 12th** (please see below for details).

We wish everyone a joyous holiday season!

Kind Regards,

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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](https://diversityholidaymixer.eventbrite.com)



## Weill Cornell Medicine



**Joseph L. Wright,  
MD, MPH**  
Professor and Chair of  
Pediatrics

Howard University  
College of Medicine  
Washington, DC

### Pediatric Grand Rounds

December 12, 2017

8:30 AM

“Pediatric Emergency  
Medicine and  
Emergency Medical  
Services for Children:  
A Historical  
Perspective”

In addition to being Professor and Chair of Pediatrics at HUCM, Dr. Wright is current chair of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Committee on Pediatric Emergency Medicine and has served as inaugural chair of the AAP Violence Prevention Subcommittee.

**Dr. Wright** will be attending and available for introductions at the **Diversity Holiday Mixer** (12/11 @ 5:30 pm, Griffis) and will be giving **Pediatric Noon Conference** following Grand Rounds on December 12<sup>th</sup>. (Pediatric Library)

<https://weillcornell.org/services/pediatrics>

## *The Fourteenth Biennial* **Biomedical Science Careers Student Conference**

*Sponsored by*



*Biomedical Science Careers Program*

The Westin Copley Place - Boston, Massachusetts  
Friday, April 6 and Saturday, April 7, 2018

BSCP will hold its fourteenth biennial Biomedical Science Careers Student Conference for postdocs (research and clinical); medical, dental and graduate students; post-baccalaureates; college and community college students; and high school seniors and juniors (particularly African-American, Hispanic/Latino or American Indian/Alaska Native students/fellows) on Friday, April 6 and Saturday, April 7, 2018 at The Westin Copley Place in Boston, Massachusetts.

### **FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 2018 – 6:00 PM to 9:15 PM**

**For Postdocs (Research and Clinical); Medical, Dental and Graduate Students; Post-Baccalaureates; College and Community College Students**

- Keynote Address
- Networking Dinner and Workshops:
  - Approaching Residency Selection and Interviews
  - What's Next: Options after Graduate School
  - Technology in Science and Medicine
  - National Institutes of Health 101
  - How to Write an Abstract and Present a Poster

### **SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 2018 – 7:45 AM to 6:00 PM**

**For Postdocs (Research and Clinical); Medical, Dental and Graduate Students; Post-Baccalaureates; College and Community College Students; and High School Seniors and Juniors**

- Plenary Sessions and Keynote Speakers
  - Jeffrey Leiden, M.D., Ph.D.  
Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer  
Vertex Pharmaceuticals
  - Michelle A. Williams, Sc.D.  
Dean of the Faculty  
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
- Small Group Meetings with Individually-assigned Mentors/Advisors
- Panel Discussions for each Academic Level Including:
  - Residency Training and Beyond
  - Fellowships and Postdoctoral Training
  - Funding and Research Opportunities
  - Getting into College/ Medical School/ Professional School and Succeeding
  - Transitioning from University to Workplace
  - Other Biomedical-related Career Opportunities
  - Transferring from a Two- to Four-Year College
  - Nursing Education Pathways
- Science Resources Highlighting Fellowships, Internships, Job and Research Opportunities, and Summer Programs
- Resource Room Featuring National and Local Organizations, and Institutions
- Networking with Peers and Leaders in Biomedical and Other Science-related Fields
- Special Session for Postdocs: Networking and Career Discussion

**There is no registration fee for this program but pre-registration is required.**

Application Deadline: February 5, 2018

To request an application:

Please forward your academic level and preferred postal mailing address to Lise D. Kaye at [lise\\_kaye@hms.harvard.edu](mailto:lise_kaye@hms.harvard.edu).



# MEET AND GREET WITH DR. SHERILYNN BLACK



Students, faculty, and staff welcomed and met with Dr. Sherilynn Black, Associate Vice Provost for Faculty Development at Duke University. Dr. Black spoke extensively about the challenges minority students encounter, such as finding suitable mentors to help them navigate the basic sciences. She discussed some of the strategies that she has developed and offered at Duke's Office of Biomedical Graduate Diversity to help support minority students and train their mentors as well as feel a part of a community.

## DEVELOPING A CLIMATE THAT SUPPORTS DIVERSITY IN SCIENCE AND MEDICINE



The Office of Student Diversity hosted Dr. Sherilynn Black's lecture, "Developing A Climate that Supports Diversity in Science and Medicine." Dr. Black elaborated on the history and development of the Office of Biomedical Graduate Diversity since her appointment as Director. As she began her position, she realized that there was a mismatch in what graduate trainees valued and what the biomedical environment offered. With support from Duke, she established an administrative unit and received institutional funding to foster an inclusive and diverse environment for trainees of all backgrounds. Over the years, Dr. Black has established programs and practices within her office such as the Postdoctoral Associate Program, and the Institutional Partnership Program consisting of 18 institutions (NC State, Hunter College, Harvard, University of Puerto Rico, Virginia Tech, and more). These programs have provided opportunities for the acquisition of administrative and grant writing skills, the establishment of external research collaborations, and the development of summer enrichment

programs. Dr. Black has also work extensively in increasing faculty and administrative mentoring and engagement by providing training and professional development opportunities for mentors. In her new position, as Associate Vice Provost of Faculty Development, she plans to use these previous strategies to enhance diverse faculty.

# BREAKING BREAD DINNER



On November 20th, our first WCM Breaking Bread Dinner was well attended by students, faculty, and staff and a great success. Everyone was welcomed and encouraged to share their thoughts on diversity in a safe environment. The dinner dialogue was co-facilitated by Dr. Linnie Golightly (Associate Dean of Diversity and Inclusion) and Dr. Renee Alexander (Dean of Students, Cornell University), who developed and won an award for initiating the Breaking Bread Dinner series on Cornell's Ithaca campus. We appreciate everyone's willingness to share and candor. Please send ideas or suggestions for future Breaking Bread Dinners to **Angelica Patterson**, [anp2881@med.cornell.edu](mailto:anp2881@med.cornell.edu) or **Fatima Dombia**, [fad2011@med.cornell.edu](mailto:fad2011@med.cornell.edu).

*Happy Holidays*



# FACULTY, STUDENT, AND ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



## R. DANA VACHATA, T-SRF ALUMNI NAMED 30 UNDER 30 FORBES

Danae Vachata, co-founder of Dynamic Surgical & Mallium and former Travelers Summer Research Fellow (T-SRF) 2010 participant was recently named as one of 30 Under 30 Forbes honorees in Healthcare. Congratulations, Ms. Vachata!



## ALEXENDAR PEREZ, MD/PHD STUDENT NAMED 30 UNDER 30 FORBES

Alexendar Perez, MD/PHD student was recently named as one of the 30 Under 30 Forbes honorees as one of the 30 Under 30 Forbes honorees in Science. Congratulations, Mr. Perez!

# GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

## Dean's Diversity and Healthcare Disparities Awards Due January 31, 2018

**THESE ARE LIMITED SUBMISSIONS: 2-4 awards per category**

**Applications due: January 31, 2018 at 11:59pm to [nag2020@med.cornell.edu](mailto:nag2020@med.cornell.edu)**

### **Program Summary:**

Dean Augustine M.K. Choi is pleased to announce the establishment of the Dean's Diversity and Healthcare Disparity Research Awards. The awards will support excellence in research to improve the health of underrepresented minorities and/or reduce health disparities in healthcare systems and in clinical settings, either locally or globally. Research into improving the diversity and gender balance of the biomedical workforce will also be supported, as lack of a representative workforce can be linked to health disparities.

The awards are designed to further Weill Cornell Medicine's goal of becoming a national leader in advancing diversity and inclusion within academic medicine. We seek proposals for basic, translational, clinical, informatics, or outcomes research that addresses health disparity areas including, but not limited to: race and ethnicity, gender and gender identity, socioeconomic status, access to healthcare, differing standards of healthcare, insurance status, age, geography, sexual orientation, and cultural beliefs. Underrepresented minorities are encouraged to apply.

The Dean's Diversity and Healthcare Disparity Research Awards will provide funding for one year and will be available at four levels:

- ▶ Faculty (4 awards) - \$50,000 each
- ▶ Fellows and Postdoctoral Associates (2 awards) - \$25,000 each
- ▶ Residents (4 awards) - \$10,000 each
- ▶ Medical and Graduate Students (2 awards) - \$5,000 each (to be used for Area of Concentration Scholarly Project or Graduate Research Project)

### **Eligibility Criteria**

Applicants must:

- ▶ Be full-time faculty, fellows, postdoctoral associates, medical students, or graduate students at Weill Cornell Medicine, or full-time residents or fellows at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center. Trainees should have a qualified mentor and mentoring plan.
- ▶ Have a well-developed feasible, significant, and innovative research plan focused on diversity, diseases that disproportionately affect diverse communities, or the reduction of health disparities.
- ▶ Anticipate completion of their projects while based at Weill Cornell Medicine.

Awardees will be invited to present their research projects during Weill Cornell Medicine's Diversity Week, which will take place April 23-27, 2018.

Announcement of award recipients will be made in the late winter/early spring of 2018.

**Questions:** For further information, please contact Angelica Patterson ([anp2281@med.cornell.edu](mailto:anp2281@med.cornell.edu)), Research Coordinator.



# GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

## 2018 Summer Medical Student Research Fellowship Program Due January 8, 2018

A ten-week National Cancer Institute (NCI) sponsored research program open to first- or second-year students (at US medical schools) with a career interest in the field of oncology and/or related biomedical sciences. The NCI R25 program grant encourages the participation of students from groups under-represented in medicine and biomedical research. Additional funding provided by MSK's Graduate Medical Education Office and the Office of Diversity Programs in Clinical Care, Research, and Training.

Participants will:

- ▶ Gain clinical, translational, or laboratory research experience
- ▶ Interact with MSK physicians, PhD investigators, postdoctoral fellows and graduate students
- ▶ Attend a weekly lecture series presented by world-renowned MSK faculty
- ▶ Present their summer research to fellowship peers and MSK faculty during the final week of the program
- ▶ Participants receive a \$5800 stipend for participation in the program

### **2018 PROGRAM DATES**

**A) June 4 – August 10, 2018**

**OR**

**B) June 11 - August 17, 2018**

\*Subject to sponsor's approval, students may attend either block.

### **STIPEND & HOUSING**

\$5,800 stipend for uninterrupted participation (start and end dates inclusive). Housing is not provided. A list of housing resources will be made available to accepted students.

### **HOW TO APPLY**

**Application and projects available: December 11, 2017, at 9:00 AM EST**

**All application materials must be received by: January 8, 2018, at 5:00 PM EST**

- ▶ Complete the online application: <https://summerfellowshipprogram.mskcc.org>.
- ▶ Submit a letter of good standing from your Dean's or Registrar's office. Your letter must state that you are a first or second-year student in good academic standing and specify if any courses are under remediation or pending remediation. Students who will need to repeat a course during the summer or are in the process of repeating a course are not eligible to participate. Please visit our website for additional information on eligibility: <http://www.mskcc.org/summerfellowships>

### **CONTACT US**

Summer Medical Student Research Fellowship Program

E-mail: [sumstudent@mskcc.org](mailto:sumstudent@mskcc.org)

Andre Henry, Medical Student Coordinator

Phone: 212.639.3359

For additional information please visit: <http://www.mskcc.org/summerfellowships>

DECEMBER 2017



# Weill Cornell Medicine

JOIN US ON  
FACEBOOK



**Weill Cornell Medicine**  
Diversity & Inclusion

- ▶ 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](mailto:elb2020@med.cornell.edu)\*\***