South Nassau Communities Hospital and the Mount Sinai Health System have finalized a partnership that will make South Nassau Mount Sinai's flagship hospital on Long Island and bring advanced-level health care to the South Shore of Nassau County and to Long Island. The comprehensive agreement has received enthusiastic support of the boards of directors of both institutions and positions Mount Sinai and South Nassau to expand access to innovative approaches in patient care, treatment, and research to the communities of Long Island.

“Our collective goal is to provide the highest quality of care to patients on Long Island,” says Kenneth L. Davis, MD, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Mount Sinai Health System. “Our affiliation with Mount Sinai provides a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for us to expand our services, including plans for a new four-story addition in Oceanside with an expanded Emergency Department and new intensive care beds and surgical suites.”

Adds Richard J. Murphy, South Nassau's President and Chief Executive Officer, “Mount Sinai is a world-class institution with a leading medical school, and this affiliation will allow our patients to have access to some of the top physicians and most advanced treatments available. It also will help South Nassau reach the next level in our role as a growing regional medical center.”

As part of the relationship, Mount Sinai will help expand South Nassau's campus and services, including plans for a new four-story addition in Oceanside with an expanded Emergency Department and new intensive care beds and surgical suites.

“SinaInnovations Celebrates Past and Looks to Future”

Scientists whose revolutionary treatments have cured millions of people with hepatitis C and restored sight to patients with a rare form of blindness were among keynote speakers at the seventh annual SinaInnovations conference, held in Stern Auditorium during two consecutive days in October.

Innovation in science and medicine was the theme of this year’s SinaInnovations conference. The event highlighted the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai’s commitment to groundbreaking research and concluded its yearlong 50th anniversary celebration.

“This conference exemplifies Mount Sinai’s mission to produce the great translational research that improves the lives of our patients through innovation and entrepreneurship,” Dennis S. Charney, MD, Anne and Joel Ehrenkranz Dean, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, and President for Academic Affairs, Mount Sinai Health System, said as he opened the event.
of a gene therapy for hemophilia and the creation of LUXTURNA™, a treatment for a rare form of blindness caused by a defective gene. Spark Therapeutics’ LUXTURNA is now the first gene therapy for an inherited disease to be approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the European Commission.

The conference also featured a session on the promise of data-driven innovation that included Sri Madabushi, PhD, Business Development Director of Google AI Healthcare; and Eric Dishman, Director of the All of Us Research Program of the National Institutes of Health. All of Us is seeking to enroll more than 1 million Americans who will share their personal health data with researchers and clinicians who are advancing precision medicine.

Mr. Dishman said his personal experience is emblematic of the program’s goals. For 25 years, he battled a rare form of kidney cancer, enduring 57 rounds of chemotherapy and radiation. Seven years ago, when he was near death, he had his genome sequenced, and physicians used that data to identify a pancreatic cancer drug that eradicated his disease.

Access to quality health care was also discussed at SinaInnovations. Kelly J. Kelleher, MD, Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics, Psychiatry, and Public Health at Nationwide Children’s Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, told the audience about Nationwide’s “neighborhood as patient” philosophy. He said Nationwide incentivized doctors to keep patients healthy, and supported efforts to build affordable housing and create job-training programs in underserved communities nearby.

At the conclusion of SinaInnovations, conference leader Scott L. Friedman, MD, Dean for Therapeutic Discovery and Chief of the Division of Liver Diseases at the Icahn School of Medicine, summed up the event’s overarching message of innovation. “We are a great medical school working to fulfill great ambitions,” he said. “This conference was intended to reflect upon the history of our 50 years as a medical school and project into our future.”

Fourth Annual Mount Sinai Innovation Awards

Individuals and teams from the Mount Sinai Health System were honored for significant advances in research, technology, medicine, and health care at the fourth annual Mount Sinai Innovation Awards ceremony, which was held Monday, October 22, in conjunction with the SinaInnovations conference.

Anne Schaefer, MD, PhD, Associate Professor, Neuroscience, and Psychiatry, at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, and a Seaver Fellow at The Friedman Brain Institute, received the Inventor of the Year Award for her work in micro-RNA, which heralds a potential cure for intractable seizures in certain forms of epilepsy, including Dravet syndrome, a catastrophic childhood disease.

Julio A. Aguirre-Ghiso, PhD, Professor, Medicine (Hematology and Medical Oncology), Otolaryngology, and Oncological Sciences, received the Deal of the Year Award for his research into the underlying causes of metastatic disease and relapse that is the basis for a new startup company in New York City.

Drew Kiraly, MD, PhD, and James Young, MD, PhD, received the Faculty Idea Prize for analyzing more than 1,000 metabolites from the serum of patients undergoing active monitoring for epileptic seizure activity. The analyses of Dr. Kiraly, Assistant Professor, Neuroscience, and Psychiatry, and Dr. Young, an Instructor in Neurosurgery and Neurology, will serve as the first step in developing clinically applicable serum biomarkers to help refine and target treatment strategies for epilepsy.

A group of 22 innovators received the 4D Technology Development Program Award for five projects that efficiently move new technologies through a process of discovery, design, development, and delivery:

- Identification of biomarkers for preemptive diagnosis of ocular graft vs. host disease (oGVHD) in patients with hematopoietic cellular transplantation (HCT): Penny A. Asbell, MD; Neeta S. Roy, PhD; James L. Ferrara, MD, DSc; John E. Levine, MD; Eric Kukliniski, BS; and Yi Wei, PhD.
- Automation of radiographic measurements for surgical planning using artificial intelligence: Samuel K. Cho, MD; Varun Arvind, BS; Deepak Kaji, BA; Jun S. Kim, MD; Eric K. Oermann, MD; and Jonathan E. Robinson, MD.
Mount Sinai hosted its third annual Health Hackathon, an exciting health care innovation competition that ran from Friday, October 19, through Sunday, October 21. Participants included students from the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and 12 other academic institutions, plus professionals with a wide range of backgrounds, such as clinical care, business, basic science, engineering, and software development. They formed 16 teams that worked together over a 48-hour period to create innovative, technology-based solutions to problems in the field of rare diseases. “It’s pretty incredible what people can accomplish when they work with like-minded and not like-minded colleagues to create new ventures,” said Janice L. Gabrilove, MD, the James F. Holland, MD Professor of Medicine and Oncological Sciences, and Director, Clinical and Translational Research Education Program, Icahn School of Medicine. The Health Hackathon is funded by ConduITS, the Institutes for Translational Sciences at the Icahn School of Medicine, with sponsorship from the software engineering company Persistent Systems. A diverse panel of judges chose three winning teams, which were each awarded a prize of $2,500. These teams, plus a fourth wild-card team, will be invited to participate in an Innovation Showcase sponsored by Mount Sinai Innovation Partners on February 14, 2019, where they will present their pitches to a panel of entrepreneurs.

**The Winning Teams**

- **Eye Can Do Technology** that allows an immobile person to use eye movements to interact with devices in a smart-home environment.
- **Mango Tango** A smartphone app, called Demeter, that helps patients with metabolic disorders track their diet and assess and manage symptoms.
- **Walk Thru** An ambulatory walker with a portable attachment that helps the user get through self-closing doors without letting go of the walker.

Four individuals received **Trainee Innovation Idea Awards**, which highlight research ideas from Mount Sinai trainees that could potentially be translated into a marketable product:

- MD student Aly Valliani: Virtual Contrast
- PhD student Billie Bian: MediTrack
- Postdoctoral fellow Sangeetha Vadakke-Madathil, PhD: Placental stem cells for regeneration of an injured heart
- House staff physician Jorge Andrade Romo, MD: Structural vs. functional foveal avascular zone (FAZ) parameters compared at different stages of diabetic retinopathy.

**Health Hackathon Finds Technology-Based Solutions**

- Development of an epigenetic treatment for Prader-Willi syndrome: Jian Jin, PhD; Yong-Hui Jiang, MD, PhD; and Yan Xiong, PhD.
- Creation of an eye-tracking algorithm for autism: Pilar Trelles, MD; Robert Gilman, MD; Alexander Kolevzon, MD; and Mirko Zimic, PhD.
- Knowledge-based automated radiotherapy planning via deep learning: Yading Yuan, PhD; Yeh-Chi Lo, PhD; and Tzu-Chi Tseng, MS.

The **Dean’s Healthcare System Team Science Award**, which acknowledges the importance of interdisciplinary teams in translational research, went to 15 members of the DEFINE-FMD Team. The group initiated a large, functional omics study of the genetic and molecular basis of fibromuscular dysplasia (FMD), a disease that predominately affects women and results in stroke and myocardial infarction. The study has enabled the team to identify several disease-causing candidates and begin developing a blood-based diagnostic test. The winners were Jason Kovacic, MD, PhD; Jeffrey W. Olin, DO; Antonio F. Di Narzo, PhD; Valentina d’Escamard, PhD; Daniella Kadian-Dodov, MD; Haoxiang Cheng, PhD; Annette King, RN, ANP; Bhagiravi Vonguru, MS; Emir Bander, MD; Allison Thomas, MS; Rihab Bouchareb, PhD; Sander Florman, MD; Johan LM Björkegren, MD, PhD; Manuel Mayr, MD, PhD; and Ke Hao, PhD. MD, the James F. Holland, MD Professor of Medicine and Oncological Sciences, and Director, Clinical and Translational Research Education Program, Icahn School of Medicine. The Health Hackathon is funded by ConduITS, the Institutes for Translational Sciences at the Icahn School of Medicine, with sponsorship from the software engineering company Persistent Systems. A diverse panel of judges chose three winning teams, which were each awarded a prize of $2,500. These teams, plus a fourth wild-card team, will be invited to participate in an Innovation Showcase sponsored by Mount Sinai Innovation Partners on February 14, 2019, where they will present their pitches to a panel of entrepreneurs.

**Corporate sponsors for SinaInnovations included**

- Altice Business
- Cisco Systems
- Dell Technologies
- Fisher Scientific
- Gilead Sciences
- Jones Day
Push-Up Challenge Brings Awareness to Prostate Health

More than 120 Mount Sinai Health System faculty and staff completed more than 6,000 push-ups at the recent fourth annual Push-Up for Prostate Cancer Challenge held in Guggenheim Pavilion. The event, which commemorated Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in September, challenged each individual to complete 29 push-ups in honor of the 29,000 men who die from prostate cancer in the United States each year.

“This very important event reflects Mount Sinai’s commitment to prostate cancer,” said Dennis S. Charney, MD, Anne and Joel Ehrenkranz Dean, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, and President for Academic Affairs, Mount Sinai Health System, who kicked off the challenge by completing 96 push-ups.

The first-place team trophy was awarded to the Department of Urology at The Mount Sinai Hospital, which completed 775 push-ups. Individual awards were given to the top male and female, as well as to the individual who completed the most modified push-ups. First place honors were given to John Mendez, Customer Service Representative, Department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (male, 101 push-ups); Daphne Semet, MBA, Vice Chair of Administration and Finance, Department of Pathology, Molecular and Cell-Based Medicine (female, 102 push-ups); and Mena Singh, MPA, Senior Accountant, Department of Finance (modified-style, 106 push-ups).

The program also offered information about prostate cancer and provided cancer screenings and risk consultations. “Prostate cancer is one of the most common cancers, but it does not produce any symptoms, and the only way you can go after it is by being proactive,” said Ash Tewari, MBBS, MCh, the Kyung Hyun Kim, MD Chair in Urology, Mount Sinai Health System, who led the event.

South Nassau Becomes Mount Sinai’s Flagship Hospital on Long Island (continued from page 1)

opportunity to combine their comprehensive network of coordinated primary, acute, and specialized health care services, along with the renowned Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, with the health care needs of the communities we serve,” says Joseph J. Fennessy, Chairman of South Nassau’s Board of Directors. “Mount Sinai is about advancing the science of medicine while improving patient outcomes, which is why this is a good fit with South Nassau’s culture. Patients on Long Island should not have to travel to Manhattan for world-class care.”

“Over the past 10 months, we have been working diligently to prepare to combine Mount Sinai’s academic, clinical, and research expertise with South Nassau’s community-based care,” says Arthur Klein, MD, President of the Mount Sinai Health Network. “Already, Mount Sinai specialists are collaborating with physicians at South Nassau to provide more specialized, advanced care. We are also working together to secure important new recruitments. Mount Sinai and South Nassau have received approval for a new allopathic internal medicine residency program to advance the academic mission of South Nassau Communities Hospital and to ensure a dedicated physician workforce. Our vision is to provide seamless, high-quality integrated care to patients.”

South Nassau’s Board of Directors announced its plans with Mount Sinai in January 2018 after having signed a nonbinding letter of intent in May of 2017. Its Board of Directors will be retained and direct the day-to-day operations of the Oceanside campus. The South Nassau and Mount Sinai boards will share representation on each other’s boards, with South Nassau’s Chairman, Mr. Fennessy, serving on the Mount Sinai Executive Committee.

The plan has been approved by the New York State Department of Health, the New York State Attorney General, the New York State Department of Education, and the New York State Office of Mental Health. It has also won the support of local community leaders and elected officials who welcome Mount Sinai to Long Island.
Around the Health System

Celebrating Anniversaries

Nearly 1,200 employees from The Mount Sinai Hospital, the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, and the Mount Sinai Health System’s Corporate Services division were recognized for their length of service at separate events held during three days in November. Leadership from Human Resources, Hospital Administration, and the Dean’s office were on hand to congratulate each employee who received an anniversary pin and certificate of service. The celebrants posed for photos, mingled with their colleagues, and enjoyed lunch in the Annenberg West Lobby.

Lecture Offers Insight Into Obesity and Diabetes

Distinguished endocrinologist and researcher Barbara Kahn, MD, the George Minot Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School, discussed the link between obesity and type 2 diabetes at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai’s 2018 Stanley Mirsky, MD Lecture in November, during Diabetes Awareness Month. Dr. Kahn is a recipient of the Banting Medal—the highest award of the American Diabetes Association for scientific achievement—and a member of the National Academy of Medicine. Mount Sinai’s Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Bone Disease holds the Stanley Mirsky, MD Lecture each year. The series was established with philanthropic support and honors the late Dr. Mirsky, a Mount Sinai faculty member and leader in diabetes treatment and research.

Jennifer Mirsky, daughter of the late Stanley Mirsky, MD, left, with Barbara Kahn, MD.

Athletes Lift the Spirits of Patients At Kravis Children’s Hospital

Two Ultimate Fighting Championship athletes, Gian Villante and Aljamain Sterling, made an exciting visit to the Child Life Zone at Mount Sinai Kravis Children’s Hospital on Thursday, November 1, where they appeared on a live KidZone TV show that was broadcast throughout the hospital. The two mixed martial arts fighters answered questions from the pediatric viewing audience and later visited children at their bedsides, where they chatted, handed out action figures, and posed for keepsake photos. “They brought such joy and truly lifted the spirits of our pediatric patients and families through their in-person and on-air interactions,” says Diane Rode, Director, Child Life and Creative Arts Therapy, Mount Sinai Kravis Children’s Hospital.
Spicy Shrimp with Bok Choy

- 1-1/2 lb medium shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 2 tbsp canola oil, or for lower-calorie version, use cooking spray
- 1 red bell pepper, seeded and cut in thin strips
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tbsp minced fresh ginger
- 4 scallions, white and light green parts separated from the dark green, chopped
- 1 lb bok choy stems, sliced, leaves or florets left whole
- 2 tbsp low-sodium soy sauce
- 1 tsp Asian chili paste
- Salt to taste

242 calories per serving
Makes 4 servings

Preparation

In a large bowl, combine the shrimp, white parts of the scallion, and garlic.

In a wok or large non-stick skillet, heat one tablespoon of canola oil or use cooking spray to coat. Add the shrimp mixture, stirring occasionally until the shrimp are pink and fully cooked, approximately three to four minutes. Transfer to a large bowl.

Return the pan to medium heat. Add the bok choy and cook until crisp/tender, about three to four minutes. Then, add in the bell pepper, minced fresh ginger, soy sauce, and chili paste. Stir until all ingredients are mixed well, then add the shrimp back into the skillet.

Mix until all of the ingredients are well seasoned. Remove from heat, sprinkle on the green part of the scallions, and serve.

Spirituality, Health Care, and the Artist

Mount Sinai’s Center for Spirituality and Health invites all to an exhibit featuring photographs, paintings, small sculptures, poetry, and needlework. The works celebrate the integration of the spirit and health care as seen through the eyes of Mount Sinai Health System faculty and staff. Among the selections is the oil painting at left, “The Hedgehog and Dandelions,” submitted by Volha Lenskaya, MD, a first-year resident in the Lillian and Henry M. Stratton-Hans Popper Department of Pathology, Molecular and Cell-Based Medicine.

Through Saturday, December 22
Monday – Friday
9:30 am – 5:30 pm
Saturday
10 am – 3 pm

Grady Alexis Gallery
215 East 99th Street
212-665-9460