Nine accomplished physicians and researchers were honored with the 2019 Jacobi Medallion—one of Mount Sinai's highest awards—at a special event held at The Plaza on Thursday, March 14.

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, addressed nearly 400 alumni, donors, faculty, and staff gathered for the awards ceremony, including Kenneth L. Davis, MD; Annapoorna S. Kini, MD, MRCP, FACC; Zahi A. Fayad, PhD; Reginald W. Miller, DVM, DACLAM; Burton A. Cohen, MD; Sandra K. Masur, PhD; and Dennis S. Charney, MD. The Jacobi Medallion: A Celebration of Excellence

Seated, from left: Steven J. Burakoff, MD; Ming-Ming Zhou, PhD; Amy J. Goldberg, MD, FACS; Daniel Maklansky, MD; Nina A. Bickell, MD, MPH; and David C. Thomas, MD, MHPE; standing, from left: Kenneth L. Davis, MD; Annapoorna S. Kini, MD, MRCP, FACC; Zahi A. Fayad, PhD; Reginald W. Miller, DVM, DACLAM; Burton A. Cohen, MD; Sandra K. Masur, PhD; and Dennis S. Charney, MD.

Nine accomplished physicians and researchers were honored with the 2019 Jacobi Medallion—one of Mount Sinai’s highest awards—at a special event held at The Plaza on Thursday, March 14.

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, addressed nearly 400 alumni, donors, faculty, and staff gathered for the awards ceremony, including Kenneth L. Davis, MD, President and Chief Executive Officer, Mount Sinai Health System. The Jacobi Medallion honors Mount Sinai alumni and faculty who have distinguished themselves in education, clinical and patient care, and biomedical science, or in extraordinary service to The Mount Sinai Hospital, the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, or The Mount Sinai Alumni Association.

“Our honorees have excelled as educators, administrators, researchers, and clinicians—they truly show the range of excellence that Mount Sinai is known for,” Dr. Charney said.

continued on page 2

New Paths at Match Day 2019

Hopeful and nervous, elated and grateful. These were some of the emotions expressed at Match Day 2019, the celebratory event in which graduating medical students opened an envelope to learn which residency programs they will attend during the next phase of their training.

During the event on Friday, March 15, 121 students at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai were matched to residency programs throughout the country, including highly competitive ones at NewYork-Presbyterian/Columbia University Irving Medical Center; Massachusetts General Hospital; the University of California, San Francisco Medical Center; and the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. Thirty-five students will remain within the Mount Sinai Health System to continue all or part of their graduate training. They were among about 27,000 students around the nation.

continued on page 3

Two future pediatricians hugged in celebration. Monica Amoo-Achampong, right, was matched with NewYork-Presbyterian Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital, and Alison Celello with Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center.
Dr. Charney noted the many significant accomplishments at the Icahn School of Medicine during the last year. These include initiatives to improve faculty, trainee, and student wellness, and to reduce racism and bias in medicine and medical education, as well as the creation of a new position of Dean for Gender Equity in Science and Medicine. He also spotlighted major genetic discoveries in the areas of cancer, inflammatory diseases, autism, and Alzheimer’s disease, and important research that is leading to new treatments for cancers, heart disease, diabetes, and depression—all as Mount Sinai embarks on new plans to expand, rebuild, and modernize its research labs, hospitals, and ambulatory care centers. “Thank you, alumni community, for your commitment to Mount Sinai as we continue to excel as a world-class medical school and health system,” Dr. Charney said.

Burton A. Cohen, MD, President of The Mount Sinai Alumni Association and Associate Clinical Professor of Radiology, delivered opening remarks, and Sandra K. Masur, PhD, Chair of the Jacobi Medallion Award Selection Committee and Professor of Ophthalmology, introduced the recipients.

THE HONOREES ARE:

Nina A. Bickell, MD, MPH
Associate Director, Community Engaged and Equity Research, The Tisch Cancer Institute, Co-Director, Center for Health Equity and Community Engaged Research, and Co-Director, Cancer Prevention and Control, The Tisch Cancer Institute

Dr. Bickell has worked with the Harlem community and safety net hospitals in the New York City metropolitan area to reduce disparities in cancer care. Her work assessing the role of race, obesity, insulin resistance, and aggressive breast cancer has expanded collaborations nationally. She also has extensive experience in large-scale, multicenter trials designed to understand causes of racial disparities, promote health equity, and improve the quality of cancer care.

Steven J. Burakoff, MD
Dean for Cancer Innovation, Chief, Division of Pediatric Hematology-Oncology, and Lillian and Henry M. Stratton Professor of Cancer Medicine

Dr. Burakoff is the Founding Director of The Tisch Cancer Institute at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, serving from 2007 - 2017. He has made significant contributions to the field of Immunology. Notably, Dr. Burakoff has authored more than 300 publications in peer-reviewed journals and he was the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Association of Immunologists.

Zahi A. Fayad, PhD
Director, Translational and Molecular Imaging Institute, Lucy G. Moses Professorship in Medical Imaging and Bioengineering, and Vice Chair for Research and Professor of Radiology

Dr. Fayad’s dedication to the detection and prevention of cardiovascular disease has led to seminal contributions in the field of multimodality biomedical imaging and nanomedicine. His work recently expanded to studying the effect of stress on the immune system and cardiovascular disease. The author of more than 500 peer-reviewed publications, 50 book chapters, and 500 meeting presentations, Dr. Fayad is the principal investigator of numerous National Institutes of Health grants, sub-contracts, and pharmaceutically funded clinical trials.

Amy J. Goldberg, MD, FACS, MSSM ’87
The George S. Peters, MD and Louise C. Peters Chair in Surgery, Professor and Chair of Surgery, Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University, Surgeon-in-Chief, Temple University Health System, and Senior Vice President, Perioperative Services, Temple University Hospital

A newly elected Director of the American Board of Surgery, Dr. Goldberg is highly recognized as a superb educator, winning several teaching awards, including Temple University’s highest teaching honor, The Great Teacher Award in 2018. She is widely known as an expert in violence prevention and improved outcomes for victims of trauma, and is a nationally celebrated clinician-scholar.

Annapoorna S. Kini, MD, MRCP, FACC
Director, Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory, Director, Structural Heart Disease Program, Director, Interventional Cardiology Fellowship Program, and Zena and Michael A. Wiener Professor of Medicine

Dr. Kini, an internationally acclaimed leader in percutaneous coronary intervention and heart valve therapy with expertise in performing complex coronary interventions, has contributed substantially in making The Mount Sinai Hospital’s Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory one of the busiest and best in the world. She is highly regarded for providing quality services to adults with coronary artery disease and various forms of structural heart disease, and is an excellent teacher dedicated to training cardiologists and interventional fellows.

Daniel Maklakosky, MD, MS ’62
Radiologist, New York Medical Imaging Associates, Attending Radiologist, The Mount Sinai Hospital, and Associate Clinical Professor of Radiology

Dr. Maklakosky has been associated with Mount Sinai, its patients, residents and fellows, and attending physicians since 1959. He has authored or co-authored at least 24 peer-reviewed publications, as well as multiple chapters in the gastrointestinal radiology literature. He has also trained countless medical students, radiology residents, and gastroenterology fellows in weekly conferences that he has co-chaired over many years, as well as in rotations through his office.

Reginald W. Miller, DVM, DACLAM
Dean for Research Operations and Infrastructure, Associate Professor, Center for Comparative Medicine and Surgery, and Associate Professor of Environmental Medicine and Public Health

Dr. Miller is responsible for the oversight of the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai Biosafety, Environmental Health and Safety, and Laboratory Safety. He additionally is responsible for conducting reviews of allegations of research misconduct and ensuring that a program on the Responsible Conduct of Research is in place for the Mount Sinai Health System. Other roles include serving as Co-Chair for the Diversity in Biomedical Research Council and Director of the Friends of Odysseus Black and Latino male mentoring program.

David C. Thomas, MD, MHPE
Mount Sinai Health System Vice Chair for Education, Department of Medicine, Associate Dean for Continuing Medical Education, and Professor of Medicine, Medical Education, and Rehabilitation and Human Performance

As a valued clinician-educator, Dr. Thomas has developed programs and taught at all levels of the continuum of education. He is also devoted to the care of underserved and vulnerable patients. In 2004, Dr. Thomas co-founded the East Harlem Health Outreach Partnership, a student-run, attending-directed clinic for uninsured members of the East Harlem community that aims to provide equitable access to high-quality, comprehensive health care to all.

Ming-Ming Zhou, PhD
Co-Director, Drug Discovery Institute, Dr. Harold and Golden Lamport Professorship in Physiology and Biophysics, and Professor and Chair of Pharmacological Sciences

Dr. Zhou’s research has advanced the understanding of the basic principles that govern epigenetic regulation of gene transcription in human biology of health and diseases. His lab was the first to discover the bromodomain as the lysine-acetylated histone binding domain (“chromatin reader”) in gene transcription, and demonstrate druggability and therapeutic potential of modulating bromodomain/ acetyl-lysine binding in gene expression to treat a wide array of human diseases.
Researchers at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai have been awarded a $12.5 million grant from the National Institute on Aging for a study seeking to advance the treatment of two public health hazards in older adults—osteoporosis and obesity. The four-part project will focus on follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH), which rises at menopause and could be responsible for the weight gain and bone loss that many women experience in middle age.

FSH was known for years to be an important part of the reproductive system. But the groundbreaking research of Mone Zaidi, MD, PhD, Professor of Medicine (Endocrinology, Diabetes and Bone Disease) at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, and his team showed in a mouse model that FSH also plays a direct role in bone loss and belly-fat gain—and that blocking FSH would reverse those effects. Dr. Zaidi has now developed a “humanized” monoclonal antibody to block FSH signaling, and it will be tested in mice during the new project.

“This next stage will bring us closer to creating an effective therapy with an FSH-blocking antibody aimed at preventing and treating both obesity and osteoporosis,” says Dr. Zaidi, who is principal investigator of the overall project. Targeting and blocking FSH was found in past studies to be effective in male as well as female mice, Dr. Zaidi adds, so its benefits could extend to both genders in people. He will oversee and serve as director for the four new studies, which will be conducted at Mount Sinai and other academic medical centers around the country. Mount Sinai will receive the bulk of the grant—$2 million a year for five years—and will serve as the data center for the project.

The first study, conducted at Mount Sinai, will determine if blocking FSH in mice will change bone mass and body composition across their lifespans, inducing them to live longer. The second study will explore whether the new monoclonal FSH-blocking antibodies can prevent fat gain and bone loss in mice, and if they can also treat existing obesity and osteoporosis. This investigation will be led by Tony Yuen, PhD, Assistant Professor of Medicine (Endocrinology, Diabetes and Bone Disease) at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, and performed collaboratively with UT Southwestern Medical School. For the third study, also in mice, Mount Sinai will team up with...
More than 250 staff from across the Mount Sinai Health System were honored recently at the Sinai Spotlight Recognition of Excellence celebration. They included physicians, nurses, patient care associates, information technology specialists, food service workers, and many more. What did they have in common? “These are people who go the extra mile” for patients and their colleagues, said David L. Reich, MD, President and Chief Operating Officer of The Mount Sinai Hospital, and President of Mount Sinai Queens.

The event—the first systemwide celebration of its kind—was held on Tuesday, February 26, at Mount Sinai’s Corporate Services Center. It brought together celebrants from Mount Sinai hospitals, the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, and Corporate Services who in 2018 were recognized with a major award or honor at their site or were featured in Your Voice Counts, a multimedia publication that highlights the patient experience. Attendees enjoyed “mocktails,” hors d’oeuvres, music, a photo booth, and words of appreciation from senior leadership. “I feel a genuine sense of privilege to work with so many people who are so talented and gifted, and bring the very best of who they are to the work they do every day,” said Jane Maksoud, RN, MPA, Senior Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer, Mount Sinai Health System. She and other leaders said it was important to express thanks and gratitude, not just on special occasions, but every day. The leaders encouraged all staff to ask themselves, “Is there someone I really appreciate who I haven’t told?”

Maine Medical Center Research Institute (MMCRI) to study the effects of FSH on bone marrow fat deposits, which are associated with osteoporosis during aging and in menopause. And the fourth project will study the correlation between FSH, body fat, and fracture risk in people from the AGES-Reykjavik cohort of 12,000 women and men between 66 and 93 years of age. This epidemiology project will be led by scientists at the University of California, San Francisco.

The FSH research builds on a long-term collaboration between Dr. Zaidi and Clifford Rosen, MD, senior scientist at MMCRI and co-director of the four projects. The results of their previous work were published in the journal Nature in 2017 and were among the eight “notable advances” in biomedicine named that year by Nature Medicine. Dr. Zaidi is hopeful that his team’s work will progress to clinical trials in humans within two years. “What would be fascinating and incredibly rewarding,” he says, “is if we can actually show a significant increase in lifespan while also regulating obesity and osteoporosis through a single, FSH-blocking agent.”

Mount Sinai Event Honors Exceptional Staff

More than 250 staff from across the Mount Sinai Health System were honored recently at the Sinai Spotlight Recognition of Excellence celebration. They included physicians, nurses, patient care associates, information technology specialists, food service workers, and many more. What did they have in common? “These are people who go the extra mile” for patients and their colleagues, said David L. Reich, MD, President and Chief Operating Officer of The Mount Sinai Hospital, and President of Mount Sinai Queens.

The event—the first systemwide celebration of its kind—was held on Tuesday, February 26, at Mount Sinai’s Corporate Services Center. It brought together celebrants from Mount Sinai hospitals, the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, and Corporate Services who in 2018 were recognized with a major award or honor at their site or were featured in Your Voice Counts, a multimedia publication that highlights the patient experience. Attendees enjoyed “mocktails,” hors d’oeuvres, music, a photo booth, and words of appreciation from senior leadership. “I feel a genuine sense of privilege to work with so many people who are so talented and gifted, and bring the very best of who they are to the work they do every day,” said Jane Maksoud, RN, MPA, Senior Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer, Mount Sinai Health System. She and other leaders said it was important to express thanks and gratitude, not just on special occasions, but every day. The leaders encouraged all staff to ask themselves, “Is there someone I really appreciate who I haven’t told?”

Maine Medical Center Research Institute (MMCRI) to study the effects of FSH on bone marrow fat deposits, which are associated with osteoporosis during aging and in menopause. And the fourth project will study the correlation between FSH, body fat, and fracture risk in people from the AGES-Reykjavik cohort of 12,000 women and men between 66 and 93 years of age. This epidemiology project will be led by scientists at the University of California, San Francisco.

The FSH research builds on a long-term collaboration between Dr. Zaidi and Clifford Rosen, MD, senior scientist at MMCRI and co-director of the four projects. The results of their previous work were published in the journal Nature in 2017 and were among the eight “notable advances” in biomedicine named that year by Nature Medicine. Dr. Zaidi is hopeful that his team’s work will progress to clinical trials in humans within two years. “What would be fascinating and incredibly rewarding,” he says, “is if we can actually show a significant increase in lifespan while also regulating obesity and osteoporosis through a single, FSH-blocking agent.”
Around the Health System

Making Science Exciting

Curious New York City schoolchildren who attended the Seventh Annual Brain Awareness Fair in Guggenheim Pavilion on Tuesday, March 12, asked hundreds of questions of Mount Sinai clinicians, scientists, and staff. “With Alzheimer’s, the brain just shrinks?” asked one 14-year-old as he touched human tissue from a normal brain and compared it to the smaller brain displaying Alzheimer’s disease. The Fair was one of several events commemorating Brain Awareness Week in March hosted by The Friedman Brain Institute, the Center for Excellence in Youth Education, and Mentoring in Neuroscience Discovery at Sinai, which joined the Dana Foundation in its global efforts to increase public awareness of the progress and benefits of brain research. The participants were also able to look into a microscope and see a neuron, test their hand and eye coordination, and understand how a neurosurgeon works, among many other activities. Nine-year-old Lubaina Parvaz, who has attended several of these events, concluded: “I get to learn something new every year.”

Career Event for Women’s History Month

While doing good work is vitally important, it may not be enough to get you noticed and move you along your career path. That was the message of a panel discussion, “Accelerating Career Advancement,” held at Mount Sinai Queens on Thursday, March 14, as part of its celebration of Women’s History Month. The panelists were, from left in photo: Mount Sinai Queens leaders Judy Trilivas, RN, MA, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer; Ana M. Rodriguez, LCSW, Director of Community Relations and Volunteer Services; and Caryn A. Schwab, Executive Director; along with Pamela Y. Abner, MPA, Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer, Office for Diversity and Inclusion, Mount Sinai Health System. Ms. Schwab urged attendees to be confident in asking for help and in seeking more responsibility, saying, “When you take initiative, people will expect more from you and want to give you more.”

High Schoolers Spend a Day in the Lab

Tenth-grade honors chemistry students from the Ramaz Upper School in Manhattan recently visited renowned microbiologists at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai for a day of hands-on learning. Randy Albrecht, PhD; Adolfo García-Sastre, PhD; Viviana Simon, MD, PhD; and Peter Palese, PhD, showed the students how to use micropipettes and microscopes; separate DNA, RNA, and proteins; and practice lab safety. Dr. Palese, the Horace W. Goldsmith Professor of Medicine, and Chair of the Department of Microbiology, discussed his transformative work in developing a universal flu vaccine and emphasized the importance of getting an annual flu shot.

Ethan Rotenberg, PhD, the students’ chemistry teacher, said the visit made “science much more tangible and meaningful to the students,” and hopefully, inspired some to pursue scientific research or medicine as a career.

At the Icahn School of Medicine, Dr. Albrecht is Associate Professor of Microbiology; Dr. García-Sastre is Director of the Global Health and Emerging Pathogens Institute; and Dr. Simon is Professor of Microbiology, and Medicine (Infectious Diseases).
Pesticides and Health Community Forum
The Mount Sinai Children’s Environmental Health Center at the Mount Sinai Institute for Exposomic Research, and Beyond Pesticides, a nonprofit organization based in Washington, D.C., are sponsoring a community forum on pesticide research and health. The two-day event will explore strategies to protect communities from toxic pesticides and include panel discussions with leading researchers and community advocates, field trips to The Battery Conservancy and Wagner Houses Farm, and a film screening of the documentary *Ground War*. To learn more and to purchase tickets, visit beyondpesticides.org, or contact Carla Azar at Mount Sinai at 212-824-7118.

Friday, April 5 - Saturday, April 6
New York Academy of Medicine
1216 Fifth Avenue (at 103rd Street)

Grand Rounds / Medicine
Ali N. Zaidi, MD, Director of the Adult Congenital Heart Disease Center, Director of the Pediatrics to Adult Transition of Care Program, and Senior Faculty in the Department of Medicine (Cardiology), presents “Adult Congenital Heart Disease: Where Are We Today?”

Tuesday, April 9
8:30 - 9:30 am
Hatch Auditorium

Grand Rounds / Population Health Science and Policy
Leanne Long, PhD, Assistant Professor, Biostatistics, University of Alabama at Birmingham, presents “An Investigation of Selection Bias in Estimating Racial Disparity in Stroke Risk Factors: the REGARDS study.”

Tuesday, April 16
1 - 2 pm
Icahn Medical Institute, Classroom L2-82

Seminar Series / Occupational Medicine
Joanne R. Festa, PhD, Director, Neuropsychology, Mount Sinai West, and Assistant Professor, Neurology, presents “Cognitive Effects of Sleep Disorders.”

Friday, April 19
8 - 9 am
Annenberg Fifth Floor, Felt Room (5-09)

Grand Rounds / Medical Education
Lee Jones, MD, Associate Dean for Students, Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, UCSF School of Medicine, presents “The Redesign of the Medical Student Performance Evaluation.”

Wednesday, April 24
Noon - 1 pm
Hess Center for Science and Medicine, Room 9-101

April Is Sexual Assault Awareness Month
Join the Mount Sinai Sexual Assault and Violence Intervention Program (SAVI) in a show of solidarity with survivors of all forms of sexual violence for International Denim Day. Everyone is invited to wear denim—with departmental or manager permission—and visit tables that will have a denim-themed photo booth, giveaways, and information about preventing sexual violence.

Wednesday, April 24

The Mount Sinai Hospital
Guggenheim Pavilion
Outside the Plaza Café
11:30 am - 3:30 pm

Mount Sinai Queens
Main Hospital Lobby
11:30 am - 2:30 pm

Volunteers are needed for the Sinai Milers, a running club in Central Park for children ages 7 - 12 that is led by Mount Sinai pediatric staff members and sponsored by the Mount Sinai Parenting Center. Milers will meet on Wednesdays, beginning April 3, from 5 - 6:30 pm. If interested, email sinaimightymilers@mssm.edu.

Sunday, April 7

“Epic OpTime” Launching at The Mount Sinai Hospital and Mount Sinai Queens
Project team leaders and staff at both hospitals have been working for many months to launch the Epic OpTime Module, an operating room management system for hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers. It will be followed by the addition of the Epic Anesthesia Module later this year. Adding these modules to Mount Sinai’s Epic electronic medical record system will provide clinicians access to comprehensive patient information, allowing for surgery orders to be managed in a single system throughout the perioperative process, beginning with the initial consult, through the day of surgery.

The team is well prepared, and staff will be well supported during the “Go-Live” event.

Epic OpTime “Go-Live”
Sunday, April 7, early morning
For more information, contact EpicMSHQ_Opt_Anes@mountsinai.org.

INSIDE MOUNT SINAI
Marketing & Communications
Carrie Gottlieb, Executive Editor
Marilyn Balamaci, Executive Editor
Vanessa Gordon, Editor
Leslie Kirschenbaum, Design
SUBMISSIONS
Box 1475
inside@mssm.edu

VISIT INSIDE ON THE WEB
www.mountsinai.org/inside
To find out what’s happening right now, follow Mount Sinai on Twitter @Mount Sinai NYC
Visit us on Facebook
facebook.com/mountsinainyc

The Mount Sinai Health System complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate, exclude, or treat people differently on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, religion, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.