

The MAA Celebrates Moms in Medicine



On January 13, the [Women in Medicine \(WIM\)](#) subcommittee of the Medical Alumni Association Board welcomed nearly 60 members of our WIM community for a very special Zoom webinar celebrating "Moms in Medicine." Moderator **Shelly Vaziri-Flais '95, '99 MD, '02 GMER**, and panelists **Elizabeth Spinuzza Harris, '86 MD; Kerry Klegar Humes, '90 MD; Emily Jones, '08 MD, '11 GMER; Marjorie Mintz Rosenbaum, '71 MA, MD, '84 GMER; and Melissa A. Simon MD, MPH, '06 GMEF**, reflected on their own trajectories and experiences while navigating both a career in medicine and life as a mom. We thank you for your candor and for generously sharing your time!

For more information on this and other topics, we invite you to join our [WIM Facebook group](#) and stay connected with a network of your fellow women in medicine.

We also invite you to check out a [recent article](#) in the Feinberg News Center about how the WIM subcommittee is providing mentorship to the next generation of young women in STEM.

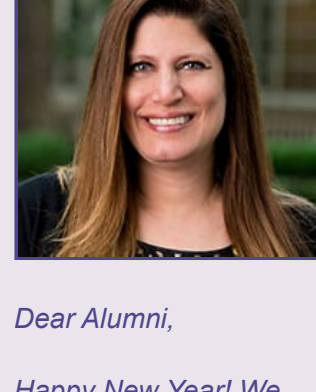
Alumni Weekend 2021 Postponement Reminder

As a reminder, Alumni Weekend 2021 (originally scheduled for April 2021) has been postponed.

We will celebrate the reunion classes of 2022, 2021, and 2020 during Alumni Weekend 2022: April 29–30, 2022.

Please save the date and plan to join us in Chicago next year to celebrate your class's milestone reunion!

From the Director's Desk:



Dear Alumni,

Happy New Year! We hope that you are having a safe and healthy start to 2021. While we normally find ourselves providing in-person programming for our alumni in Naples, Florida and Scottsdale, Arizona (including our annual Chicago Cubs Spring Training outing), we unfortunately have to postpone those activities until it is safe to travel and gather again. We remain busy planning many virtual programs for our alumni.

Please check out our virtual programming offerings in this newsletter, as well as in future issues, and don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or ideas.

Thank you,

Babette

Babette Henderson

Senior Director, Alumni

Engagement

312-503-0855



Diversity and Inclusion Winter Newsletter



Feinberg's Office of Diversity & Inclusion has taken a decidedly intentional and unapologetic approach to diversity and inclusion in medicine and science.

Hear from our vice dean of Diversity and Inclusion in the [winter issue](#) of the "Diversity & Inclusion Matters" newsletter. Learn more about our mission to change the face of medicine and how Northwestern pipeline programs are inspiring the next generation of physicians and scientists.

CHECK OUT THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER

MAA Digital Series: Hosted by Joseph Gugenheim, '72 MD

"Maternity Care at Northwestern: Part I"



We're thrilled to share with you the newest installment of the MAA digital series from our favorite historian, alum **Joseph Gugenheim, '72 MD!**

In this first episode of our very special two-part presentation, Dr. Gugenheim explores the history of the Chicago Maternity Center, located on the city's West Side, until its closure in 1973.

Dr. Gugenheim presents "[Maternity Care at Northwestern: Part I.](#)"

Stay tuned next month for the fascinating conclusion of this two-part series, in which Dr. Gugenheim will take us through the history of the Prentice hospitals.

Thank you, Dr. Gugenheim!

VIEW "MATERNITY CARE AT NORTHWESTERN: PART I"

ZOOM EVENT COMING SOON:

"That Was Then, This Is Now: The Names Behind the Buildings" with Joseph Gugenheim, '72 MD

In March, we'll be hosting an exciting Zoom event featuring the second installment in our virtual "That Was Then, This is Now" series.

Plan to join us as Dr. Gugenheim sheds light on the famous names behind the buildings found on the medical campus.

Look for information on how to register for this Zoom event in next month's newsletter.

Half Century Club Opportunities!



For all of our alumni past your 50th reunion—

We enthusiastically invite your suggestions regarding virtual and in-person programming, engaging with fellow alumni, and ways we can celebrate your unique perspectives and accomplishments through our communications and events.

We are offering three special opportunities to share ideas with your peers and Alumni Team members, and would love to hear from you in order to better serve your distinguished Half Century Club (HCC) community:

- Wednesday, February 10, 10:00 – 10:30 a.m. CST
- Wednesday, February 10, 3:00 – 3:30 p.m. CST
- Wednesday, February 10, 6:00 – 6:30 p.m. CST

To participate, please email **Dan Schwarzlose** to indicate your preferred time option, and he will send you a Zoom meeting link to join the virtual conversation: daniel.schwarzlose@northwestern.edu.

Your voice is important to us, and we hope to hear from you!

Pearls of Wisdom



The HCC recognizes our alumni who graduated 50+ years ago and celebrates your dedication to the betterment of human health.

As a member, we invite you to submit your reflections, offer words of advice, and regale us with tales of your career.

Look for your submission in an upcoming "Pearls of Wisdom" feature in this monthly newsletter.

We want to hear from you! Email your Pearls of Wisdom to **Jillian Kurtz Brubaker** at jillian.brubaker@northwestern.edu.

Play in the NMO Spring Concert

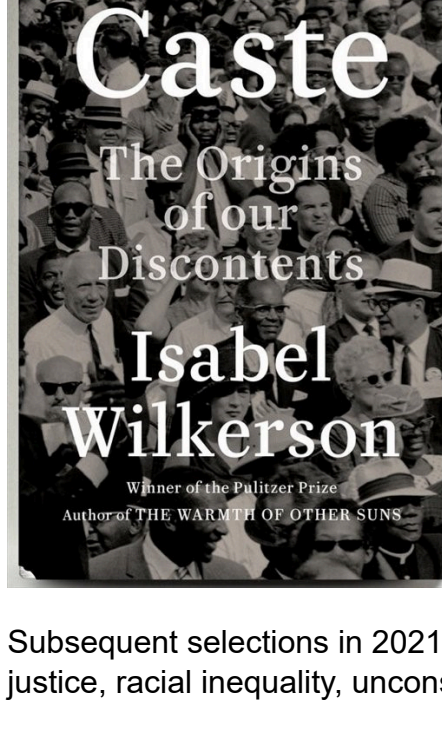


A Message from the NMO: Play in the [Northwestern Medical Orchestra's](#) Spring Chamber Music Concert! After the success of our Fall Zoom Concert which drew over 270 audience members, we are again arranging chamber groups made up of Feinberg alumni, students, physicians, and staff.

There are opportunities to play masked in person, through virtual collaboration, and as a soloist. The concert will be on April 30. Sign up by February 5 [here](#).

JOIN THE NMO
SPRING 2021 CONCERT

Northwestern Alumni in Focus: Social Justice Book Club



Following the success of the Northwestern University Alumni Book Club, the Northwestern Alumni Association (NAA) invites you to join [IN Focus](#), an additional book club for engaged readers.

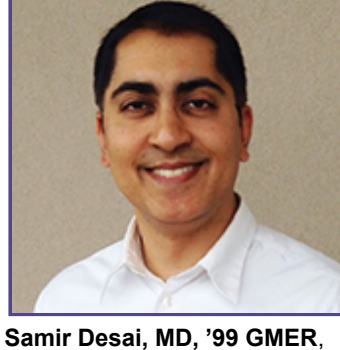
Participants will spend a year discussing books that share a common theme or genre, starting with social justice reads. Their first selection, **Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents**, by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Isabel Wilkerson, was named one of the best books of the year by the *New York Times Book Review*. *Caste* explores eight pillars that underlie caste systems across civilizations and examines how America can move beyond these artificial and destructive separations of human divisions.

Subsequent selections in 2021 will also seek to raise awareness about social justice, racial inequality, unconscious bias, and inclusion efforts.

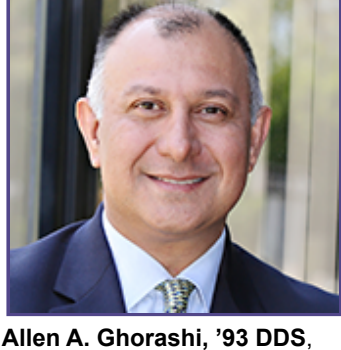
There is no cost to participate—you just need a copy of the book. Northwestern alumni are welcome to join both of the NAA's book clubs and choose to read one or both books per reading cycle. You only need to sign up once for each club to participate. Discussions will take place on separate online forums.

Join the [IN Focus Book Club](#) today to participate in the virtual conversation!

Congrats Are in Order!



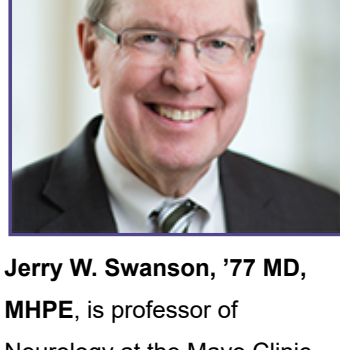
Samir Desai, MD, '99 GMER, recently released the fourth edition of his book, titled *Clinician's Guide to Laboratory Medicine*. Featuring a unique step-by-step approach to lab test interpretation, the book has been rated as one of the "Best Medical Books of All Time" by the Medical Media Review. It also was named a Doody's Core Title for medical libraries by content specialists that guide libraries in the development of their essential medical reference book collections. Dr. Desai serves on the faculty of the Baylor College of Medicine. Congratulations, Dr. Desai!



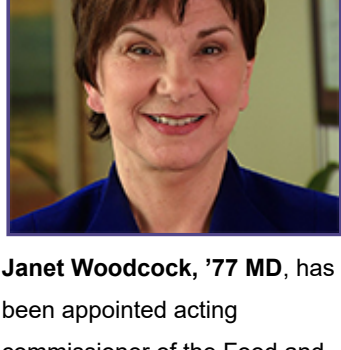
Allen A. Ghorashi, '93 DDS, was recently recognized as a fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry at its Annual Meeting in November 2020. Dr. Ghorashi is one of only 300 dentists who hold this distinguished membership. The year prior, in 2019, Dr. Ghorashi also became a diplomate of the American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry, cementing Dr. Ghorashi's place as one of the nation's leading experts in implant care. Congratulations, Dr. Ghorashi!



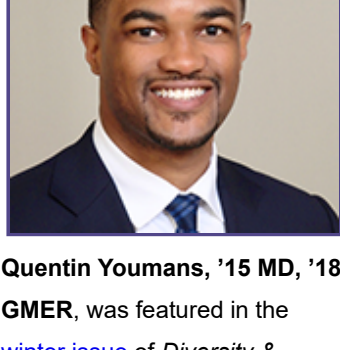
Paul A. Kleponis '82 PT, DPT, senior physical therapist at Jackson Memorial Hospital, has been appointed to the Florida Board of Physical Therapy by Governor Ron DeSantis. Having practiced physical therapy in Florida since graduation, Dr. Kleponis shared that it is a "great honor to receive this gubernatorial appointment to the board of professional practice, enabling me to give back to the Florida PT community. Lifelong learning continues. Thank you, Northwestern, for setting me on the path to success in all ways." Congratulations, Dr. Kleponis!



Jerry W. Swanson, '77 MD, MHPE, is professor of Neurology at the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science in Rochester, Minnesota. He was the founding Mayo Clinic Enterprise chair of the Headache Division and was founding director of the Headache Medicine Fellowship at the Mayo Clinic. He currently serves as Headache Section editor and Neurology editor-in-chief for the point-of-care medical resource, *UpToDate*. Dr. Swanson is the current chair of the United Council for Neurologic Specialties Headache Medicine exam committee. He also is co-editor for the forthcoming two volumes devoted to Migraine in the *Handbook of Clinical Neurology*. Congratulations, Dr. Swanson!



Janet Woodcock, '77 MD, has been appointed acting commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), overseeing the full FDA portfolio and execution of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and other applicable laws. Dr. Woodcock joined the FDA in 1986 and most recently served as director of the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research. Last year, Dr. Woodcock was asked to lend her expertise to "Operation Warp Speed" for advancing COVID-19 therapeutics, while also serving as the principal medical advisor to the commissioner on key priorities on behalf of the Office of the Commissioner. Congratulations, Dr. Woodcock!



Quentin Youmans, '15 MD, '18 GMER, was featured in the [winter issue](#) of *Diversity & Inclusion Matters*, Feinberg's Office of Diversity & Inclusion's newsletter. As founder of the [STRIVE](#) (Student to Resident Institutional Vehicle for Excellence) program, which connects underrepresented minority (URM) medical students at Feinberg with URM resident mentors, Dr. Youmans' work was cited as an example of the ways in which medical schools can help combat discrimination and create safe spaces. Dr. Youmans' recent *Feinberg Perspectives* podcast, "[A Response to Two Pandemics: COVID-19 & Systemic Racism](#)," was also featured in the newsletter. Dr. Youmans is a resident physician in the Department of Medicine. Congratulations, Dr. Youmans!

Do you have news to share with us or know of an alumnus/a we should recognize in the newsletter?

Post it on our [Facebook](#) page or email us at medalum@northwestern.edu.

Join Us Online!



Virtual Event | COVID-19 and Vulnerable Communities

Monday, February 1, 2021 | 4:00–5:00 p.m. CST

Featuring Clyde W. Yancy, MD, MSc (Vice Dean of Diversity and Inclusion, Magerstadt Professor of Medicine, and Chief of the Division of Cardiology) and Mercedes Carnethon, PhD (Vice Chair of the Department of Preventive Medicine and Mary Harris Thompson Professor)

COVID-19 has exacted a painful toll on our lives, especially those within marginalized communities. Charting a path forward will not be easy but it must be actionable, just, and inclusive. Visit with Drs. Carnethon and Yancy to learn more and hear about their vision for our future.

Please Note: SPACE IS LIMITED.

This event will be held as a Zoom meeting and requires registration. Approved attendees will receive a Zoom link and password in your confirmation email. This event will be recorded, and a link to the recording will be emailed to all invitees after the meeting. Register to receive a link to the recording after the event if you can't attend, or if the event is full.

REGISTER TODAY

Lecture Series | Northwestern Women in Medicine: Thriving in the Virtual World

Monthly; Dates Below | 5:00 p.m. CST

Women physicians face unique challenges and obstacles throughout their professional careers. These challenges may affect leadership development and opportunities for women in medicine, resulting in a gender gap in the governance of academic medical centers. The third annual Northwestern Women in Medicine Conference will help to identify the obstacles that contribute to gender inequity and start the discourse to bridging it by hosting a virtual lecture series monthly.

Thursday, February 18, 2021 | "MD and PhD Partnering for Academic Success"

Thursday, March 22, 2021 | "Guiding Trainees to a Fulfilling Career in Medicine"

Thursday, April 22, 2021 | "Being an Inclusive Leader"

Thursday, May 20, 2021 | "Pathways to Leadership in Academic Medicine"

Thursday, June 17, 2021 | "Leveraging Social Media for Education and Professional Development"

Thursday, July 22, 2021 | "Building a Pipeline of Women Leaders Through Promoting Gender Equity"

Advance registration required. CME credit available.

REGISTER TODAY

SAVE THE DATE: Webinar | "That Was Then, This Is Now: The Names Behind the Buildings"

Wednesday, March 10, 2021 | 4:00–5:00 p.m. CST

In the second installment in our "That Was Then, This is Now" series, **Joseph Gugenheim, '72 MD**, will delve into the history of the names behind the buildings on the medical campus.

Advanced registration required. Stay tuned for full details coming next month.

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Stay in tune with Feinberg faculty through candid interviews in the [Breakthroughs](#) podcast archives. Listen to their insights, explore recent episodes, claim continuing medical education credit, and subscribe to the show so that you can stay up-to-date with the latest discoveries.

Recent episodes feature alumni **Karl Bilimoria '98, '08 MS, '10 GMER**; **Brian Brajcich, MD, '20 MS**; and **Jeffrey Linder '92, '97 MD**.

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LISTEN & SUBSCRIBE TODAY