

Medical Alumni Association

NEWSLETTER

January 2025 | Issue No. 88



Happy New Year!

Here's to a bright and inspiring year ahead!

Happy New Year from Your Medical Alumni Association and Alumni Relations Team

Registration is Open: Alumni Weekend 2025



Spring into the new year with Alumni Weekend 2025! Join us in Chicago on May 2–3 for an unforgettable weekend as we welcome hundreds of alumni back to campus. This year, we're celebrating our 2025 reunion classes (ending in 0 or 5), along with all members of our Half Century Club (alumni who graduated more than 50 years ago).

Registration is officially open, and early-bird discounts are available for a limited time! Don't miss out on a fun-filled weekend featuring engaging talks, insightful forums, Chicago sightseeing excursions, class dinners, an all-alumni celebration, and much more. For a sneak peek at the schedule, visit our [Alumni Weekend website](#).

Not your reunion year? Not a problem—this is an all-alumni event! Bring your family and guests, and join us for a weekend of connection and celebration.



If this is your reunion year and you are interested in becoming more involved with your class committee, please reach out to Katie Ferris at katie.ferris@northwestern.edu. Reunion Weekend wouldn't be possible without the dedication of our alumni volunteers!

Lastly, take advantage of special hotel rates arranged just for our alumni. Rooms are limited, and discounts are available until April 3, 2025, or until they sell out. Visit the [2025 Travel and Accommodations](#) portion of our Alumni Weekend website for more details.

Mark your calendars—we're counting down to an incredible weekend!

From the Director's Desk:

Dear Alumni,

Happy New Year! We hope that you had an enjoyable holiday season. We're excited to announce that registration for Alumni Weekend 2025 officially opened in early January. Take advantage of our early-bird pricing, with great discounts available for alumni who register by February 28. Please be sure to sign up early before some of our most popular events sell out! For more information and to register, please visit our [Alumni Weekend website](#).

Thank you,

Babette



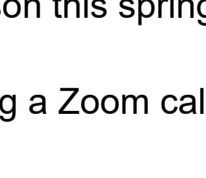
Babette Henderson '21 CERT
Senior Director, Alumni Engagement
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
babette.henderson@northwestern.edu
312-503-0855

Zooming Through Memory Lane



In anticipation of their milestone 50-year reunion, the MD Class of 1975 recently hosted a virtual get-together on Zoom to reconnect and gear up for Alumni Weekend. Alumni from across the country joined to reminisce, make plans for May, and catch up with classmates. Thank you to the Class of 1975 for coming together. We can't wait to see you in person this spring.

If you're interested in hosting a Zoom call with your reunion class, please contact:



Katie Ferris
Assistant Director, Reunion and Leadership Giving
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
katie.ferris@northwestern.edu
312-503-0111

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

“Water and Chicago: Blessing or Curse? Part Two”

Water and Chicago

Blessing or Curse?



Joseph Gugenheim, '72 MD

We're thrilled to bring you the newest installment of our MAA Digital Series from our fantastic host and historian, alum **Joseph Gugenheim, '72 MD**.

Join Dr. Gugenheim as he continues to explore Chicago's water saga in part two of this captivating series. Delve into the transformative efforts of Ellis Chesbrough and the construction of the Sanitary and Ship Canal. Learn how these ambitious projects not only addressed the city's sewage challenges but also altered the very flow of the Chicago River. Along the way, explore the unintended consequences—pollution downstream, conflicts with neighboring states, and the threat of invasive species to the Great Lakes. Enjoy a fascinating look at the complexities of urban planning and the ongoing struggle to balance progress with preservation.

Dr. Gugenheim presents **"Water and Chicago: Blessing or Curse? Part Two."**

Thank you, Dr. Gugenheim!

Stream "Water and Chicago: Blessing or Curse? Part Two"

COMING SOON:

In celebration of Black History Month, join Dr. Gugenheim in February as he honors the life and legacy of Thomas A. Dorsey, the "Father of Gospel Music." In this special presentation, discover how Dorsey's journey from blues musician to gospel legend helped shape Chicago into the epicenter of gospel music. Learn about the origins of gospel, its connections to the Great Migration, and the powerful stories behind iconic songs like "Precious Lord, Take My Hand." This exploration highlights Dorsey's transformative influence on music and his enduring impact on American culture.

Catch up on all previous episodes of our MAA Digital Series on our [MAA website](#) and [YouTube channel](#).

Extra! Extra! What's New at Northwestern



WHAT'S NEW

We invite you to discover [What's New at Northwestern](#). From the Feinberg Development and Alumni Relations office, this newsletter highlights the latest updates from the medical school, featuring groundbreaking research, leadership advancements, student achievements, faculty milestones, and philanthropic initiatives.

Dive in to discover the impactful work shaping our community and advancing medical excellence.

Explore What's New at Northwestern: Winter 2025

Master of Science in Health Professions Education Degree



Master of Science in Health Professions Education

ADVANCE YOUR CAREER TODAY

BEGIN YOUR JOURNEY

Northwestern Medicine
Feinberg School of Medicine

Elevate your career in healthcare education with Northwestern's [Master of Science in Health Professions Education \(MS-HPE\)](#). This two-year, part-time program is designed for educators, clinicians, and professionals seeking to make a significant impact. Explore advanced topics like mastery learning and implementation science through in-person residencies. The program is offered in a hybrid format and is committed to flexibility in order to address the unique goals of our students. [Apply by April 1.](#)

Master of Science in Health Professions Education

Keep Your Finger on the Pulse: Feinberg Vitals

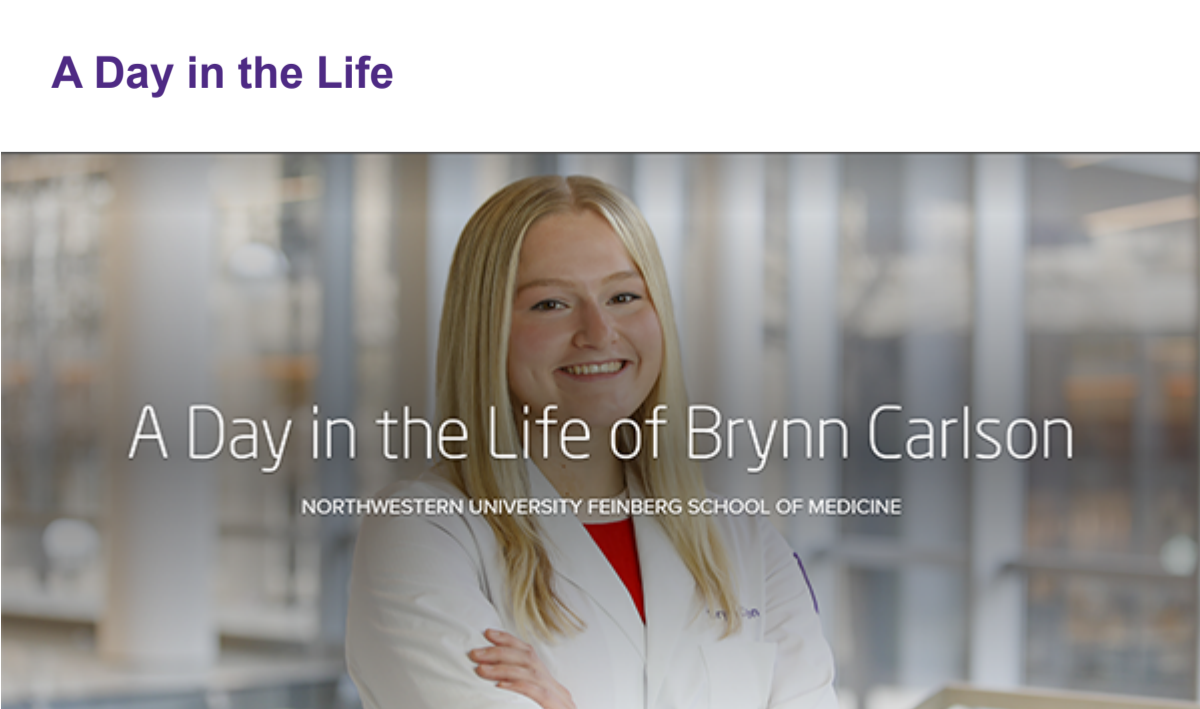


Check out the January 2025 edition of [Feinberg Vitals](#), a newsletter designed for prospective students, now shared with our alumni for the first time. Take a peek at how we're inspiring the next generation of medical professionals, showcasing student stories, innovative programs, and what makes Feinberg a leader in medical education. See how the legacy of excellence—your legacy—continues to grow!

Interested in receiving *Feinberg Vitals* directly in your inbox? Contact us at medalum@northwestern.edu to get on the list and stay connected to the latest updates from Feinberg.

Check Out the Feinberg Vitals Newsletter

A Day in the Life



A Day in the Life of Brynn Carlson

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY FEINBERG SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Wonder what life is like for a med student today? Explore the MD program at Feinberg with an inside look at a typical week of learning for our students. Follow Brynn Carlson through her day as an M1 to learn more about what she's experiencing during each phase of medical school via our [interactive timeline and videos](#).

A Day in the Life of a Feinberg Student

NUPOC NEWS

The official newsletter of the
Northwestern University Prosthetics-Orthotics Center

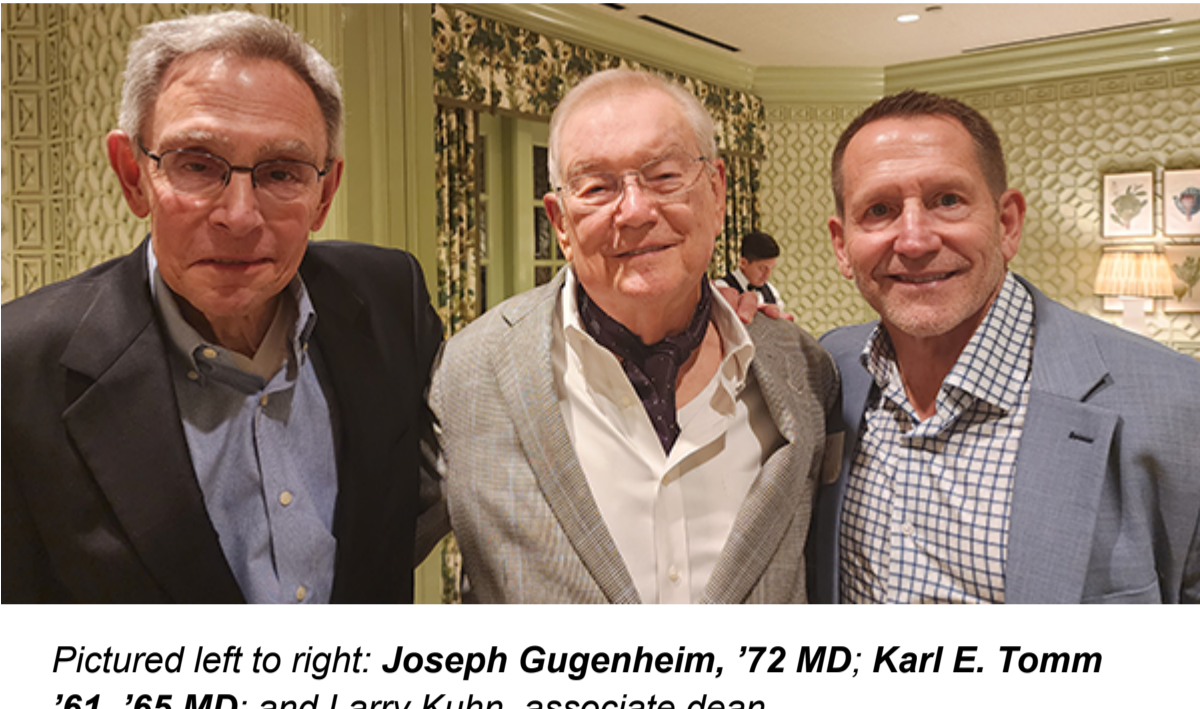


Check out the January 2025 edition of *NUPOC News*, the quarterly newsletter from the Northwestern University Prosthetics-Orthotics Center. This publication highlights student achievements, staff updates, and more.

[Download the full newsletter](#) and visit the [NUPOC website](#) to learn more about their mission of helping people affirm their lives with hope, independence, and enthusiasm by advancing technology and knowledge about prostheses and orthoses.

NUPOC News: The Official
Newsletter of NUPOC

Congrats Are in Order!



Pictured left to right: Joseph Gugenheim, '72 MD; Karl E. Tomm '61, '65 MD; and Larry Kuhn, associate dean.

Happy 85th birthday to **Karl E. Tomm '61, '65 MD!** Dr. Tomm marked this milestone with a celebration at the Junior League Club of Houston in Texas. Joining him were fellow alum **Joseph Gugenheim, '72 MD**, and Larry Kuhn, associate dean. Cheers to Dr. Tomm for a remarkable career and this special occasion!



Silvia Sara Canetto, '87 PhD, was elected Fellow of the Society for General Psychology in recognition of her outstanding and sustained interdisciplinary contributions to understanding historical, societal, and cultural processes in individual and social life. Established in 1945, the Society for General Psychology honors excellence across the field. Dr. Canetto is a professor of Psychology at Colorado State University in Fort Collins and an affiliate professor at the Colorado School of Public Health. A native of Italy, she completed a doctorate in Experimental Psychology at the University of Padova. Before coming to the United States for studies at Northwestern University Medical School, she completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel. Congratulations, Dr. Canetto!



Raj J. Chovatiya, MD, PhD, '20 GMER, '23 MS, has joined the Medical Advisory Board of CLn Skin Care, a leader in gentle, clinically proven cleansers designed to support skin prone to conditions such as eczema, acne, and folliculitis. Dr. Chovatiya is clinical associate professor at Rosalind Franklin University Chicago Medical School and founder and director of the Center for Medical Dermatology and Immunology Research in Chicago, Illinois. He previously served on faculty at Feinberg. His work is dedicated to advancing patient-focused care, tackling the challenges of chronic skin conditions, and improving dermatological health for all skin types. Congratulations, Dr. Chovatiya!



Nupur Ghoshal, '01 PhD, '03 MD, Medical Alumni Association Board President, was recently featured in a *New York Times* article on groundbreaking research into frontotemporal dementia. The article highlights collaborative efforts at Washington University in St. Louis, where Dr. Ghoshal is a professor of Neurology, to advance understanding of genetic mutations and develop innovative approaches for testing new treatments. [Read the full article online.](#) Dr. Ghoshal also will be the featured speaker during our Have Coffee and Conversations with the Half Century Club forum, taking place during [Alumni Weekend 2025](#). Congratulations, Dr. Ghoshal!

Do you have news to share with us or know of an alum we should recognize? Post it on our [Facebook](#) page, tag us on [Instagram](#), or email us at medalum@northwestern.edu.

Upcoming Events



Medical Alumni Association: Plan It Purple Calendar

Did you know that the MAA has its very own [Plan It Purple calendar](#)?

With the Plan It Purple calendar, you'll never miss a Medical Alumni Association event!

You can register for events, download a save-the-date reminder to your calendar, and learn more about other University-wide events and offerings.

Bookmark the MAA calendar or visit the [MAA home page](#) to keep tabs on all of our upcoming events.

Visit the MAA Plan It Purple
Calendar

Northwestern University Dental School Midwinter Reception and Reunion 2025 | Chicago, Illinois

Friday, February 21, 2025 | 5:30–9:00 p.m. CST

You are cordially invited to the Northwestern University Dental School Alumni Midwinter Reception. Cost: \$20 per person in advance; \$25 at the door. Hors d'oeuvres, pasta bar, and dessert will be served. Wine, beer, and soft drinks are included. Please note that online and phone registration closes on Monday, February 17, 2025.

To purchase your ticket via phone, please call the Northwestern Alumni Association (NAA) at 847-491-3317.

Purchase Tickets to the
NUDS Midwinter Reception

Northwestern Connects Event | Worldwide

Tuesday, February 25, 2025

has sparked new connections across the globe. The Northwestern Alumni Association hosted events in over 100 locations in 2024 and looks forward to seeing alumni come together again at one of their 2025 venues.

Don't miss this opportunity to meet fellow alumni, expand your personal and professional networks, and celebrate your Purple Pride. You can attend an event near your home, or wherever you may be on February 25! [Explore the current list of locations](#) and check back as more are being added.

Most events are free, but advance registration is required. Mark your calendars for February 25!

Register for Northwestern Connects

MAA Brunch: Frontiers of the Brain | Naples, Florida

Wednesday, February 26, 2025 | 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. EST

The *NU Club of Southwest Florida* and the *Half Century Club* of Northwestern University's Medical Alumni Association invite you to join us for a discussion on brain health at the Arthrex One Conference Center.

1 Arthrex Way | Naples, Florida

Welcome Reception: 11–11:30 a.m.
Program and Brunch: 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. (*begins promptly*)
Studio X Tour: 1:30–2 p.m. (*optional*)

The brain is the most complex organ, but our knowledge has expanded exponentially in the last decade due to various technologies. The brain may be the next major frontier in medicine. Come learn from Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine faculty about recent advances in neuroscience and what lies ahead for research on brain health.

Featuring panelists Tamar D. Gefen, PhD; Alfred L. George, Jr., MD; and Sachin Patel, MD, PhD.

After brunch, please join us for an optional tour of Studio X on the Arthrex Campus, a 24,000-square-foot facility showcasing state-of-the-art media technology.

Highlights include:

- **Holodeck XR Stage:** Immersive experiences with motion-tracking cameras and LED walls and floors.
- **Surgical Studio Suite:** Enhancing surgical visuals with next-gen Synergy technology.
- **Virtual Production Stage:** A 100-foot LED volume towering 17 feet high for panels, case presentations, and patient outcome videos.

Discover how Arthrex is revolutionizing the way we envision and shape the future of medicine!

Advance event registration is required.

RSVP for Our 2025 MAA Naples Brunch

Cubs Spring Training Game | Mesa, Arizona

Saturday, March 8, 2025 | 1:05 p.m. MST

Chicago Cubs vs. Seattle Mariners

The Medical Alumni Association is proud to once again host alumni and friends for a spring training game at Sloan Park in Arizona. Your \$35 purchase includes one game ticket, food, soda, and two adult beverage tickets. Exclusively for members of The Founders Society and Half Century Club, and Northwestern alumni.

Limited tickets are available. Please reserve your travel and hotel accommodations now as this is expected to be a very busy weekend in Arizona.

Purchase Cubs Spring Training Game Tickets

Industry Insights: Biotechnology | Cambridge, Massachusetts

Wednesday, March 12, 2025 | 6:00–8:00 p.m. EDT

Game-Changing GLP-1 Obesity Medications: Exciting Breakthroughs, but Challenges Remain

Join us at the MIT Museum for an engaging evening exploring GLP-1 medications, heralded as a “game changer” in the battle against obesity. These innovative treatments not only significantly lower body weight but also reduce the risk of heart attack and stroke, limit diabetes and fatty liver disease, and improve quality of life. Named the Breakthrough of the Year by *Science* magazine in 2023, GLP-1 medications offer lifesaving potential—but challenges such as supply shortages and high costs raise critical questions about their accessibility and future use.

MIT Museum, Gambrill Center | 314 Main Street | Cambridge, Massachusetts

Event Schedule:

- **Reception:** 6–6:30 p.m.
- **Presentation:** 6:30–7 p.m.
- **Discussion and Networking:** 7–8 p.m.

Enjoy heavy appetizers, beer, wine, and soft drinks as you connect with fellow alumni and industry experts.

Featured Speaker:
Robert F. Kushner, MD, '82 GMER
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

Dr. Kushner will lead a presentation and breakout discussion on overcoming the challenges to utilizing GLP-1 medications effectively.

Registration Details:

- \$25 for alumni and guests
- \$15 for current Northwestern students and undergraduate alumni (Classes of 2015–2025)

Advance registration is required by **March 7, 2025**. Space is limited, so secure your spot early!

For questions, please contact alumnieducation@northwestern.edu.

RSVP for Boston Industry Insights

Alumni Weekend 2025 | Chicago, Illinois

Friday, May 2–Saturday, May 3, 2025

Celebrate in Chicago this spring! Alumni Weekend is the cornerstone event for the Medical Alumni Association. Spend the weekend reconnecting with friends and classmates as you explore campus, participate in lectures and tours, and celebrate at class dinners. We are thrilled to welcome our 2025 reunion classes, as well as all members of our Half Century Club. Not your reunion year? Not a problem! This is truly an ALL alumni event. There's so much to see and do. Visit the [2025 Travel and Accommodations](#) portion of our Alumni Weekend website to book your hotel now and take advantage of our discounted room rates.

Explore our full schedule of events on the [Alumni Weekend website](#).

Please note: Advance registration is required. There is no on-site registration for Alumni Weekend. Registration closes Friday, April 18. You must register prior to Friday, April 18, to be included in any events.

Make plans to spend the weekend with us. See you in Chicago!

Register for Alumni Weekend 2025

Feinberg's Breakthroughs Podcast Archives | Claim CME Credit

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

For Physicians Claiming CME Credit: Most episodes are approved for CME credit. After streaming the episode, you will find the eligible credit amount at the bottom of each podcast webpage and a “claim your credit” button, which will take you to Feinberg’s CME website. Just sign in and fill out the form.

Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine podcasts are available on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Spotify](#), and [Pandora](#).

Subscribe to the
Breakthroughs Podcast

Questions? Contact us anytime at medalum@northwestern.edu.

Thank you for engaging with us and staying connected to your alma mater!

M Northwestern Medicine®
Feinberg School of Medicine

Medical Alumni Association

