

# Rush University Magazine

FOR RUSH ALUMNI & FRIENDS | SPRING 2019

**RUSH UNIVERSITY  
WELCOMES NEW PRESIDENT**  
PAGE 4

**BUILDING THE FUTURE  
OF RESEARCH AT RUSH**  
PAGE 8

---

Mentorship program builds enriching  
professional and personal experiences  
Page 12

---

Alumni across programs share their latest  
news and accomplishments  
Page 16

---

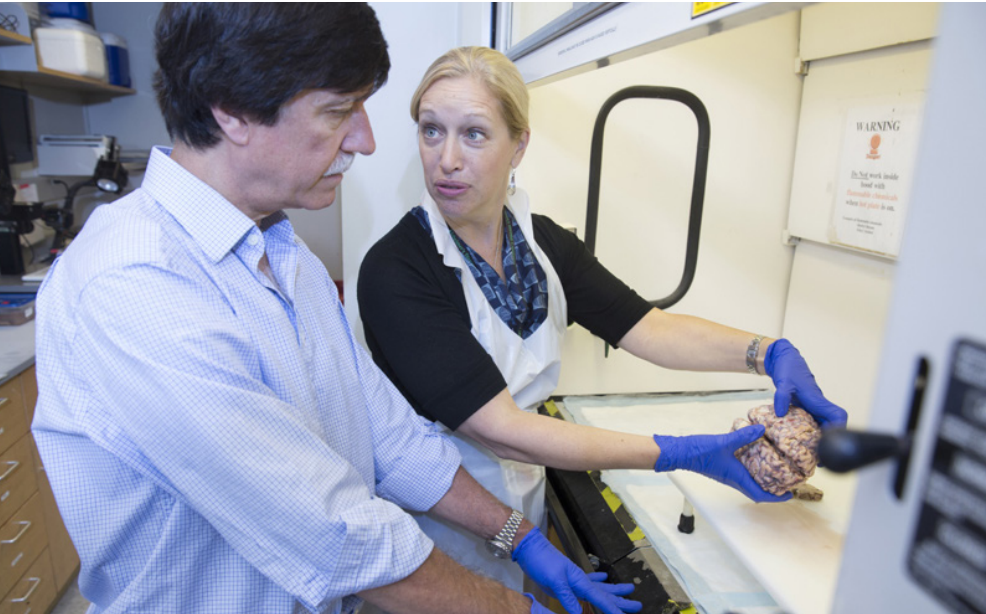
Patient focus leads to innovative research  
for one distinguished alumnus  
Page 14





# Rush University Magazine

FOR RUSH ALUMNI & FRIENDS | SPRING 2019



## 8 Building the Future of Research

Rush is growing its strong research enterprise to further anticipate and combat the greatest challenges in health care.



## 12 A 'Bright Future' Through Mentorship

3 Leadership Perspective:  
Ushering in a New Era

6 Rush News



## 14 Patient Focus Leads to Research Innovation

16 Alumni Updates  
& Accomplishments

22 In Memoriam

### UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP

**Sherine Gabriel, MD, MSc**  
President, Rush University  
Chief Academic Officer, Rush System

**Larry Goodman, MD, GME**  
CEO, Rush University Medical Center and the Rush System

**Thomas Deutsch, MD '79, GME**  
Provost, Rush University

**Marquis Foreman, PhD, RN, FAAN**  
John L. and Helen Kellogg Dean,  
Rush University College of Nursing

**K. Ranga Rama Krishnan, MB, ChB**  
Henry P. Russe, MD, Dean,  
Rush Medical College  
Senior Vice President,  
Rush University Medical Center

**Andrew J. Bean, PhD**  
Dean, Graduate College  
of Rush University

**Charlotte Royeen, PhD,  
OTR/L, FAOTA**  
Dean, Rush University College  
of Health Sciences, A. Watson  
Armour III Presidential Professor

### EDITORIAL CREDITS

**Diane McKeever**  
Senior Vice President, Philanthropy

**Peter Briechele, PhD**  
Vice President, Philanthropy  
Programs and Services

**Lisa Aaronson**  
Associate Vice President,  
Donor Relations

**Sarah Finnegan**  
Associate Vice President,  
Philanthropy

**Ryan Nagdeman**  
Associate Vice President,  
Marketing and Communications

**Rebecca Darmoc**  
Director, University Marketing

**Bill Grill**  
Graphic Designer,  
Marketing and Communications

**Roscoe Crampton**  
Senior Director, Alumni Giving

**Krista Giuffi**  
Director, Alumni Relations

**Sarah Mickle**  
Senior Director,  
Development Communications

**Ben Feldheim**  
Associate Director,  
Development Communications

**Anna Seifert**  
Associate Director,  
Development Communications

**ALUMNI COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
Denise Domel Greer, Pres.-St. Luke's '67  
Tony Kotin, MD '77/RMC; GME  
Larry Layfer, MD '74/RMC; GME  
Frank Ondrey, MD '89/RMC; PhD '94/GME  
Paula Rosenberg-Frey, MS '88/HSM  
Marilyn Wideman, DNP '07/CON  
Jillian De Mik, student representative/HSM

Rush University Magazine is a publication of the Office of Philanthropy and the Office of Marketing and Communications at Rush University Medical Center. It is published twice a year and is distributed free of charge to alumni and friends.

Please send address changes, alumni updates and accomplishments, and in memoriam notices to  
Office of Alumni Relations  
Rush University Medical Center  
1201 W. Harrison, Suite 300  
Chicago, IL 60607-3319  
(312) 942-7199 (phone)/(312) 942-5581 (fax)  
rushu.rush.edu/alumni  
alumni@rush.edu

Please recycle this magazine.



## Ushering in a New Era

**Larry Goodman, MD, GME**  
CEO, Rush University Medical Center  
and the Rush System

Since 2002 it has been my distinct honor to serve as the president of Rush University. I've seen firsthand the dedication, hard work, commitment and passion of our students, faculty and alumni. It's been inspiring and has made me incredibly optimistic despite the challenges in health care. In your hands, the future health of our nation is secure. As importantly, we have developed a strategic plan for the University that embraces new models of education, expands research and innovation, and addresses inequities in health care outcomes — wherever they occur.

To help usher in a new era for the University, we're welcoming Rush University President Sherine Gabriel, MD, MSc, into our Rush family (see page 4 of this issue). For the first time in Rush's history, with the significant growth of our colleges and formation of the Rush System, we've separated the roles of Rush University president and CEO of

Rush University Medical Center. Dr. Gabriel's leadership will further address future workforce needs, as well as maximize the value of an integrated academic medical center like ours. Dr. Gabriel is exactly the right leader for Rush University and we are so fortunate to have her take on this position.

In this issue of *Rush University Magazine*, you'll notice so many of our alumni encompass the same qualities our new president encompasses — they're committed to partnerships, creating inclusive environments, reducing health care inequities and recognizing the need to fundamentally change health care for the better.

We hope this issue inspires and reminds you that your ever-exploring work as alumni is what keeps Rush a global leader in education, research and clinical care.



# Rush University Welcomes Next President

*Dr. Sherine E. Gabriel, former dean of Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, is an NIH-funded researcher, national leader in rheumatology*



“The Board of Governors is confident that Dr. Gabriel has the experience and vision to strategically lead Rush University into being the premier university for health care delivery and health sciences education.”

— Carole Browe Segal, chair of the Rush University Board of Governors

Sherine E. Gabriel, MD, MSc, has been appointed the new president of Rush University. She most recently served as the dean of Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Brunswick, New Jersey, and was formerly dean of Mayo Medical School.

Gabriel succeeds Larry Goodman, MD, GME, as Rush University’s president, a position he has held since 2002, alongside his role as CEO of Rush University Medical Center and the Rush System.

“Besides her outstanding credentials as an educator, researcher and clinician, Dr. Gabriel impressed everyone who has met her as someone committed to the highest standards and values in health care,” said Goodman. “We are indeed fortunate to have her join us at Rush in this important leadership position.”

Last year the Rush Board of Trustees separated the role of University president from the Medical Center CEO into two distinct positions. They made this change in recognition of the complexities and the opportunities associated with operating and managing both a new, growing health system and a thriving health sciences university. The change paves the way for the University and the health system to continue their strong growth and to build on their achievements.

“The Board of Governors is confident that Dr. Gabriel has the experience and vision to strategically lead Rush University into being the premier university for health care delivery and health sciences education.” said Carole Browe Segal, chair of the Rush University Board of Governors.

# Leader News

## Rush Alumna Appointed Cancer Center Director

Mia Levy, MD '03/RMC, PhD, was recently appointed director of the Rush University Cancer Center, where she will play a critical role in achieving Rush’s vision to become a global destination cancer center, providing the best data-driven, patient-centered care.

Prior to joining Rush in January 2019, Levy served as the Ingram Associate Professor of Cancer Research and an associate professor of biomedical informatics and medicine at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. She was also the director of cancer health informatics and strategy for the Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center, where she was a medical oncologist specializing in breast cancer treatment.

Levy’s mission is to develop and disseminate learning cancer systems that deliver data- and knowledge-driven clinical decision support across the continuum of cancer care and research. As a practicing medical oncologist, she understands the challenges that clinicians face in trying to access, interpret and apply the results of complex tumor molecular profiling tests to the care of their patients. Levy continues to be a nationally recognized leader in identifying new ways to use data in achieving the best patient outcomes.



## Andrew J. Bean Named Dean of Rush University’s Graduate College

In April 2018, Andrew J. Bean, PhD, was appointed dean of the Graduate College of Rush University. Bean joined Rush from the MD Anderson Cancer/UTHealth Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, where he served as associate dean and professor of neurobiology and anatomy in the University of Texas McGovern Medical School.

“Dr. Bean not only brings to Rush his experience as an associate dean at a world-class research and educational institution, but also his own research expertise,” said Thomas A. Deutsch, MD '79/ RMC; GME, provost of Rush University.

From 2006 to 2016, Bean worked as director of the Graduate Neuroscience Program, and since 2012, served as associate dean of the Graduate School. While at MD Anderson Cancer/UTHealth, Bean led the development of programs to support recruitment and retention of minority graduate students — a commitment and passion he brings to his leadership position at Rush.

In addition to its reputation for research excellence, Rush’s community outreach; the quality of the students, faculty and infrastructure; and the dedication of leadership to academic scholarship were among the factors that drew Bean to Rush.

“The Graduate College has great potential, and I am excited to help lead the college toward realizing that potential,” said Bean.





Jason S. Turner Named Associate Dean for College of Health Sciences

Jason S. Turner, PhD, MAE, has joined Rush University as associate dean for the College of Health Sciences and associate professor of health systems management. Before joining Rush, Turner served as director of the health services management concentration at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine and was an associate professor in their Department of Environmental Health. For nearly 10 years, Dr. Turner was an assistant professor in the Department of Health Management and Policy at St. Louis University. In addition, he worked a number of years in the health care sector, serving as a controller for a large, national health care insurer and an administrator for a chain of hospitals.



U.S. News Ranks Rush University Programs Among Nation’s Best

Rush University received high marks in the 2020 edition of *U.S. News & World Report’s* Best Graduate Schools rankings released March 12, with seven College of Nursing programs and one College of Health Sciences program ranked in the top five in the country. Among them, the College of Nursing had two programs ranked No. 1 in the nation: Clinical Nurse Leader and Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing. The college also is ranked No. 2 in the Doctor of Nursing Practice category and jumped from No. 18 to No. 8 in the master’s degree category. Additionally the College of Nursing was ranked No. 4 in *U.S. News’* 2019 Best Online Programs rankings in January and No. 1 on the list of Best Online Master’s in Nursing Programs for Veterans. The College of Health Sciences has two disciplines ranked in the top 10: Health Systems Management (No. 5) and Audiology — Doctorate (No. 9; ranked in 2016).

Rush Rises to No. 2 in National Quality Study

Rush University Medical Center ranked second among 99 leading academic medical centers in the United States, up from fourth last year, in a study conducted by the health care services company Vizient. It is the sixth consecutive time Rush has been ranked in the top five among participating academic medical centers in the annual Quality and Accountability Study.

In recognition of its superior performance, Rush received the 2018 Vizient Bernard A. Birnbaum, MD, Quality Leadership Award. Rush is the only academic medical center among those in Illinois participating in the study to receive the award.

“Being ranked so highly again among so many of our peer institutions in Vizient’s survey shows once more that the patient care Rush provides is among the best in the nation,” said Larry Goodman, MD, CEO of Rush University Medical Center and the Rush System. “It’s just as important that we so consistently have been ranked among the top five participating medical centers, demonstrating the consistent excellence of the care Rush provides, year after year.”

Rush University Recognized for Excellence in Diversity

Rush University has received the 2018 Health Professions Higher Education Excellence in Diversity, or HEED, Award from *INSIGHT Into Diversity* magazine. *INSIGHT Into Diversity* is the oldest and largest diversity-focused publication in higher education.

Every year, the HEED Award recognizes U.S. medical, dental, pharmacy, osteopathic, nursing, veterinary, allied health, and other health schools and centers that demonstrate an outstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion.

Showcasing Alumni Association Accomplishments

During the 2017-18 school year, the Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke’s Nurses and Rush Medical College alumni associations supported current medical and nursing students with scholarships, funding for research opportunities, and information about their experiences working in specific specialties and areas of focus. Stethoscopes and white coats were sponsored for 134 first-year medical students. And 28 student travel awards were given for nursing student professional development opportunities. Learn more about these alumni associations’ commitment to students at [rushu.rush.edu/alumni/connect](https://rushu.rush.edu/alumni/connect).

Excellence is just the beginning.

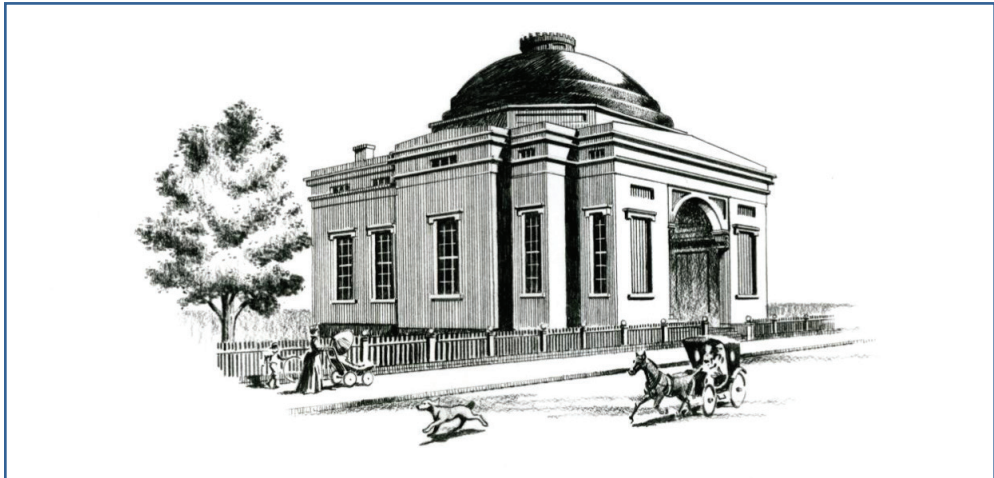
This may be our new tagline, but we think it articulates the Rush you’ve known all along.

In five words, we convey the Rush System’s long-held commitment to going above and beyond — from discovery and innovation to teaching and connecting with the communities we serve. While other health systems see excellence as their destination, at Rush it’s our starting point. Our alumni and students are living proof of that tenet, bringing a little piece of Rush to the important work they do and the many lives they change.

Learn what else makes Rush excellent at [rushu.rush.edu/excellence](https://rushu.rush.edu/excellence).

Rush Expands Simulation Center

A newly constructed phase II addition of the Rush Center for Clinical Skills and Simulation opened in 2018. The center’s expansion was specifically designed to refine not only clinical technique, but also communication and interpersonal skills. New available trainings include a standardized patient program with live actors posing as patients, a virtual reality room and additional space for group learning exercises.



Rush Medical College Celebrates 175th Anniversary of First Class

On Dec. 4, 1843, 22 students trudged through muddy pathways to reach their first class at Chicago’s first medical school, Rush Medical College. They met in a small classroom in a rented hall and paid \$60 for a 16-week curriculum. They studied anatomy, surgery, chemistry, obstetrics and diseases of women and children. With five faculty members, the college term started after the fall harvest and finished in time for spring planting.

In the 175 years since, Rush has grown and thrived, while quickly moving forward to transform health care and health sciences education.

Back in 1843, when medical schools were few and many did not teach using scientific methods, Rush Medical College’s founders stood for science and clinical practice. Already the early faculty, students and leadership were concerned with the cost of a medical education and balancing the need for study compared to hands-on learning. They debated whether students should study the same 16-week course two times, learning through repetition, or whether two years of clinical practice under the guide of an experienced physician would be as valuable. Recognizing both the need to serve the poor and for clinical experience, the college’s founder, Daniel Brainard, opened Chicago’s first city dispensary, or clinic.



# Building the Future of Research at Rush

How Rush is growing its strong research enterprise to further anticipate and combat the greatest challenges in health care

BY ANNA SEIFERT



**"You really have to show that your research is going to save lives and save money, and we have always been very good at doing that at Rush."**

— Barb Swanson, PhD '91/ CON, director of Rush University College of Nursing's PhD program

"Our research revenues have substantially increased despite the austere times," said Joshua Jacobs, MD, vice provost for research at Rush University. "And I think that is a reflection of investments over the years that have come to fruition, including investments in pilot projects, mentorship programs and bridge funding that have allowed our researchers to succeed in a very tough funding environment."

**On the Shoulders of Research Giants**  
Today researchers at Rush are conducting more than 1,600 basic, clinical and population-based projects — from elucidating the underlying mechanisms of diseases and developing innovative treatments, to establishing interventions in the community that help people live healthier lives.

As Rush's research enterprise continues to grow, so does the outside funding to carry forward more studies and trials. This is proven most strikingly by Rush's momentous jump in NIH ranking during the last decade (from No. 84 to No. 58) — a feat unmatched by any other medical school in the nation.

Alongside Morris, several of Rush's top researchers have played a critical role in the organization's significant leap. Among them, Mary Hayden, MD, director of the Division of Clinical Microbiology, Rush Medical Laboratories, and professor in the Department of Internal Medicine at Rush Medical College, now leads a \$26 million effort sponsored by the CDC to study the treatment of drug-resistant infections.

And Elizabeth Berry-Kravis, MD, co-director of Rush's Molecular Diagnostics Section of the Genetic Laboratory, and professor in the Department of Pediatrics at Rush Medical College, steers an NIH-funded \$11.5 million trial to explore a drug to improve language learning in children with fragile X syndrome.

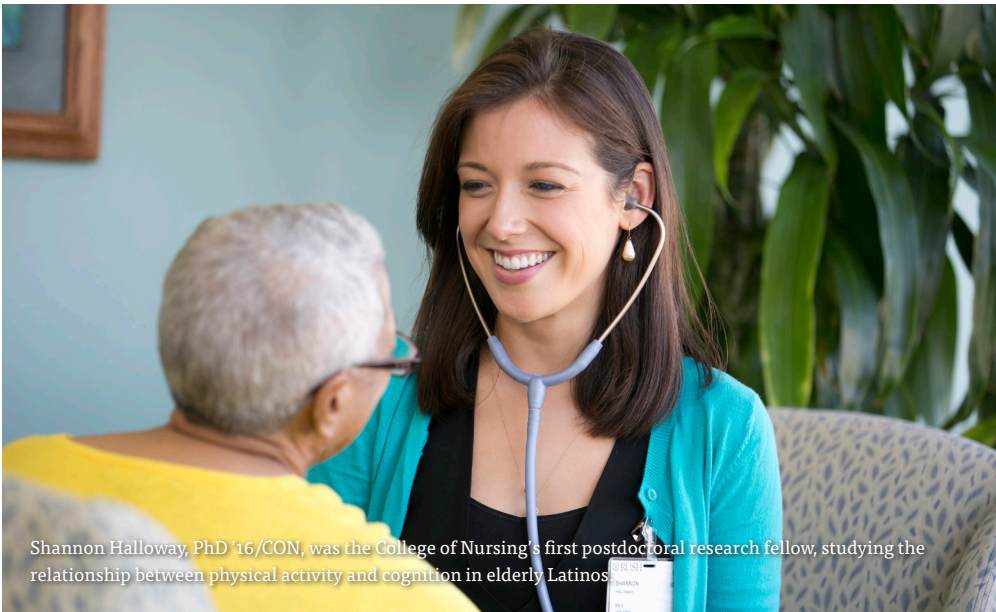
Like them, faculty across every college of the University are leading groundbreaking studies with the ability to transform health care and provide invaluable training experiences for our students.

**Found in Translation**  
"You really have to show that your research is going to save lives and save money, and we have always been very good at doing that at Rush," said Barb Swanson, PhD '91/ CON, director of Rush University College of Nursing's PhD program. "If you can't show that your research is going to somehow save costs, improve people's lives or lead to a cure, it's not going to get funded."

Specifically in the College of Nursing, PhD nursing faculty and students are doing just that: finding ways to help people better manage diseases and provide more immediate remedies while enhancing quality of life.

"Nurses spend more time with patients than anybody else," said Swanson. "We get a window into some of the issues that patients are facing that other providers don't get, and consequently, we're in a good position to try to find solutions to those problems."





Shannon Halloway, PhD '16/CON, was the College of Nursing's first postdoctoral research fellow, studying the relationship between physical activity and cognition in elderly Latinos.

For example, Shannon Halloway, PhD '16/CON, the College of Nursing's first postdoctoral research fellow, studied the relationship between physical activity and cognition in elderly Latinos, discovering that older people with heart disease are at greater risk for cognitive impairment or dementia — a fact that is even more pronounced in women.

Studies such as Halloway's exemplify how research at Rush takes many shapes and forms, whether focused on quality improvement, preventive medicine, population-based research, clinical trials or, like Halloway's, rooted in translational research.

"The future of research at Rush is a combination of basic and clinical research working hand-in-hand, generally referred to as translational

research," said Tom Champagne, chief research administrator for Rush University Medical Center.

"It's truly the proper mix of translational research that prioritizes patient-centric outcomes and human health; all the while, affording the opportunity for exploration and novel research."

Halloway, whose work as a PhD student was supported by a scholarship from the Golden Lamp Society, arguably struck that exact, winning combination. "Without a doubt, Rush's balance of patient care, research and education is deeply important for my work and cannot be replicated anywhere else," said Halloway, who plans to continue her work next year as an assistant professor in Rush University's College of Nursing.

Sound Investments

Halloway's fellowship — largely funded by gifts from nursing alumni and faculty, as well as the College of Nursing's dean's office — is just one example of the external investments made across Rush that help propel the research work and professional development of students.

The Rush Medical College Summer Research Fellowship Program — sponsored by the Rush Medical College Alumni Association — offers a six-week fellowship program to students who work with Rush faculty on a basic science or clinical research project, or who are engaged in a unique community service project. And the program culminates with a poster presentation at the annual Rush Research Forum.

In the Graduate College at Rush, the Initiative to Maximize Student Development — an NIH-funded PhD training grant for underrepresented minority students — is one example of how the college integrates scientific and professional training activities to ensure students are fully prepared to complete a PhD program and enter the biomedical workforce.

"The goal of a research-based graduate education is to train nascent researchers how to think critically and analytically," said Andrew Bean, PhD, dean of the Graduate College. "Because this training is focused on problem solving, rather than clinical skills, research-based students supplement their research training with career development activities that prepare them to put their skills to use in a variety of career paths."

On the Inside Looking Out

Building upon its research enterprise, Rush is helping lead a new health research accelerator in the Chicago area. With a \$35 million Clinical and Translational Science Award from the National Institutes of Health, the Institute for Translational Medicine, or ITM, helps drive research breakthroughs and bring those discoveries into the real world to improve health as soon as possible.

The ITM is a partnership between Rush and the University of Chicago, in collaboration with Advocate Health Care, the Illinois Institute of Technology, Loyola University Chicago and NorthShore University HealthSystem. This consortium is fueled by funding from the NIH's National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, or NCATS, over the next five years to help researchers, the public, government, industry and nonprofits work together to improve the health of the entire Chicago area.

"Institutions that don't get these kinds of grants are often on the outside looking in," said James Mulshine, an associate director within the ITM and former acting dean of the Graduate College at Rush. "And we don't want to be there; we want to be on the inside looking out."

The ITM is part of a network of more than 55 hubs across the country supported by NCATS' Clinical and Translational Science Awards Program, bringing local and national education, funding and resources to the Rush community.

Through this network, Rush also gains access to a larger patient population in which experts can conduct more thorough clinical and translational research — a crucial resource at a time when less than 10 percent of Americans are participating in health research.

"One of the major limitations in clinical research has been accruing a sufficient number of patients so that you can have the

appropriate sample size to make definitive findings," said Jacobs, who is also one of three ITM principal investigators. "By doing multi-center studies, particularly on a common platform through these large research consortiums, the efficacy of clinical and translational research is greatly facilitated, enhancing our ability to positively impact clinical care."

While the ITM gives Rush access to a large network of clinical researchers as well as other grant mechanisms that it would otherwise not have, Rush University students are no exception.

"Through this grant, students get access to national best practice for everything they need to do, which is critical because they are held to a very high level of competition," said Mulshine. "And that prepares them for life beyond Rush when they can conduct the very best kind of research."

'We're not an ivory tower institution'

Christy Tangney, PhD, professor, Departments of Clinical Nutrition and Preventive Medicine, and associate dean in Rush's College of Health Sciences, knows well the challenges and triumphs of research.

"The world is changing, and we have to lead that change in the world," said Tangney, whose research explores dietary behaviors of individuals and population samples in relation to cardiovascular and cognitive health. "That's one of the best things that Rush has to offer; we're not an ivory tower institution that's unrelated to clinical practice and caring for patients. We are in the community as well as in a hospital setting."

A prime example is Rush's Building Healthy Urban Communities initiative, under the direction of the college's own Tricia Johnson, PhD, professor of health systems management. Established in 2013 by a \$5 million grant from BMO Harris Bank, the initiative includes a fellowship

program that develops this exact kind of health care researcher — one who creates new, sustainable ways to provide access to care for Chicago's underserved communities. The BMO Harris Bank Health Disparities Research Fellows identify health care barriers in schools, clinics and neighborhoods, as well as build the preventive care solutions to improve health outcomes soon after the challenges are identified.

"The truth is, Rush was doing translational research way before the term was out there," said Swanson. "We've always done work where it's clear the outcomes would benefit specific patient populations or society as a whole."

As the organization continues to lead change within the realm of research, and as part of the University's 2017-2022 strategic plan, Rush will not only build upon its current research strengths but invest in the infrastructure necessary to become the national leader in health sciences scholarship and discovery.

"This is about creating a professional environment of biomedical research where we're always aspiring to operate at the level of national best practice, and there's an understanding that it takes teams to do this complex problem solving," said Mulshine. "The blended contributions of all health professionals will be essential to drive the rapid pace of innovation required to address our urgent health care challenges."



**Alumni and students:**  
**What's your research success story? Tell us about it via email or social media, using #RushUMag.**

alumni@rush.edu  
facebook.com/RushUniversityAlumni  
twitter.com/rushualumni



42

THE AVERAGE AGE OF A PHD INVESTIGATOR WHEN THEY RECEIVE THEIR FIRST NIH-R01.

14 YEARS

THE AVERAGE TIME IT TAKES TO GET NEW TREATMENTS MADE AND TO THE PUBLIC, ACCORDING TO THE NIH.

\$125 MILLION

RUSH'S RESEARCH REVENUE IN FY18, THE MOST OF ANY YEAR IN RUSH'S HISTORY.



# A ‘Bright Future’ Through Mentorship

BY BEN FELDHEIM

Anne-Marie Malfait, MD, PhD, has dedicated her research to figuring out why people with osteoarthritis experience pain. Finding an aspiring scientist to help her reach that goal was decidedly pain-free.

Malfait, the George W. Stuppy, MD, Chair of Arthritis and professor of rheumatology at Rush University, hired Rachel Miller, PhD, as a postdoc in 2010, and the duo has been collaborating seamlessly since then, tackling an area of osteoarthritis research that is being conducted at only a handful of institutions worldwide.

“The day that I started working with Rachel — that’s when I knew she had a bright future,” said Malfait, who was named Rush University’s Postdoctoral Mentor of the Year at the 2016 Mentoring Programs Symposium. “She started contributing immediately. She asked novel questions — the right questions.”

Together they have earned funding from the National Institutes of Health, or NIH, and other organizations for their work. And under Malfait’s guidance, Miller, who was since promoted to assistant professor at Rush, is pursuing her particular osteoarthritis research ideas after starting a lab of her own and receiving an NIH grant for her efforts.

Malfait and Miller have both benefited from being part of the Rush Mentorship Program, an effort to pair like-minded researchers with aspiring scientists to foster partnership while elevating the careers and accomplishments of both.

Founded 10 years ago, the Rush Mentorship Program connects researchers by field and areas of study to develop a mutually beneficial bond and work environment.

“We have seen that both the amount of grants is increasing, as is the number of papers in publications,” said Giselle Sandi, PhD, director of the Office of Mentoring Programs. “So this is to us an indication of the success of the mentees and it speaks of the fact that we are providing the correct resources and coaching that the mentees need to succeed.”

According to Sandi, 60-to-65 percent of the mentees who participate in the program continue their work at Rush and about 70 percent of participants have earned funding for their projects, including NIH, foundation and private industry grants. In 2018, 58 mentees participated in the program. Many mentees graduate to junior mentors three years into the five-year program, said Sandi.

Funding for mentorships comes from a combination of support from Rush University’s Office of the Provost and philanthropy. For the last four years, the Cohn family has dedicated \$100,000 annually to fund five fellowships each year within the Rush Research Mentoring program. Twenty five percent of the Cohn fellows received NIH funding for their own projects — compared to a 5-to-10 percent national success rate for all NIH grant applications.

Mentorship program builds career-enriching professional and personal experiences for mentors and mentees alike

Miller was among the five 2016 Cohn fellows. She continues to collaborate closely with her mentor even though she’s now pursuing her own research endeavors.

“We meet to discuss research, but she also takes time to discuss career development,” Miller said. “She makes sure I’m networking, attending conferences and developing as a grant writer — all of the things besides doing experiments that make you a successful scientist. It’s those soft skills that you don’t always learn at school that are so important in helping you succeed in your career.”



**Alumni: Have you benefited from a mentoring program? Please share your experience with us via email or social media, using #RushUMag.**

alumni@rush.edu  
facebook.com/RushUniversityAlumni  
twitter.com/rushualumni



Anne-Marie Malfait, MD, PhD, (right) started working with Rachel Miller, PhD, (left) when Miller joined Rush as a postdoc. Since then, Miller joined the faculty at Rush and the two continue to perform innovative research into osteoarthritis.



# Patient Focus Leads to Research Innovation

One distinguished alumnus credits his accomplishments in oncology research and as an educator to working closely with patients as a Rush student

BY BEN FELDHEIM

In the first weeks of studying medicine at Rush, Patrick Loehrer, MD '78/RMC; GME, was seeing patients alongside primary care doctors. Witnessing the actual effects of diseases and conditions on people so soon after reading about them in textbooks inspired his passion for treatment.

“Those experiences right off the bat at Rush have served me during my entire professional life,” said Loehrer, who serves as director of the Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Cancer Center and is an IU Distinguished Professor as well as associate dean for cancer research and the H.H. Gregg Professor of Oncology at Indiana University School of Medicine.

“Incredibly smart people taught me that if you take the time to learn something about each patient during a physical examination, you could really help them. I became very patient-focused through my training at Rush.”



Patrick Loehrer, MD '78/RMC, (left) graduated from Rush Medical College more than 40 years ago and went on to become a foremost expert on thymus gland cancer. He continues to express gratitude for his educational experiences and mentors he had as a medical student.

Today he is a renowned oncologist with expertise in the challenging and uncommon cases of thymus gland cancer, in addition to bladder, pancreatic, testicular and colon cancers. Seeing lives cut short by the disease fueled Loehrer's desire to not only find better treatments but also to teach future generations of oncologists to do the same.

“The faculty at Rush were such tremendous role models who led me into academics,” he said. “Making contributions through the tripartite mission of academic medicine (research, education and patient care) allows one to fully serve this noblest of professions.”

**“The faculty at Rush were such tremendous role models who led me into academics. Making contributions through the tripartite mission of academic medicine (research, education and patient care) allows one to fully serve this noblest of professions.”**

— Patrick Loehrer, MD '78/RMC; GME

Loehrer was in residency at Rush when, under the direction of Philip Bonomi, MD, professor of medical oncology, he wrote a paper about three thymic cancer cases. While researching, Loehrer found no clinical trials existed for thymic cancer treatment.

One year after completing his residency, Loehrer, at Indiana University for a fellowship, led the first-ever clinical trial done on thymic cancer using a combination of therapies. Loehrer's therapy remains the standard first-line treatment for thymomas to this day.

Loehrer's efforts to bring cancer treatment to those in need weren't contained to the United States. He partnered with colleagues at IU to create the first sustainable oncology patient care and education program in western Kenya as part of the Academic Model Providing Access to Healthcare program, or AMPATH. According to IU, about 8,000 patients are now seen each year and nearly 60,000 women have been screened for breast and cervical cancers through this effort.



**Rush is the proud alma mater of alumni who are on the leading edge of health care worldwide. Which Rush alumni do you consider to be trailblazers in their field? Tell us via email or social media, using #RushUMag.**

alumni@rush.edu

facebook.com/

RushUniversityAlumni

twitter.com/rushualumni

College Distinguished Alumni Award recipient for education and research. He described receiving the award as a humbling experience.

“Looking back, Rush really took a chance on me,” he said. “I was pursuing a mechanical engineering degree when I applied to medical school. I'm incredibly grateful to Rush, who in taking that chance, enabled me to find my true vocation.”

“The first time I went to Kenya, they would say there's nothing they could do for cancer patients,” Loehrer said. “I came back thinking, ‘If we changed cancer care in the States, with a little help we can certainly do it there.’ Now every patient they have who needs chemotherapy can get it.” In recognition for his career-long efforts to enrich cancer treatments and health care instruction in the United States and abroad, Loehrer was chosen as the 2017 Rush Medical



Patrick Loehrer, MD '78/RMC, (right) after being named the 2017 Rush Medical College Distinguished Alumni Award recipient for education and research in 2017; with Mikki Goodman, MS '75; DNP '00/CON, (middle) and Larry Goodman, MD, GME, CEO of Rush University Medical Center and the Rush System (left).



SHARE YOUR NEWS

Share your personal and professional updates with classmates and the Rush community.

Send your news to [alumni@rush.edu](mailto:alumni@rush.edu) or complete an update form online at [rush.edu/alumniupdate](http://rush.edu/alumniupdate).

Information submitted will be considered for publication in *Rush University Magazine* and on the Rush alumni website: [rushu.rush.edu/alumni](http://rushu.rush.edu/alumni).

1970s

**CHRISTOPHER GOETZ, MD '75/RMC; GME**, was appointed president of the International Parkinson and Movement Disorder Society during its 21st annual international congress held in Vancouver. Goetz is professor, Department of Neurological Sciences and Pharmacology, and director, Movement Disorders Program at Rush University Medical Center.

**SANDRA MILLER, MD '75/RMC**, has retired after 10 years of private practice and 30 years of academic family medicine. Miller is now writing novels focused on fictional medical adventures and is looking to connect with others interested in writing medical fiction.

**JAMES A. MESEROW, MD '77/RMC; GME**, joined Benefis Women's Health in Great Falls, Montana.

**ROBERT F. MULCH JR., MD '77/RMC**, took the oath of office for the Montgomery County Board in Montgomery, Illinois.

**RONALD STERN, MD '78/RMC**, joined the Florida Pain Relief Group - Melbourne.

**MARIE T. BROWN FELDMAN, MD '79/RMC; GME**, was named a Master by the American College of Physicians, the largest medical-specialty society in the world, recognizing excellence and distinguished contributions to internal medicine.

1980s

**ROBERT G. GILLIO, MD '80/RMC**, was appointed by J.C. Blair Memorial Hospital in Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, as the medical director for the health system's new Pulmonary Care Center. Gillio will oversee a program of lung disease education, prevention, screening, diagnosis and treatment.

**KATHLEEN L. DUNN, MS '82/CON**, retired in 2017 after 28 years as the clinical nurse specialist for the Spinal Cord Injury/Disease Center at the VA San Diego Healthcare System and continues to serve as a moderator for the CareCure website.

**JAMES T. O'DONNELL, MS '82/CHS**, was appointed to the American College of Surgeons Opiate Task Force.

**JOHN V. PRUNSKIS, MD '82/RMC**, was appointed to the Health and Human Services pain management task force.

**CARYN D. BING, MS '83/CHS; GME**, received the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists Board of Directors 2017 Award for Distinguished Leadership and authored two chapters in *Compounding Sterile Preparations*, 4th edition.

**KAREN B. WEINSTEIN, MD '83/RMC; GME**, was named acting medical director, regulatory affairs, Rush University Medical Group.

**DAVID A. BENNETT, MD '84/RMC; GME**, received the 2018 Potamkin Prize for Research in Pick's, Alzheimer's and Related Diseases, in recognition for his research on memory loss. Sometimes referred to as the Nobel Prize of Alzheimer's research, the Potamkin Prize is an internationally recognized tribute in the field. Bennett is the director of the Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center at Rush University Medical Center and the Robert C. Borwell Professor of Neurological Science in the Department of Neurological Sciences at Rush Medical College.

**MARY LOU MASTRO, MS '84/CON**, is the chief executive officer for Edward-Elmhurst Health and was elected to serve on the Illinois Health and Hospital Association's Board of Trustees.

A LOOK BACK



Lifelong Learning at Rush

Ingrid Forsberg, PSL '65, DNP '16

Forty-one years after Ingrid Forsberg began her journey in nursing as a graduate of Presbyterian-St. Luke's School of Nursing, she reached another academic milestone. Forsberg, an assistant professor in the Department of Community, Systems and Mental Health Nursing at Rush, earned a DNP in 2016 focusing on population-wide health outcomes. Then age 71, she became the second oldest Rush graduate. "Nursing at Rush has always been bold. In the 1960s they were open to diversity and to finding new ways to solve health problems. In these recent years, when I became a student again, I experienced similar openness, inclusion and brave innovation," said Forsberg. In addition to her role as a faculty member, Forsberg is a member of the Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Nurses Alumni Association Board of Directors.

ABBREVIATIONS IN THIS ISSUE

Colleges and programs

AUD	Speech & Hearing Science*
CON	Rush University College of Nursing
GRAD	The Graduate College of Rush University
HSM	Health Systems Management*
OT	Occupational Therapy*
PSL	Presbyterian-St. Luke's School of Nursing
PRES	Presbyterian Hospital School of Nursing
RMC	Rush Medical College
ST. LUKE'S	St. Luke's Hospital Training School of Nursing

\*programs in the Rush University College of Health Sciences

Degrees and certifications

BS	Bachelor of Science
BSN	Bachelor of Science in Nursing
CERT	Certificate
CRNA	Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist
DNP	Doctor of Nursing Practice
GME	Graduate Medical Education (House Staff Alumnus)
MD	Doctor of Medicine
MSN	Master of Science in Nursing
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy

**KATHY SWARTWOUT MS '86/CON, PHD '07/GRAD**, was appointed to associate chairperson for the Department of Community, Systems and Mental Health Nursing at Rush University College of Nursing.

**ELIZABETH CARLSON, PHD '88/CON**, received the 2017 Lucie S. Kelly Mentor Award at the Honor Society of Nursing Sigma Theta Tau International's 44th Biennial Convention in Indianapolis.

**FREDERICK M. BROWN JR., BS '89, MS '94, DNP '07/CON**, was promoted to associate vice president, psychiatric nursing, Rush University Medical Center.

**KATHLEEN R. DELANEY, PHD '89, CERT '05/CON**, was awarded a \$1.4 million Health Resources and Services Administration grant for her project titled "Academic/Practice Partnerships: Incubators for Innovations in Clinical Learning." This project develops and evaluates an academic-practice partnership model for clinical training of family nurse practitioners students. Delaney is professor, Department of Community, Systems and Mental Health Nursing, Rush University College of Nursing, and project director, Rush University Medical Center Graduate Nursing Education Demonstration.

1990s

**RANDALL W. PORTER, MD '93/RMC**, was appointed to Arizona Technology Council's Board of Directors.

**BLAIR MARTIN ROWITZ, MD '93/RMC**, was appointed as the first permanent associate dean for clinical affairs at the Carle Illinois College of Medicine in Urbana, Illinois.



**SUSAN BREITENSTEIN, BS '94, MS '97, PHD '09/CON**, associate department chair and associate professor, Department of Community, Systems and Mental Health Nursing, Rush University College of Nursing, and **LOLA COKE, PHD '05/CON**, associate professor, Department of Adult Health and Gerontological Nursing, Rush University College of Nursing, were inducted as fellows in the American Academy of Nursing.

**RUTH M. KLEINPELL, CERT '95, CERT '16/ CON**, received grant funding from the American Association of Nurse Practitioners for the study demonstrating the outcomes of nurse practitioner care using a national collaborative.

**ANTHONY PERRY, MD '96/RMC; GME**, vice president, population health and ambulatory services at Rush University Medical Center, has been appointed to lead Rush's newly formed Ambulatory Transformation Center.

**SOPHIA DRINIS, MD '96/RMC**, joined Samaritan Urology in Albany, Oregon, as a urologist.

**SIMON LEE, MD '97/RMC; GME**, and **JOHNNY L. LIN, GME**, were selected to be company physicians at the Joffrey Ballet in Chicago.

**EDWARD F. HOLLINGER, JR. PHD '98/GRAD; MD '01/RMC; GME**, and **DAVID J. CIMBALUK, GME**, received the 2017 Lifesaving Partners Award from Gift of Hope Organ & Tissue Donor Network for their work in addressing the important need for organ and tissue donations.

**SAM GEORGE PAPPAS, MD '98/RMC**, joined Rush as chief, Division of Surgical Oncology. Pappas is a leading expert in robotic surgery for patients with gastrointestinal cancers and regional therapies for advanced malignancies.

**MICHELLE STUERCKE, DNP '98/CON**, joined Transitional Care Management in Lisle, Illinois, as the chief clinical officer.

**ROSEMARIE SUHAYDA, CERT '98/CON**, and Pam Levin, MD, developed a paper titled "Transitioning to the DNP: Assuring integrity of the curriculum through curriculum mapping" that was accepted for publication in Nurse Educator. Suhayda currently serves as assistant dean of evaluation and associate professor, Department of Women, Children and Family Nursing, Rush University College of Nursing.

**VICTORIA M. VILLAFLOR, MD '98/RMC; GME**, was named a 2018 "Top Doctor in Chicago" by *Chicago* magazine for her work in medical oncology.

**XINQI DONG, MD '99/RMC**, has been named the director of Rutgers University's Institute for Health, Health Care Policy and Aging Research and is the inaugural Henry Rutgers Professor of Population Health Sciences.

A Different Taste of Medicine

Valerie Duffy, MS '84/CHS

Many people have misconceptions about eating healthy, but Valerie Duffy, MS '84/CHS, proves them wrong daily. "People think healthy food has to taste bad, but it's simply not true," said Duffy, professor and director of the graduate program in the Department of Allied Health Sciences at University of Connecticut.

Her team works to understand the psychology of eating, tailoring health promotion messages to what people enjoy eating and moving them toward more sustainable, healthy eating behaviors.

"People tell you what you want to hear in nutrition assessments, or perhaps they misreport or can't remember what they eat every day," said Duffy. "Our research shows that people will more easily and accurately tell you what they

like to eat, which has been proven to correlate with biological measures of their health, including body weight, lipids and blood pressure."

This was just one of the lessons Duffy shared with the Rush community last spring as keynote speaker of the 35th Annual Rush University Forum for Research and Clinical Investigation.

"Whether through mentorship opportunities, coming back to speak with students or just succeeding as alumni, giving back to Rush in any way keeps it the strong institution it is," said Duffy. "I always tell my students, 'Your strength is only as good as your institution.' And I've always felt our goal as alumni is to make sure we're adding value back into Rush."

**SUSAN K. O'CONNER-VON, PHD '01/CON**, received the American Society for Pain Management Nursing Dr. Jo Eland Excellence in Pediatric Nursing Award.

**BEN REMOR E. INVENTOR, MS '03, PHD '15/CON**, received the Excellence in Nursing Education/Research Award from the 23rd annual Chicago Filipino Asian American Hall of Fame. Inventor is an instructor in the Department of Adult Health and Gerontological Nursing, Rush University College of Nursing.

**MIA LEVY, MD '03/RMC**, see page 5 for full announcement.

**AMON T. FERRY, MD '04/RMC; GME**, joined OrthoArizona in the Arizona Sports Medicine Center. Ferry completed a sports medicine and shoulder surgery fellowship at Harvard Sports Medicine Service in Boston, has worked with the New England Patriots, Boston Red Sox and Boston Bruins, and now works with the Arizona Diamondbacks and Seattle Mariners.

**CARRIE PIKE, BS '04/CON**, was appointed by the Department of Psychiatric Nursing at Rush University Medical Center as interim unit director for 8S/8N in the Johnston R. Bowman Health Center.

**LOLA COKE, PHD '05/CON**, see note for SUSAN BREITENSTEIN, BS '94, MS '97, PHD '09/CON.

ALUMNI UPDATES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

A Lifetime of Service

Paul Henderson, CRNA '79/CON



"Rush prepared me well for an independent practice," said Paul Henderson, CRNA '79/CON, founder of Great Lakes Anesthesia. "It also presented me with some of the most difficult cases that I would encounter during my 40-year career."

Before retiring in June 2016, Henderson's company — which he and a fellow CRNA founded in 1999 — became one of the largest Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist-owned groups in the country and one of the largest anesthesiology groups in Indiana.

"Several times in my career, when I told people where I went to anesthesia school, there seemed to be a feeling of awe," said Henderson, who was part

of the College of Nursing's anesthesia program, which celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2017. "Rush has a great reputation throughout the Midwest, and I've hired many Rush grads who have all been excellent."

Henderson also served as a Vietnam-era veteran in the U.S. Air Force and as an officer in the U.S. Army Reserves during Operation Desert Storm.

"During my years of administering anesthesia, I was amazed at the courage that many patients exhibited when faced with overwhelming health issues," said Henderson. "And I know there were a few times in my career where my actions were responsible for saving a life — and there is nothing more rewarding than that."



ALUMNI UPDATES  
& ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## Congratulations, Alumni and House Staff Named ‘Top Doctors’

Several Rush alumni and house staff were named ‘top doctors’ in the January 2019 issue of *Chicago* magazine. The list of Chicago-area doctors was compiled by Castle Connolly Medical, a health care research and information company, from a survey of fellow physicians.

- Philip D. Bonomi, GME
  - Charles A. Bush-Joseph, GME
  - Melody A. Cobleigh, MD '76/RMC; GME
  - Gordon H. Derman, MD '75/RMC
  - Daniel J. Deziel, GME
  - Steven Gitelis, MD '75/RMC; GME
  - Christopher G. Goetz, MD '75/RMC; GME
  - Joshua J. Jacobs, GME
  - Timothy R. Lubenow, GME
- Thomas R. Mizen, GME
  - Mary Wood Molo, GME
  - Anthony J. Perry, GME
  - Roger A. Rodby, GME
  - Theodore J. Saclarides, GME
  - Beverly E. Sha, GME
  - Michael R. Silver, GME
  - Mary Kay Tobin, MD '77/RMC; GME
  - Gordon M. Trenholme, GME
  - Robert B. Wright, GME

**AMANDA L. KRATOVIL, BS '05/CON; PHD '16/GRAD**, accepted an assistant professor, tenure track position in the College of Nursing at Purdue University Northwest.

**JONATHAN R. KAMERLINK, MD '07/RMC**, started his own paid medicine practice, Kamerlink Pain Institute in Boca Raton, Florida.

**MARY JANE WELCH, DNP '07/CON**, retired after 14 years of service to Rush, most previously serving as associate vice president, research regulatory operations. She helped strengthen the foundation for a comprehensive research administration infrastructure that is focused on service and excellence. Under her leadership, Rush was awarded its first human research protections accreditation from the Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs which has since been renewed.

**BRITTANY A. FOOTE, BS '08/CON**, joined Edward Medical Group's obstetrics and gynecology practice in the Lisle, Illinois, office.

**MARK S. FRATZKE, DNP '08/CON**, was appointed president and chief executive officer of Seton Medical Center and Seton Coastside in California.

**ECE A. MUTLU, MS '08/CON; GME**, was promoted to professor in the Department of Internal Medicine at Rush University Medical Center.

**MARY S. BECK, DNP '09/CON**, was appointed as the chief nursing officer at University of Missouri Health Care.

2010s

**AMANDA J. BATTERBEE, MS '10/CON**, joined the University of Colorado Colorado Springs as new faculty in the Helen and Arthur E. Johnson Beth-El College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

**JULIE M. BOLL, MD '10/RMC; GME**, joined Saint Thomas Hospital West in Nashville as a registered physician in vascular interpretation.

**MERRICK J. DONENBERG, MD '11/RMC**, joined the OSF HealthCare Cardiovascular Institute office in Ottawa, Illinois.

**CHRISTOPHER J. DUNNING, MS '13/CON**, was appointed emergency department unit director at Rush Oak Park Hospital.

**NILI L. SELESKI, MD '13/RMC**, joined the Silver Cross medical staff. She is a board certified pediatrics physician and is located at the Ann & Robert H. Lurie's Children's Outpatient Center in New Lenox, Illinois.

**TERRI BOGUE, MS '14/CON**, published an article co-authored with LYNN MOHR, PHD '15/GRAD, titled “Putting the Family Back in the Center: A Teach-Back Protocol to Improve Communication During Rounds in a Pediatric Intensive Care Unit.” This article appeared in a special Pediatric Critical Care Edition of Critical Care Nursing Clinics of North America.

**ALICE M. GEIS, DNP '14, CERT '11/CON**, has been appointed interim medical director at Trilogy Behavioral Healthcare in Chicago.

**LYNN MOHR, PHD '15/GRAD**, see note for TERRI BOGUE, MS '14/CON.

**TERESA W. YAMBO, PHD '15/GRAD**, joined the University of Colorado Colorado Springs as a faculty member in the Helen and Arthur E. Johnson Beth-El College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

**BREYANNA GRAYS, MD '16/RMC; GME**, is now practicing at Carle Neurology Clinic in Urbana, Illinois.

**SARAH G. AURICH, DNP '17/CON**, joined Sanford Bemidji in Minnesota as a family nurse practitioner on the pediatrics team.

**THOMAS STARR, MS '17/CON**, has been appointed to unit director of the neurosciences, stroke and epilepsy unit at Rush University Medical Center.

HOUSE STAFF

**JOSEPH U. BARKER, GME**, is the first surgeon in Wake County, North Carolina, and first surgeon in the Raleigh metro area to perform a treatment to regrow knee cartilage.

**MIGENA BETZ, GME**, joined Mercyhealth in Rockford, Illinois, as a board-certified diagnostic radiology physician.

**ASOKUMAR BUVANENDRAN, GME**, was appointed president of the American Society of Regional Anesthesia and Pain Medicine. Buvanendran is vice chair, research, and director, orthopedic anesthesia, in the Department of Anesthesiology at Rush University Medical Center.

**DOMINIC S. CARREIRA, GME**, joined the Partners of Peachtree Orthopedics in Atlanta.

**DAVID J. CIMBALUK, GME**, see note for EDWARD F. HOLLINGER JR. PhD '98/GRAD; MD '01/RMC; GME.

**WILLIAM B. INABNET III, GME**, was selected as the new editor-in-chief for VideoEndocrinology by the American Thyroid Association.

**MUSTAFA KHAN, GME**, joined the Milwaukee Orthopaedic Group.

**GUENTHER KOEHNE, GME**, has been named chief of bone marrow transplantation and hematologic oncology at the Miami Cancer Institute.

ALUMNI UPDATES  
& ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## Fancy Footwork

Christopher Ferrigno, PhD '15/GRAD



Christopher Ferrigno, PhD '15/GRAD, admits his doctoral experiences were paramount in helping to form his current role as a clinical researcher and basic science educator. “I learned how to use 3-D motion analysis to quantify human motion, how joints are loaded during these motions and how to clinically translate these measures,” said Ferrigno, who investigated biomechanical approaches to improve loading conditions at the knee during gait. “I was also afforded multiple opportunities to teach gross anatomy to the students at Rush Medical College — all experiences that greatly enhanced my academic opportunities following my degree.”

Ferrigno now serves as an instructor in the Department of Cell and Molecular Medicine and Department of Orthopedic Surgery at Rush. Supported by a fellowship grant from the Cohn Family Foundation, Ferrigno is investigating

the therapeutic application of a pressure-detecting shoe insole to conservatively treat the osteoarthritic knee, alongside Markus Wimmer, PhD, professor and director of the Motion Analysis Laboratory, and Najia Shakoor, MS '05/GRAD.

Additionally Ferrigno’s teaching responsibilities now span all four colleges at Rush — a role that brings his clinical experience as a physical therapist into the classroom to enhance the learning experience for students.

“As a clinician, researcher and educator, I’m continually rewarded by the graciousness of patients, research subjects, and students with whom I’ve had the privilege to interact,” added Ferrigno. “I thrive from watching a student experience an ‘ah-ha’ moment or hearing a patient say ‘thank you.’”



**KEN N. KUO, GME**, was awarded the Distinguished Life Achievement Award of Asia Pacific Orthopedic Society for his work in pediatric orthopedic surgery.

**PRIMO N. LARA JR., GME**, has been named the director of the National Cancer Institute-designated UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center.

**JOHNNY L. LIN, GME**, see note for SIMON LEE, MD '97/RMC; GME.

**RICHARD PAZDUR, GME**, was listed among the 2017 “Bloomberg 50,” a list of the most influential people nationally and internationally as determined by Bloomberg Businessweek. He was recognized for his work as a director at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration Oncology Center of Excellence and success with increasing the approval rate for cancer drugs and medications.

**JAMES S. RICKARDS, GME**, recently released his book, Our Health Plan: Community Governed Healthcare That Works, focusing on transforming health care systems.

**SARAH SUNG, GME**, has joined the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine as an assistant professor.

**CRAIG J. DELLA VALLE, GME**, was named the 28th president of the American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons.

**JAMES WEINSTEIN, GME**, was honored as Rush’s Distinguished Surgical Alum.

IN MEMORIAM

**JOHN M. AYERS, MD '42/RMC**, of Idaho; Oct. 12, 2017

**NANCY ROBERTSON RHODES, ST. LUKE’S '45**, of Peoria, Illinois; Oct. 23, 2017

**BETTY RUTH ANDERSON BLOOMER, ST. LUKE’S '46**, of McAllen, Texas; Dec. 25, 2015

**MARY ELLEN EICH BUELL, PRES '46**, of Lancaster, California; Nov. 27, 2016

**DOROTHY MENNECKE BONTHRON, ST. LUKE’S '48**, of Elmhurst, Illinois; Nov. 2017

**AUDREY D. DEAN, PRES '49**, of Madison, Wisconsin; July 6, 2017

**ANNA BECKA GALLANT, PRES '49**; Sept. 24, 2015

**RUTH BRANER BAKER, ST. LUKE’S '50**, of Romeoville, Illinois; Jan. 19, 2017

**SALLY HAMILTON HAYES, PRES '50**, Petoskey, Michigan; Dec. 12, 2017

**ANNA MARIE TALLMAN MIEDEMA, PRES '50**, of St. Anne, Illinois; Feb. 20, 2018

**RUTH RINNE, ST. LUKE’S '50**, of Tomahawk, Wisconsin; July 19, 2017

**HARRIETT SPOONER WYLAND, PSL '52**, of Plainfield, Illinois; November 16, 2017

**JOAN C. NELSON, ST. LUKE’S '53**, of Des Plaines, Illinois; July 18, 2017

**RUTH RIEMERSMA STOVER, ST. LUKE’S '53**; Feb. 7, 2017

**JOANNE M. STANKIEWICZ MADONNA, PRES '55**, of Summit Argo, Illinois; Nov. 30, 2017

**SUSAN DORRANCE DYKSTRA, PSL '60**, of Platteville, Wisconsin; June 9, 2017

**KAREN S. HARRER, MSN '81/CON**, of New Orleans; May 20, 2017

**JARL E. DYRUD JR., MD '82/RMC**; Feb. 4, 2015

**ALVARO (AL) LICEAGA, MD '83/RMC; GME**, of Rowland Heights, California; Jan. 28, 2019

**JILL H. MALAN, BSN '94, MSN '96**, CERT '02/CON, of Chicago; Dec. 18, 2017

**JEANNIE DIXON, DNP '12/CON**, of Westchester, Illinois; Jan. 17, 2019

**JOSEPH J. FEDORCHIK JR., GME**, of College Station, Texas; March 28, 2016

**JIAGENG “JOHN” XU, GME**; June 30, 2018



“My education is only as valuable as the Rush alumni practicing in the field. Thank you for creating a reputation of excellence at Rush so that future health care professionals like me will be seen as leaders in our careers.”

— Rachel Slager, College of Health Sciences  
Speech-Language Pathology Student

Excellence begins with you.

Thanks to alumni giving, students like Rachel begin their education knowing that someone, somewhere — once in their shoes — supports them. “Even the smallest gift tells us students that there is someone who believes in us enough to act on it,” said Slager, who received alumni support through a College of Health Sciences scholarship.

Gifts of all sizes not only contribute to countless scholarships, but improve the quality and availability of resources throughout the University. This is where philanthropy makes the difference, allowing our students to carry forward the same excellence that our alumni now bring to their fields.

Find out more about supporting Rush University at [rushu.rush.edu/giving](https://rushu.rush.edu/giving).



Office of Alumni Relations  
Rush University Medical Center  
1201 W. Harrison, Suite 300  
Chicago, IL 60607-3319

Non Profit Org.  
US Postage  
PAID  
Chicago, IL  
Permit No. 1207



# Visit the Online Rush Alumni Directory

A digital directory of alumni from all four Rush colleges is available in the alumni section of the Rush University website. Connect with your former classmates, network with colleagues and get more involved with the Rush community online.

Explore the directory at  
[rushu.rush.edu/alumnidirectory](https://rushu.rush.edu/alumnidirectory).



## ALUMNI EVENTS CALENDAR

For more information, call (312) 942-7199 or email [alumni@rush.edu](mailto:alumni@rush.edu).

### APRIL

- 11 Golden Lamp Society Luncheon
- 12 College of Nursing Reception at AONE Conference (San Diego)

### SEPTEMBER

- 25 Rush University Golf Outing

### OCTOBER

- 25-26 Rush Medical College Reunion