

The
Class of 1996
Commencement

The College
of Medicine

and

The School
of Graduate Studies

of

The State University
of New York
Health Science
Center at Brooklyn

Three O'Clock
Wednesday Afternoon May 15, 1996
Carnegie Hall • New York City, New York

The Music Program

Precommencement Musicale

Works by J.S. Bach, A. Banchieri, G. Gabrieli, J. Pezel, and A. Scarlatti played by The Physicians' Brass Ensemble of New York—Daniel Repole, M.A., conductor; Benjamin A. Rosenberg*, M.D., '50, music chairman. Horn: Jacqueline R. Grasso. Trombones: George Zorko (Tenor), Benjamin A. Rosenberg (Tenor/Bass, also Bass Trumpet). Trumpets: Kevin Blancq, Russell D. Johnson, and Joseph Schufle (also Piccolo Trumpets).

The National Anthem, sung by soloist Tina Catalano.

*Founding Director 1972

Processional

Coronation March from *The Prophet* (1849, G. Meyerbeer)

Trumpet Tune (1696, J. Clarke)

March from *Dramico per Musica* (1726, J.S. Bach)

Triumphal March from *Aida* (1871, G. Verdi)

Pomp and Circumstance No. 1 (1901, E. Elgar)

Recessional

Rondeau (1729, J. J. Mouret)

Trumpet Voluntary (1700, J. Clarke)

“See the Conquering Hero Comes” from *Judas Maccabeus* (1746, G. F. Handel)

March from *Judas Maccabeus*

Theme from Concerto Grosso, No. 8 (1714, A. Corelli)

The
Class of 1996

Commencement
Program

The Commencement Program

Presiding Marshal

Eva B. Cramer, Ph.D.

Associate Vice President for Scientific Affairs

Processional

(Audience, please rise for the Processional.)

Greetings from the President

Russell L. Miller, M.D.

Opening Remarks

Eugene B. Feigelson, M.D.

Senior Vice President for Biomedical Education and Research and Dean, College of Medicine

Greetings from the Graduates

Tolga N. Kokturk

College of Medicine, Class of 1996

Andrew Thomas Parsa

School of Graduate Studies, Class of 1996

Greetings from the Alumni Association

Martin J. Salwen

Class of '57, President, Alumni Association

Conferring of Honorary Degrees

Russell L. Miller, M.D.

Honorary Degree Recipients

Robert Austrian, M.D.

Ludwig W. Eichna, M.D.

Ralph Snyderman, M.D.

Introduction of Commencement Speaker

Russell L. Miller, M.D.

Commencement Address

Ralph Snyderman, M.D.

School of Graduate Studies

Presentation of Candidates

Paul Dreizen, M.D.

Dean, School of Graduate Studies

Conferring of Degrees

Russell L. Miller, M.D.

Awarding of Diplomas

Russell L. Miller, M.D.

Paul Dreizen, M.D.

Hooding of Candidates

Thesis Research Sponsors and

Donald Mills, Ph.D.

Professor of Microbiology and Immunology

College of Medicine

Presentation of Candidates

Eugene B. Feigelson, M.D.

Conferring of Degrees

Russell L. Miller, M.D.

Awarding of Diplomas

Russell L. Miller, M.D.

Eugene B. Feigelson, M.D.

Hooding of Candidates

Hugh J. Carroll, M.D.

Distinguished Professor of Medicine

Ethan D. Fried, M.D.

Assistant Professor of Medicine

Administration of the Hippocratic Oath and Remarks

Russell L. Miller, M.D.

Recessional

(Audience, please rise and remain standing until the graduates have left the hall.)

School of Graduate Studies

Ph.D. Degree

Ruchi Arora, Microbiology & Immunology
Structural and functional analysis of the readthrough cistron of the RNA coliphage Q β : Its role in the viral life cycle
Fellow in Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Cell Biology
Northwestern University

Mary Elizabeth Dawson-Basoa,
Neural & Behavioral Science
Intrinsic modulation of the pain of pregnancy: relevance of sex steroids and endogenous opioid systems
Fellow in Biochemistry, SUNY Health Science Center at Brooklyn

Manya Dhar, Anatomy & Cell Biology
Characterization of the negative regulatory element CSS and isolation of its binding protein *Nished*
Fellow in Pathology, SUNY Stony Brook

Biao He, Microbiology & Immunology
A gene expression system based on bacteriophage RNA polymerases and characterization of bacteriophage T7 RNA polymerase
Fellow in Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Cell Biology,
Northwestern University

Lutz Hilgenberg, Anatomy & Cell Biology
Protein kinase C isoform localized at the neuromuscular junction and the regulation of its expression in skeletal muscle
Fellow in Anatomy and Neurobiology, University of California, Irvine

Asha Jacob, Anatomy & Cell Biology
Activity of intracellular IFN- ψ and structure-function relationships
Fellow, North Shore Medical Center

Lan Ko, Biochemistry
Protein kinase C C-terminus is critical for function
Research Fellow, Joslin Diabetes Center, Harvard Medical School

Peng Li, Microbiology & Immunology
Ran1⁺ regulation of meiosis in fission yeast
Fellow, Rockefeller University

Yin Lin, Biochemistry
Identification of *cis*-acting elements of the α -fetoprotein gene required for expression during liver regeneration

Lihua Yao Marmorstein, Neural & Behavioral Science
The possible role of neutrophins in avian embryonic development
Fellow, Mount Sinai Medical Center

Eduardo Javier Mascareño-Miranda, Anatomy & Cell Biology
Molecular mechanisms of transcriptional regulation of myosin light chain 2 and angiotensinogen genes during normal and stress conditions
Fellow, Anatomy and Cell Biology, SUNY Health Science Center at Brooklyn

Zora Mělková, Biochemistry
Role of IFN- ψ and nitric oxide in the inhibition of vaccinia virus growth in macrophages
Fellow, Charles University, Prague

Andrew Thomas Parsa, Anatomy & Cell Biology
Transcriptional regulation on the interferon responsive gene BS4
Resident in Neurosurgery, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons

Lena Shnayder Shapiro, Neural & Behavioral Science
Studies of the developing and adult olfactory and vomeronasal systems of Brazilian gray short-tailed opossum, *Monodelphis domestica*, with special emphasis on the heterogeneity of the adult opossum accessory olfactory system

Liequn Qiu, Anatomy & Cell Biology
In situ localization of cholinergic differentiation factor/ leukemia inhibitory factor receptors in the developing rat nervous system

Nancy Wang, Anatomy & Cell Biology
The role of Hsp70 molecular chaperones in post-translational translocation of presecretory proteins into the endoplasmic reticulum
Assistant Professor, Institute of Cell and Molecular Biology, Taipei

Damin Zhang, Neural & Behavioral Science
The expression of neutrophin receptors during avian embryonic development
Fellow in Neurobiology, Albert Einstein Medical Center

M.S. Degree

Daliang Liu, Microbiology & Immunology
Interaction of erythroid specific transcription factor NF-E2 with hemin during erythroid development

College of Medicine

- * Syed Farrukh Ahsan Otolaryngology
- * Mohamed Fahmi Al-Bashir Surgery
- Jonathan Eric Alfert Radiology
- Isabel Allen-Steinfeld
- Ronald Eleones Anglade Urology
- Yitzchak Eliyahu Ariel Internal Medicine
- Omar John Arnuk Internal Medicine
- Christopher D. Aronson Internal Medicine
- Jodie Lisa Aronwald Internal Medicine
- Sholeh Bagheri Surgery
- * Danielle Roxie Bajakian Surgery
- Susan Baldwin Obstetrics\Gynecology
- Laura G. Beitia Radiology
- * Joseph Jon Bennett Surgery
- Todd Jason Berger Emergency Medicine
- * Julia Bestritsky Obstetrics\Gynecology
- Marjorie A. Blieka Psychiatry
- Allison Robyn Bloom Pediatrics
- Christopher M. Bono Orthopedics
- Peter Joseph Breingan Ophthalmology
- * Jennifer Brown Radiology
- Peter D. Buffa Internal Medicine
- Andrew David Butterfass Emergency Medicine
- Maryanne Carroll Obstetrics\Gynecology
- Michael Renato Castellano Surgery
- Marc B. Cerrone Pediatrics
- Brian Chan Internal Medicine
- Yashwant Gilbert Chathampally Emergency Medicine
- Sanjay Chawla Medicine\Pediatrics
- Elisa Long Chefitz
- Neil Cherian Neurology
- Hubert Chin Radiology
- Vicente Anthony Chiong Pediatrics
- David S. Cho Internal Medicine
- Jason Chu Emergency Medicine
- Cheryl L. Clark
- Matthew Aaron Comay Radiology
- Kathleen Anne Connell Obstetrics\Gynecology
- Christo Choukri Courban Internal Medicine
- Joseph Michael Covelli Internal Medicine
- Kevin T. Custis Family Practice
- Christopher Childs Daigle Internal Medicine
- Sriram Dasari Urology
- Rosemarie Desantis Internal Medicine
- Donald James Desio Obstetrics\Gynecology
- * Tomislav Deur Radiology
- * Gregory Diamonti Internal Medicine
- Regina Marie Doody Psychiatry
- Sandy William Doti Internal Medicine
- Sargine Dupuy Pediatrics
- Carrie Allysia Edelman Internal Medicine
- * Eve Faber Family Practice
- Alex David Federman Internal Medicine
- Frank John Ferraro Internal Medicine
- Hugh Scott Feuer Emergency Medicine
- Dov A. Fogel Psychiatry
- * Spiros George Frangos Surgery
- Robert Fried Internal Medicine
- Tara Marie Fusco Pediatrics
- Richard Ghavami Radiology
- Dean Francis Giannone Surgery
- Karyn Beth Ginsberg Pediatrics
- Himanshu Singh Goel Surgery
- Sara Gail Goldman
- Anna Maria Golja Surgery
- Neil Lawrence Gorme Surgery
- Ajay Goyal Surgery
- Joyce Hausner Graber
- * Galina Grigoryan Radiology
- Erica B. Gross Internal Medicine
- * Mark Geoffrey Grossman Orthopedics
- * Jay Christian Guido Urology

Michael Guido, III Neurology
 Joseph Habert Radiology
 Charles Scott Hall Internal Medicine
 Erin Bridget Halligan-McCaleb Psychiatry
 Andrew Evan Halpern Radiology
 Janet Sukhee Han Radiology
 Raymond G. Harvey Emergency Medicine
 Doris Ann Hayes Internal Medicine
 John O. Hilmi Emergency Medicine
 Joshua Bruce Holden Obstetrics\Gynecology
 * Margaret Ann Hooks Internal Medicine
 Michael Howard Horowitz Internal Medicine
 Kuang-yiao Hsieh Urology
 * Josette LeMoynne Hunter Obstetrics\Gynecology
 Craig G. Hurwitz Internal Medicine
 * Stephen Ilario Orthopedics
 Yakov Iofel Internal Medicine
 Jay J. Isaac Internal Medicine
 Keyoumars Izadi Surgery
 Marty Jacob Internal Medicine
 * Neena Jain Surgery
 * John F. Jardine Emergency Medicine
 Elma Janice Johnson Emergency Medicine
 Rumneet Kaur Kang Pediatrics
 Norine Tracy Kanter Pediatrics
 Steve Kao Neurology
 Jean Elizabeth Keamy Ophthalmology
 Afshin J. Khodabakhsh Ophthalmology
 Yakov Sini Kiffel Pediatrics
 Irine Ja Kim Internal Medicine
 Jungyop Kim Internal Medicine
 * Richard W. Kim Surgery
 Steven Namgi Kim Internal Medicine
 Mark Kissin Surgery
 Tolga N. Kokturk Obstetrics\Gynecology
 Charles O. Kwon Surgery
 Christina Hyun Sook Kwon Obstetrics\Gynecology
 Chunwang Lam Internal Medicine
 Teresa Lazar Obstetrics\Gynecology
 Chiyin Lee Family Practice
 Peter Shao-Pei Lee Family Practice
 Seung Min Lee Pediatrics
 Stephen Bum-Suk Lee Family Practice
 Yi-Horng Lee Surgery
 * Aza Lefkowitz Internal Medicine
 Albert Ta-Chung Lin Internal Medicine
 Antony Te-Hui Lin Internal Medicine
 Diane Margaret MacKinnon Family Practice
 Mario Marotta Internal Medicine
 * Mary Ellen Martin Internal Medicine
 Bruce Roy Mayerson Neurology
 Hanan G. Miller Internal Medicine
 Laurence Robert Miller Internal Medicine
 Matthew Ivan Milowsky Internal Medicine
 * Yoon Sung Min Internal Medicine
 Ann Loring Miranda Pediatrics
 Rosalia Misseri Urology
 Karen Avril Jeffrey Modeste Pediatrics
 Donna Valerie Mohamed Internal Medicine
 * Eric Joseph Monat Radiology
 * Kimberly Dawn Morel Pediatrics
 Gordon Kenji Nakata Neurosurgery
 Sujal Mahendra Nanavati Radiology
 James Thaddeus Naprawa Pediatrics
 Larry A. Nathanson Emergency Medicine
 David Torten Neuman Orthopedics
 * Mark I. Neuman Pediatrics
 Sze-Fong Ng Internal Medicine
 Minh Chinh Nguyen Surgery
 Anna Nolan Internal Medicine
 Emre Noteroglu Internal Medicine
 Valerie Numssen Pediatrics
 Elizabeth Anne Odierna Internal Medicine
 Robert Edward O'Donnell, Jr. Pathology Research
 Sharon Ogiste-McBain
 Lon Alan Ovedovitz Family Practice
 Michael Richard Padilla Pediatrics
 Zachary Julian Palace Internal Medicine
 Maria Paone Emergency Medicine
 Eunhae Park Emergency Medicine
 * Andrew Thomas Parsa Neurosurgery
 Divyang Patel Radiology

Lorenzo Joseph Pecora Ophthalmology
 James Penna Orthopedics
 Catherine Niyada Petchprapa Radiology
 Michael David Peters Otolaryngology
 Ngo Chanh Phan Family Practice
 Mark Alan Piekarsky Internal Medicine
 * Jennifer Alicia Plumb Obstetrics\Gynecology
 * Joanne Pocsidio Urology
 Marlana Elisabeth Pursner Radiology
 Timothy Edward Quan Internal Medicine
 Henry Thomas Radziewicz Medicine\Psychiatry
 Terri L. Rapp Surgery
 Karen Mae Rockowitz Pediatrics
 Christine Karina Rosenwasser Pediatrics
 Aron David Rovner Orthopedics
 David Efrain Sanchez Pediatrics
 * Anthony Lee San Diego Surgery
 Anjali Saqi Pathology
 Rakesh B. Saraiya Internal Medicine
 Kris John Sauer Internal Medicine
 Timothy David Scherer Internal Medicine
 Karen Anne Schneider Pediatrics
 John Sedgh Internal Medicine
 Samir V. Shah Otolaryngology
 Anoop Kumar Sharma Urology
 Jess Parker Shatkin Psychiatry
 Vaishali M. Singh Internal Medicine
 Samuel Z. Soffer Surgery
 * Han Gee Sohn Otolaryngology
 Sheila Soman Internal Medicine
 * James Peter Spencer Emergency Medicine
 Matthew Taylor Spencer Emergency Medicine
 Kevin Todd Sperber Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
 Roubiny Stavropoulos Internal Medicine
 Jeffrey Steinberg Internal Medicine
 * Michael James Stewart Internal Medicine
 Michael Alan Stracher Orthopedics
 Glenn R. Stryjewski Pediatrics
 Mark Su Emergency Medicine
 Philip Sang Suh Pediatrics
 Robert-Arne Baadsgaard Sullivan Radiology
 Shahnaz Sultan Internal Medicine
 David Syn Surgery
 Kevin Tehrani Surgery
 Alan Tomines Pediatrics
 David D. Tran Emergency Medicine
 * Joshua M. Trutt Emergency Medicine
 * Denise Susanna Tukenmez Obstetrics\Gynecology
 Anne Terese Urdaneta Emergency Medicine
 John Vella Internal Medicine
 Devdas Wali Internal Medicine
 Mark Watson Emergency Medicine\Internal Medicine
 Nora Elizabeth Wecker Pediatrics
 * Joshua Lewis Wein Urology
 * Russell D. Weisz Orthopedics
 * Robert Vincent Wetz Internal Medicine
 Eseroghene Whiteru Surgery
 * Myles Selig Wolf Internal Medicine
 Joyce Sze-Yun Wong Pediatrics
 Sunhee Woo Internal Medicine
 James Ignatius Woods, Jr. Pathology
 Rex H. Wu Internal Medicine
 Eric R. Wyatt Radiology
 Mark Xenakis Internal Medicine
 Andrew Charles Yacht Internal Medicine
 * Robert Yang Internal Medicine
 Uzay Yasar Urology
 Christie Hyunsu Yi Pediatrics
 Karen Pei-Ru Ying Psychiatry
 Yuejun Ying
 Yong Chul Yoon Surgery
 Marianne Young Anesthesiology
 David Ian Zaret Surgery
 Susan Pamela Zlotolow Pediatrics

* Denotes Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society

Honorary Degree Recipient

Doctor of Science: Robert Austrian, M.D.

Robert Austrian, professor emeritus of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, was the John Herr Musser Professor and chairman of the Department of Research Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania from 1962 until 1986.

For four decades, Dr. Austrian devoted his professional life to conquering pneumococcal pneumonia, a major killer of the elderly and chronically ill. His effort to solve this major human disease problem is one of the most important stories of twentieth-century medicine.

Pneumococcal pneumonia is a major disease. Before the introduction of antimicrobial drugs, its overall case fatality rate ranged from 30 to 35 percent. Two vaccines were developed and commercially available in the late 1940s but the advent of effective antibiotics discouraged their use and they were withdrawn from the market.

Dr. Austrian was not convinced by prevailing medical wisdom that pneumococcus was no longer a threat to the public's health, suspecting that serious risk persisted despite the prevalence of antibiotics. After a decade-long study of patients in Kings County Hospital, Dr. Austrian (along with Dr. Jerome Gold) concluded that antimicrobial drugs must be supplemented by other measures if the still significant mortality rates resulting from pneumococcal infection were to be reduced. Dr. Austrian identified the pneumococcal capsular types most often responsible for fatalities and established that the death rate from bacteremia tends to rise with advancing age. Of major importance, he also demonstrated that "antimicrobial therapy has little or no effect upon the outcome of infection among those destined, at the onset of illness, to die within five days." These were sobering findings for a medical establishment that had concluded that antibiotic treatment was sufficient to control the disease.

Dr. Austrian followed this clinical and epidemiological work by developing a better vaccine under the aegis of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. His efforts culminated with licensure of a vaccine containing antigens responsible for some 85 percent of bacteremic pneumococcal pneumonia. To date, the vaccine has not been optimally utilized and this disease remains a major killer, the fifth leading cause of death in the United States.

Robert Austrian has been honored and recognized for his extraordinary achievements. He has received many awards, including the Albert Lasker Medical Research Award, the U.S.A. Typhus Commission Medal, and the Maxwell Finland Lectureship Award. He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Alpha Omega Alpha, the Association of American Physicians, the American Society for Clinical Investigation, the American Clinical and Climatological Association, the Harvey Society, the American Philosophical Society and the National Academy of Sciences and its Institute of Medicine. He is a master of the American College of Physicians, has been a trustee of the Johns Hopkins University and president of the Infectious Diseases Society of America.

A native of Baltimore, Dr. Austrian received his A.B. and M.D. degrees from the Johns Hopkins University, where he also served as an intern and resident. He spent a year as research associate in microbiology at New York University in 1947-48 and, in 1952, joined the College of Medicine faculty of the State University of New York Health Science Center at Brooklyn, achieving the rank of professor. In 1960, he took a sabbatical leave from SUNY as visiting scientist at the Pasteur Institute in Paris; in 1962, he joined the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania.

Honorary Degree Recipient

Honorary Doctor of Science: Ludwig W. Eichna, M.D.

Ludwig W. Eichna served as professor and chairman of the Department of Medicine at the State University Health Science Center at Brooklyn from 1960 until 1974.

Dr. Eichna was instrumental in the creation of the combined M.D./Ph.D. degree at the Health Science Center. He believed strongly in the value of strengthening the basic sciences—and his views helped to shape the direction of basic science education at the Health Science Center as well as at other institutions. He served on numerous committees and task forces to bring about the M.D./Ph.D. program. Today, that program occupies a significant niche in the academic offerings of the Health Science Center at Brooklyn.

Dr. Eichna is remembered for exerting strong leadership in the field of internal medicine. During his career, he served as president of the Association of Professors of Medicine, president of the Association of American Physicians, president of the Association of University Cardiologists, chairman of the Life Insurance Medical Research Fund, and chairman of the National Institutes of Health Medical Scientists Training Committee. He is a trustee of the New York Academy of Medicine.

He made a significant offering to the literature on medical education, notably through an episode which may be unique in academic medicine. After stepping down as chairman of the Department of Medicine at the Health Science Center, Dr. Eichna re-enrolled in medical school. He spent a full four years receiving instruction from his former colleagues, an experience he chronicled in an authoritative treatise on the subject. That he would take so unusual a step did not entirely surprise his fellow academicians, who had grown to expect from him the unexpected and a commitment to the essentials of medical education.

He lectured widely on his experience. His paper, “Medical School Education, 1975-1979: A Student’s Perspective,” presented at Harvard Medical School and to the Council of Deans of the Association of American Colleges, was printed in full in the *New England Journal of Medicine*. “It seemed reasonable,” wrote Dr. Eichna, “that a medical educator who was aware of the end-product of medical-school education and who had long had contact with patients might contribute useful information by personally undergoing the medical-school process.” Many of the principles of medical education expounded in this piece—“patient-first” education, strengthening of the basic sciences, a problem-solving approach, the teaching of ethics—have become part of current medical education.

Dr. Eichna was active in numerous professional societies including the New York Academy of Medicine and the New York Academy of Sciences. He also served on many editorial boards and on numerous science and education committees, including those of the American Heart Association and the National Research Council.

Dr. Eichna received both his undergraduate and medical education at the University of Pennsylvania. He took his residency at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and at Johns Hopkins Hospital. Before coming to Downstate Medical Center in 1960, he served at New York University School of Medicine as professor of medicine. At Downstate, he began a decade-long campaign to establish a nationally recognized Department of Medicine, the linchpin of any important college of medicine or academic health center. He succeeded, and it is in large part thanks to Dr. Eichna that the Health Science Center at Brooklyn continues to be held in esteem by those whose lives are devoted to academic medicine.

Honorary Degree Recipient

Doctor of Science: Ralph Snyderman, M.D.

A native of Brooklyn, Dr. Ralph Snyderman is Duke University's chancellor for health affairs, dean of the school of medicine, chief executive officer of the Duke University Health System, and James B. Duke Professor of Medicine.

Dr. Snyderman graduated in 1961 from Washington College, Chestertown, Maryland, and received his M.D. degree, magna cum laude, from the State University of New York Health Science Center at Brooklyn in 1965. After serving an internship and residency in medicine at Duke University Medical Center, Dr. Snyderman worked for five years as a researcher in immunology at the National Institutes of Health.

He returned to Duke University in 1972, where he rose rapidly through the academic ranks. Over the years, he served as chief of Duke's Division of Rheumatology and Immunology, director of the Laboratory of Immune Effector Function at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Frederic M. Hanes Professor of Medicine, professor of immunology, and a faculty member of the Duke Comprehensive Cancer Center.

In 1987, Dr. Snyderman left Duke to join Genentech, Inc., the pioneering biomedical technology firm, as vice president for medical research and development and member of the operations committee. A year later, he was promoted to senior vice president. While at Genentech, Snyderman supervised approximately 300 staff members working in pharmacology, clinical research, and regulatory affairs. Dr. Snyderman was instrumental in obtaining for Genentech the FDA approval of tissue plasminogen activator (TPA), currently the leading thrombolytic therapy for heart attack.

In 1989, Dr. Snyderman returned to Duke to lead its medical center.

He is the recipient of numerous honors, including the Ciba Geigy Morris Ziff Award, the highest prize for lifetime achievement in the field of inflammation research and the 1993 Bonazinga Award for Excellence in Leukocyte Biology. These awards constitute the two top honors worldwide in the field of inflammation research. In July 1994, he was appointed to the National Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases Advisory Council. He serves on the Governing Council for the Institute of Medicine and on the Governing Board of the National Research Council, the operating agency of the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering.

As a member of the Pew Health Commission, he urged American medical schools to reach beyond their traditional missions of teaching, research, and patient care to become more actively involved in finding solutions to America's health-care problems. A leading proponent of the need for academic health centers to develop and implement models for cost effective, accessible, quality health care, he is often called upon by Congress and national policy makers to contribute to the discussion on health care for the 21st century.

A respected educator, Dr. Snyderman has been an inspiration and mentor to hundreds of medical students, interns, and residents. He has advanced scientific knowledge through the publication of hundreds of manuscripts in scholarly journals and through his textbooks. He is a sought-after speaker in his medical discipline as well as in the area of public health policy.

Dr. Snyderman received the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award from the Alumni Association of the College of Medicine of the Health Science Center at Brooklyn in 1995. He is also the recipient of a Distinguished Alumnus Award from Washington College.

The SUNY Health Science Center at Brooklyn

The State University of New York Health Science Center at Brooklyn is one of four such campuses within the 64-unit State University of New York. Located on an urban campus in the East Flatbush section of Brooklyn, the Health Science Center includes the College of Medicine, a School of Graduate Studies, College of Nursing, College of Health Related Professions, a major research center, and the University Hospital of Brooklyn.

The Health Science Center's history spans over 130 years, during which time it has undergone several name changes. In 1856 two physicians established a dispensary in downtown Brooklyn to provide care for poor immigrants. The Long Island College Hospital grew out of this dispensary. In 1858 the state granted the hospital's request for a charter to launch a medical school. The school, which opened its doors two years later, revolutionized medical education in the United States. The new school was unique because, for the first time in this country, the teaching of medicine was brought to the hospital bedside and the idea that physicians should be trained exclusively in university classrooms and lecture halls was rejected. It was truly a *college hospital*.

In 1931 the school was rechartered as the Long Island College of Medicine, with affiliated hospitals throughout Brooklyn. The "Downstate" era began on April 5, 1950 with a special ceremony at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, where a merger contract was signed between the Long Island College of Medicine and the newly constituted State University of New York. Several years later, the current campus of the SUNY Health Science Center at Brooklyn was built in East Flatbush. In April 1953, ground was broken for the current Basic Sciences Building, and President Dwight D. Eisenhower laid the cornerstone in 1954. The complex was expanded in 1966 with the opening of University Hospital of Brooklyn. The School of Graduate Studies, the College of Health Related Professions, and the College of Nursing were also added that year.

In 1985, we celebrated the 125th anniversary of the medical school, at which time the institution became known as the State University of New York Health Science Center at Brooklyn, a name that reflects the full scope of the Center's activities.

Today, the Health Science Center is the focal point of a health-care network that encompasses 27 hospitals and more than 40 health-related facilities in Brooklyn, Staten Island, and beyond. It encompasses a campus of 13 acres, with a total student body of 1,600, a faculty of nearly 3,000 (including full-time, part-time and voluntary staff), and support staff of 3,000.

The Academic Procession

The procession is led by the presiding marshal. Other members of the procession include faculty marshals (chosen by the graduates), faculty members, deans, honorary degree recipients, and the president of the Health Science Center.

The academic gown worn by procession members is said to be symbolic of the “democracy of scholarship,” for it covers any dress of rank or social standing underneath.

Academic gowns originated in the Middle Ages, the period when universities were beginning to take form. At that time, most scholars were also clerics—and therefore dressed as clerics, in long gowns. Over time, the gown became the accepted dress code for scholars: in England, in the second half of the 14th century, for example, several colleges forbade “excess in apparel” and decreed the wearing of long gowns.

The assignment of colors to signify different academic disciplines developed much later, and was standardized in the United States in the late 19th century. In 1895, an intercollegiate commission composed of representatives from leading colleges established a code of academic dress that prescribed cut, style, and materials of the gowns, as well as colors to represent different fields of learning. Today, academic dress code is regulated by a formal Committee on Academic Costumes and Ceremonies created by the American Council on Education in 1952.

The gown is usually black for all degrees, with variations in the sleeves, the front cut and trim. The bachelor’s degree gown is black with long pointed sleeves. The master’s degree gown is black without trim and has oblong sleeves so the upper part of the arm comes through the slit in the sleeve. Doctoral (Ph.D.) gowns are black with bell-shaped sleeves. Mortarboards (caps) with tassels have their own significance. Master’s and bachelor’s tassels are black, while the Ph.D. tassel may be black or gold; medicine is green.

Hood colors indicate the field of learning: dark blue—philosophy; green—medicine; light blue—education; apricot—nursing; science—golden yellow; history—white; law—purple; psychology—dark blue.

Details of academic attire may vary depending on where faculty members completed their degrees. Some foreign degree holders, for example, wear special hats, distinctive to their degree and institution. Whatever the differences, however, the governing tradition is continuity of the academic symbols from the Middle Ages.

Faculty Members Serving as Marshals

Angela Bennett, M.D. Professor of Pediatrics

Paulette Bernd, Ph.D. Associate Professor of Anatomy and Cell Biology

Hugh J. Carroll, M.D. Distinguished Professor of Medicine

Eva B. Cramer, Ph.D. Professor of Anatomy and Cell Biology and Associate Vice President for Scientific Affairs

Gerald W. Deas, M.D. Clinical Assistant Professor and Director of Health Education Communication

Ethan D. Fried, M.D. Assistant Professor of Medicine

Marcia Gerber, M.D. Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine and Director of Employee and Student Health Services

Alan Hertz, M.D. Clinical Associate Professor of Psychiatry

Constance H. Hill, M.D. Clinical Associate Professor of Anesthesiology and Associate Dean for Minority Affairs

Stephan L. Kamholz, M.D. Professor and Chair of Medicine

Albert Kaufman, Ph.D. Associate Professor of Physiology

Josef Michl, M.D. Associate Professor of Pathology and Anatomy and Cell Biology

Donald Mills, Ph.D. Professor of Microbiology and Immunology

Thomas Panetta, M.D. Professor of Surgery and Chief, Division of Vascular Surgery

Jerome G. Stempak, Ph.D. Associate Professor of Anatomy and Cell Biology

We would like to thank the following groups for their assistance in organizing this year's commencement ceremony: the Office of the President, the Alumni Association, the Dean's Office, the Office of Student Affairs, the Office of University Affairs, the Office of Student Life, the Public Safety Department, and all the people who have given freely of themselves to enrich this year's graduation.

The Hippocratic Oath

I do solemnly swear by that which I hold most sacred:

That I will be loyal to the profession of medicine
and just and generous to its members;

That I will lead my life and practice my art
in uprightness and honor;

That whatever house I shall enter, it shall be for the good
of the sick to the utmost of my power;

That I will hold myself aloof from wrong;

That I will exercise my art solely for the cure of my patients,
and will give no drug and perform no operation
for a wrongful purpose;

That whatsoever I shall see or hear of the lives of men
and women that should not be spoken, I will keep secret;

These I do promise, and in proportion as I am faithful
to this my oath may happiness and good repute be ever mine.

