

National Leadership Program Announces Graduation of 2021 Class

PHILADELPHIA (July 27, 2021) – The *Hedwig van Ameringen* Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine® (ELAM®) program at Drexel University College of Medicine is pleased to announce the graduation of its 26th class. This graduating class of 63 fellows from 58 institutions joins a diverse alumnae community of more than 1,200 highly accomplished leaders that represent 269 medical, dental, public health and pharmacy schools from around the world.

The graduation speaker, Michelle Ng Gong, M.D., M.S (ELAM '18), Chief of Critical Care Medicine at Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx, celebrated the class's achievements at an online ceremony. Dr. Gong was at the center of planning for the surge of patients who required mechanical ventilation and intensive care at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Gong shared how the leadership lessons she learned during her ELAM fellowship helped her navigate the COVID-19 crisis when Montefiore received an extraordinary surge of critically ill patients with the disease during the initial outbreak of the pandemic.

The 2021 fellowship was marked by the pandemic and many of the program fellows were involved in frontline work. ELAM shifted its entire year to a virtual format. On July 27, 2021, the fellows presented their capstone Institutional Action Projects (IAP) online. The event brought together the fellows and their deans or other senior officials and featured a poster symposium highlighting the fellows' IAPs. These projects were conducted at their home institutions, in coordination with their deans and other senior leadership, and designed to address an institutional or departmental need or priority.

"The Class of 2021 showed grace and fortitude as they navigated the fellowship during the pandemic. We are so proud of how they led and managed through crisis and how they supported their classmates," said Nancy D. Spector, MD, executive director of ELAM. "The quality and impact of their IAPs is a testament to the capability of the members of this class to enact powerful systemic change at their home institutions and beyond even in a time of crisis."

ELAM's mission is to increase the number and impact of women in senior academic leadership positions. From there, these new appointments will help change the culture of academic health organizations in becoming more accepting of different perspectives and more responsive to societal needs and expectations. ELAM, established in 1995, is the only longitudinal program in North America dedicated to preparing women for senior leadership roles in academic health science institutions. The intensive year-long fellowship encompasses executive education, personal leadership assessments and coaching, and networking and mentoring activities aimed at broadening perspectives, building new capacities and encouraging professional connections. Program assignments, both group and individual, provide opportunities for applying and exercising leadership skills in a variety of situations and settings. ELAM alumnae serve in a variety of leadership positions including department chairs, research center directors, deans, college presidents, provosts as well as chief executives in health care and accrediting organizations.

About ELAM

ELAM carries on the legacy of advancing women in medicine begun by the Female Medical College of Pennsylvania, the nation's first women's medical school. ELAM continues as a national resource hosted by Drexel University College of Medicine. Since its inception, the one-year, part-time fellowship has expanded to target diverse health professions and to reach a broader, global stage. For more information on the ELAM program curriculum, faculty and participants, visit www.drexel.edu/elam

ELAM Class of 2020 - 21

Hoda Badr, Ph.D.
Baylor College of Medicine

Allison Ballantine, M.D.
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Patricia Birk, M.D.
University of Manitoba Faculty of Medicine

Jennifer Bizon, Ph.D.
University of Florida College of Medicine

Elizabeth Bonney, M.D., M.P.H.
University of Vermont Larner College of Medicine

Jada Bussey-Jones, M.D.
Emory University School of Medicine

Michelle Caird, M.D.
University of Michigan Medical School

Alice Chuang, M.D., M.Ed.
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine

Gretchen Diemer, M.D.
Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Jefferson University

Cynthia Downard, M.D., M.M.Sc.
University of Louisville School of Medicine

Rebecca Dutch, Ph.D.
University of Kentucky College of Medicine

Lotte Dyrbye, M.D., M.H.P.E.
Mayo Clinic School of Medicine

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Drexel University College of Medicine

Angela Fagerlin, Ph.D.
University of Utah School of Medicine

Colleen Fogarty, M.D., M.Sc.
University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry

Kristie Foley, Ph.D., M.S.
Wake Forest University School of Medicine

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College of Medicine

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University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus

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University of Cincinnati College of Medicine

Florette Hazard, M.D.
Stanford University School of Medicine

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University of Central Florida College of Medicine

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California

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Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania

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University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences College of Medicine

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University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

Emily Oken, M.D., M.P.H.
Harvard Medical School

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Brigham and Women's Hospital

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