



For Immediate Release

NYC's Animal Medical Center Celebrates Graduating Interns & Residents with Virtual Ceremony

Marking the 57th Graduating Class at the World's Largest Non-Profit Animal Hospital

(June 18, 2021 –New York, N.Y.) The Animal Medical Center (AMC), the largest non-profit animal hospital in the world, presented a virtual Graduation Ceremony last evening to celebrate its 57th Intern and Resident Class. AMC is the largest postgraduate veterinary teaching institution in the world with over 2,500 residents and interns trained through the Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Institute for Postgraduate Education.

AMC's 57th Intern Class

The 57th Intern Class completed AMC's prestigious one-year Internship Program designed to reinforce, extend, and refine clinical skills and enhance diagnostic and therapeutic capabilities. Interns rotate through many of the AMC's over 20 specialties and services, working with a diverse and varied caseload and a high level of support from AMC's board-certified veterinary specialists.

AMC is proud to announce that 17 veterinarians from its 57th Class of Interns have accepted positions with programs that offer fellowship, specialty internship, and residency training, and four interns will enter private practice. The graduates of AMC's 57th Class of Interns are:

- Dr. Alexandra Allen
- Dr. Laura E. Chadsey
- Dr. Mariel S. Covo
- Dr. Dillon S. Didehvar
- Dr. Hannah Beth Gafen
- Dr. Zoe Greenfield
- Dr. Elisa L. Heacock
- Dr. Caitlin Hering
- Dr. Andy N. Hsueh
- Dr. Shannon Keane
- Dr. Brianna Kopec
- Dr. XiaoXiao J. Lederer
- Dr. Lauren J. Lew
- Dr. Nicholas James Palmaro
- Dr. Clifford Petit
- Dr. Shira Tziporah Rosenblum

The Elmer and Mamdouha Bobst Hospital | Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Institute for Postgraduate Education
Caspary Research Institute | The Cancer Institute
Emilia Saint-Amand Krimendahl Institute for Trauma Care | Ann and Charles Johnson One Health Institute
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- Dr. Danny Sack
- Dr. Daniel Marco Sandoval
- Dr. Jordan Sanford
- Dr. Shanna Wong
- Dr. Leanne K. Wooley

Graduating Specialty Interns

The AMC Specialty Internship Program provides advanced training for veterinarians who, following a general internship year, elect to complete a one-year focused internship under AMC board-certified veterinarians in a particular specialty. The graduates of this year's AMC Specialty Internship Program are:

- Dr. Robin Doherty – Interventional Radiology & Endoscopy
- Dr. Theresa J. Langlois – Emergency & Critical Care
- Dr. Patrisha Eleni Paulos – Oncology
- Dr. Kacey L. Solotoff – Avian & Exotic Pet Medicine

Graduating Residents

AMC's Residency Program draws upon the expertise and knowledge of AMC's 100+ veterinarians, a wealth of case materials, and an annual patient caseload exceeding 56,000 visits for teaching and clinical investigation. AMC Residents benefit from participation and attendance at conferences, rounds, and seminars. AMC Residents also receive the benefit of established research collaboration with prominent institutions, such as Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, NYU Langone Health, Weill Cornell Medicine, and The Rockefeller University. The graduates of the AMC Residency Program are:

- Dr. Carmella C. Nugent Britt – Resident in Integrative & Rehabilitation Medicine
- Dr. Catherine Crecraft – Resident in Emergency & Critical Care
- Dr. Kim Denroche – Resident in Emergency & Critical Care
- Dr. Jonathan T. Ferrari – Resident in Surgery
- Dr. Sarah Gutierrez – Resident in Neurology
- Dr. Phillip Hyndman – Resident in Surgery
- Dr. Rima Kharbush – Resident in Cardiology
- Dr. Renee McDougall – Resident in Surgery
- Dr. Melissa Milligan – Resident in Internal Medicine
- Dr. Jean Margret Rogers – Resident in Radiation Oncology
- Dr. Rachel J. Sirois – Resident in Internal Medicine
- Dr. Andrea Smith – Resident in Oncology

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Award Presentations

AMC Staff presented several awards during the virtual Graduation Ceremony.

The Donald J. Bruckmann Award to the Outstanding Intern

Donald J. Bruckmann served as Chair of the AMC Board of Trustees. He was an avid and generous supporter of AMC's research and teaching missions.

This award is presented to an individual who demonstrates a combination of skill and clinical excellence as recognized by AMC Staff. The recipient of the Donald J. Bruckmann Award to the Outstanding Intern is:

- Dr. Mariel S. Covo

The Clendenin J. "Mike" Ryan Memorial Award for Outstanding Teaching

Clendenin J. Ryan served as an AMC Trustee.

This award represents AMC's dedication to postgraduate education and recognizes a current staff member who has excelled as an educator and role model to the Intern Class. This award is selected by a vote of the intern class. The recipient of The Clendenin J. "Mike" Ryan Memorial Award for Outstanding Teaching is:

-Dr. Dennis Slade, Internal Medicine Staff Doctor

Selected by AMC staff, the awards for Licensed Veterinary Technician and Veterinary Assistant of the Year celebrate professionals who exemplify excellence in their profession.

The AMC Licensed Veterinary Technician of the Year Award

- Kelli Tanksley (Surgery)

The AMC Veterinary Assistant of the Year Award

- Gabriel Barreto (ECC)

"We are especially proud of AMC's 2021 graduating Interns and Residents who completed training during the uncertainty and turmoil of this past year," said Katherine Quesenberry, DVM, MPH, DABVP (Avian), Chief Medical Officer at AMC. "Reflecting on a year that brought continuous challenges, we want to acknowledge their accomplishments and honor their commitment, perseverance, and passion for veterinary medicine. Finally, our heartfelt congratulations to every AMC Award recipient."



“Although our 57th Class of graduating Interns and Residents will not be walking across the stage, we hope today’s virtual ceremony captures the true spirit of this special occasion,” said Kathryn Coyne, President and Chief Executive Officer at AMC. “Congratulations on all you have accomplished during this unparalleled time; we know you are more than ready for the next chapter on your journey.”

About Animal Medical Center

The Animal Medical Center (AMC) is the world’s largest non-profit animal hospital with 100+ veterinarians providing the highest quality medical care across more than 20 specialties and services, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Our mission to provide the best in care, research, and education has been the foundation of our work for over a century. Learn more at: www.amcny.org/giftoflove.

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