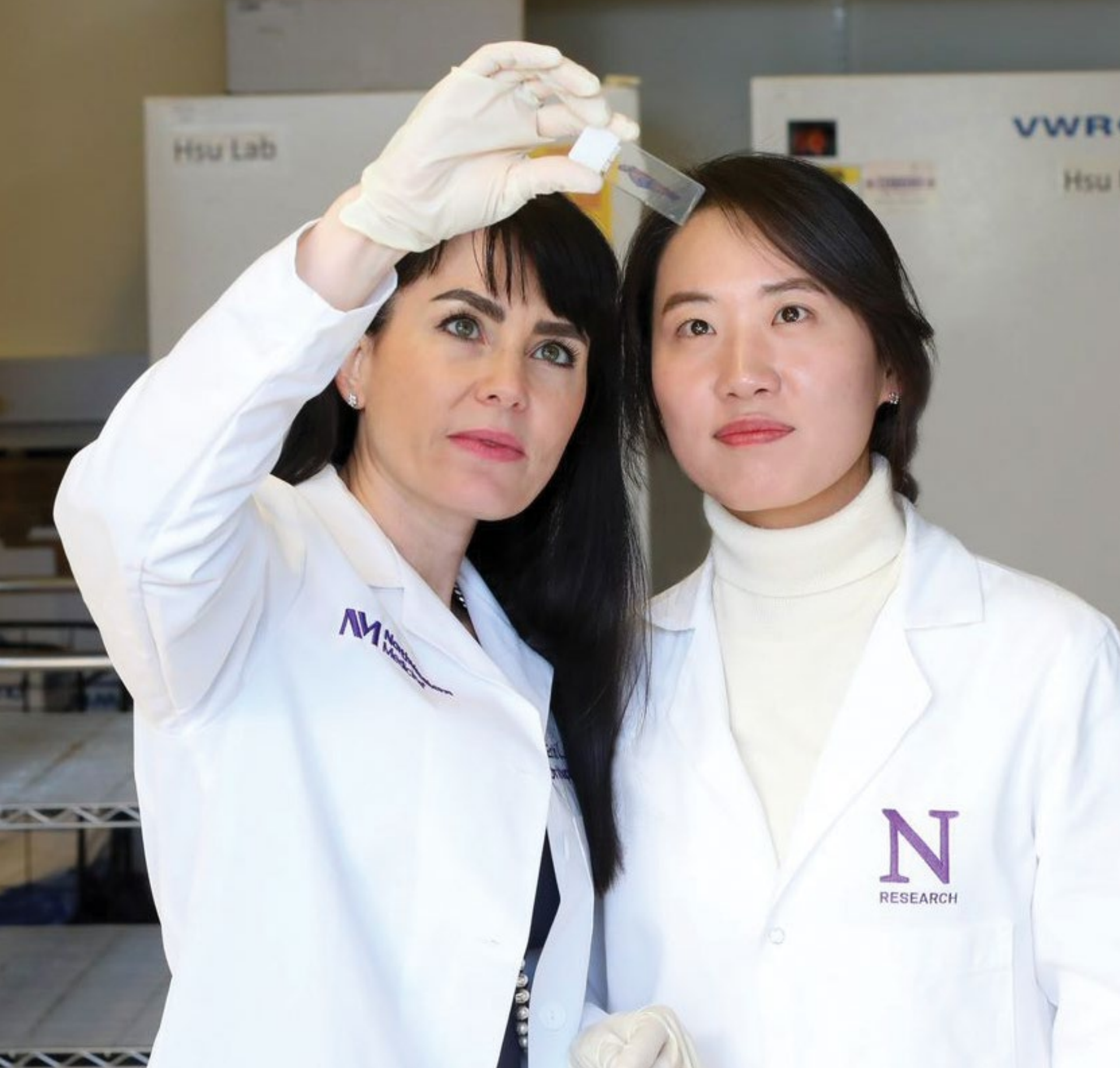


THE PHILANTHROPIST



Thank You for Helping Us Make an Impact

With your vital support, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine is able to make a positive difference in the lives of current and future patients through education and research. In our classrooms and clinics, Feinberg faculty are training the next generation of physicians and other healthcare providers to treat the globe’s aging and diversifying populations with skill, compassion, and innovation. In our laboratories and communities throughout Chicago and the world, Feinberg teams are making discoveries and building systems to improve health and healthcare across boundaries. We are grateful for every gift we receive from you — patients, families, alumni, faculty, staff, foundations, corporations, and friends — and we are honored to share some of your inspiring stories in these pages.

High-Impact Philanthropy Changes the World



Dr. Alan Krensky

Anyone can claim to change the world, but at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine that is exactly what we are doing. Working together, with the help of high-impact philanthropy from our remarkable donors, we are changing and will continue to change the world.

Research

Our Dean Eric Neilson points out that “Everything we know today in medicine started out as an experiment somewhere, and those advances are required if there is to be progress in healthcare.” Government, foundations, and industry invest a great deal of money in established ideas to ensure medical progress, but support for true innovation through foundational scientific data and new ideas is less available and often difficult to fund. Start-up grants made possible through philanthropy allow us to build the exciting base ideas that can blossom into new approaches and therapies.

A recent example is the breakthrough work of Rod Passman, MD, in our Division of Cardiology. A crucial starter grant led to the development of an idea that may revolutionize the care of patients with heart arrhythmias. This work is now supported by a \$37 million grant awarded to Dr. Passman and his team from government and industry. Some patients with heart arrhythmias require lifelong anticoagulation medicine to prevent them from developing heart attacks, strokes, or pulmonary embolism. Dr. Passman is conducting a clinical trial using smart watches to monitor arrhythmias in order to reduce the lifelong exposure that patients have to anticoagulant drugs, which themselves can have severe toxicities by causing bleeding. If the current study is successful, the results will profoundly impact millions of patients.

Scholarships

Medical school is expensive. Scholarships for medical students allow them to reduce or eliminate massive debt and can change the course of their selected specialties and/or career trajectory. Scholarship support changes the world for individual students who receive such funding.



Dr. Sean Jenvay

Medical alumnus Dr. Sean Jenvay was awarded the Dr. Whitney Addington Scholarship as a first-year medical student and held the scholarship during all four years of medical school. He attended UC Berkley as an undergraduate and worked as an emergency medical technician between college and medical school. He graduated with his MD from Northwestern in 2019 and is a prime example of how scholarship funding impacts and changes our students’ lives and supports their career paths. Dr. Jenvay chose psychiatry for his residency training and future career and is currently a resident at the University of California, San Francisco. After residency, Dr. Jenvay plans to take a position focusing on community mental health for the publicly insured population in the Bay Area. In one of his thank you letters to the Addington Scholarship donors, Dr. Jenvay shared, “The aid you were able to provide me played a large part in allowing me to come to Northwestern, and it will go a long way in lightening my load in the years to come as I have to honestly face down the finances of medical training. Your scholarship has altered my life for the better!”

Professorships

Medical school faculty require income streams to support their salaries. These dollars can come from a variety of sources, including clinical revenues, research grant support, and tuition funds for teaching. Endowed professorships, created through philanthropy, however, provide additional income streams that provide faculty with protected time to participate in research, medical education, clinical care, advocacy, and/or community service activities that are not dependent upon delineated income streams. Endowed professorships change the world for Feinberg faculty members who receive such support and such a prestigious academic honor.

A shining example is Sara Becker, PhD, who joined Northwestern in August 2022 as the Alice Hamilton Professor of Psychiatry and the inaugural director of the newly formed Center for Dissemination and Implementation Science, which is part of Feinberg’s Institute for Public Health and Medicine (IPHAM). Dr. Becker was most recently on faculty at the Brown University School of Public Health and the Warren Alpert Medical School. The vital funds from the Alice Hamilton Professorship in Psychiatry were critical in Dr. Becker’s recruitment, as well as her establishment at Northwestern as leader of the center. A nationally recognized implementation scientist, Dr. Becker’s research promotes the uptake of evidence-based practice into routine clinical care. Her implementation research incorporates workforce development, digital health, direct-to-consumer marketing, and designing user experiences to promote sustained behavior change. Under her leadership, the newly formed Center for Dissemination and Implementation Science aims to bridge the gap between public health and medical knowledge (what we know) and public health and medical practice (what we do).



Dr. Sara Becker

Space

Impactful research requires state-of-the-art space and equipment. Investment in new buildings with the best technology and facilities is required for academic growth. Construction of the Louis A. Simpson and Kimberly K. Querrey Biomedical Research Center permitted a more than doubling in Feinberg research grants from \$315 to \$650 million. The building is now fully populated with laboratory teams, so future growth will require new space. Building such forward-looking facilities requires philanthropy. Lou Simpson and Kimberly Querrey invested \$92 million and John and Laura Potocsnak, Howard Trienens, David and Lynne Weinberg, Drew and Noni Senyei, and Stanley and Fern Manne joined them to help in the construction of this research space. Kimberly Querrey and the estate of Lou Simpson have recently pledged another \$100 million for research and space including a new tower. This will increase the size of the building to more than one million square feet, making it the largest academic research building in the United States. This investment will allow current programs to expand and for new faculty investigators to be recruited, once again changing the world, arm in arm with our incredible donors and friends.

With our sincere appreciation,

Alan M. Krensky, MD
Executive for Development at Northwestern Medicine
Vice Dean for Development & Alumni Relations

Transformational Querrey, Simpson Gift Expands Biomedical Research at Feinberg



A rendering of a 19-level tower with 15 lab floors that will expand the Louis A. Simpson and Kimberly K. Querrey Biomedical Research Center and make it the largest academic biomedical research facility in the world.

Discovering new ways to help people has always driven the extraordinary philanthropy of Northwestern University Trustee Kimberly K. Querrey ('22, '23 P) and her late husband, Louis A. Simpson '58 ('96 P). This heartfelt desire led Ms. Querrey to further strengthen the couple's longtime appreciation of the Feinberg School of Medicine and its role in advancing the University's biomedical research enterprise.



Lou Simpson and Kimberly Querrey at the 2017 dedication ceremony for the Simpson Querrey Institute for BioNanotechnology's expansion into the Technological Institute's J-Wing on the Evanston campus.

In October 2022, Ms. Querrey and the Louis Simpson Trust made a transformational \$100 million gift to Feinberg to expand scientific discovery to generate more life-changing and life-saving solutions for humankind.

"Lou and I often discussed the importance of improving the quality of life, particularly for those facing medical challenges," said Ms. Querrey. "The physicians, scientists, and engineers at Northwestern

do groundbreaking, innovative work, realizing our vision of positively affecting people's lives." Mr. Simpson, who passed away in 2022, was a Northwestern University trustee, alumnus, parent, and adjunct professor.

Supporting four new initiatives at Feinberg, this remarkable gift will jumpstart and accelerate new discoveries in myriad ways.

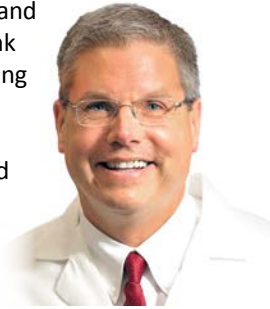
Another Space for Creating Hope

The Louis A. Simpson and Kimberly K. Querrey Biomedical Research Center became the largest new building solely dedicated to biomedical research at an American medical school when it opened in June 2019. Now, it will become the largest academic biomedical research facility in the world thanks to the recent Querrey Simpson gift. A designated \$64 million of the \$100 million commitment will go toward the expansion of the center through the construction of an adjacent 19-level tower with 15 labs. This new building will bring together even more of the best scientific and clinical minds to solve complex biomedical challenges and enhance patient care.

Breathing Much Easier

During the past three years, the severe respiratory effects of SARS-CoV-2 — the virus that causes COVID-19 — have spurred a growing demand for lung care. In November 2021, Northwestern Medicine launched the Canning Thoracic Institute to provide a patient-centered destination for treatment of the simple to most complex respiratory illnesses and lung cancer. Twenty-five million dollars from the Querrey Simpson gift will help launch a new Simpson Querrey Lung Institute for Translational Science. The initiative will better connect clinical care to new basic discoveries in pulmonary medicine for the benefit of patients.

"We are grateful for the generosity of Kimberly Querrey and Lou Simpson. The new Simpson Querrey Institute will link the world class, high volume clinical programs of the Canning Institute with the state-of-the-art research facilities at Feinberg," said Scott Budinger, MD, the Ernest S. Bazley Professor of Airway Diseases and chief of Pulmonary and Critical Care in the Department of Medicine. "Leveraging innovative technologies developed in the medical school's laboratories with access to biosamples collected as part of patient care will greatly drive discoveries in lung disease."



Dr. Scott Budinger

Healthier Brains, Longer Lives

Countless studies have shown that brain health and neural activity have a significant influence on living a long and healthy life. As people live longer around the world, Northwestern researchers doggedly seek answers to fundamental questions vital to healthy brain aging and the prevention of neurovascular degeneration.

With \$10 million from the recent Querrey Simpson gift, Feinberg will create and endow a new Simpson Querrey Center for Neurovascular Sciences. This initiative will provide an unparalleled opportunity for Northwestern investigators to make greater strides in pinpointing the underlying causes of neurologic diseases and disorders.



Dr. Farzaneh Sorond

"Our work will seek to identify biological signatures of resilience and/or vulnerability to neurovascular degeneration and develop interventions to preserve brain health across the human life span," said Farzaneh Sorond, MD, PhD, vice dean for faculty affairs at Feinberg, the Dean Richard H. Young and Ellen Stearns Young Professor, and division chief for Stroke and Vascular Neurology in the Ken and Ruth Davee Department of Neurology. "The vividness and clarity of Kimberly Querrey's unrelenting support for accelerating breakthrough innovation across the multitude of scientific disciplines at Northwestern are extraordinary. Her generous support of medical sciences is deeply appreciated by our investigators and our patients."

The Querrey Simpson gift will also provide \$1 million to support the Kimberly Prize in Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics, which Ms. Querrey established in 2022 in honor of Mr. Simpson. The annual prize of \$250,000 is awarded by the Simpson Querrey Institute for Epigenetics.

"Kimberly is a visionary philanthropist who cares deeply about groundbreaking science and biomedical research," said Eric G. Neilson, MD, vice president for medical affairs and Lewis Landsberg Dean at Feinberg. "This generous gift will enable us to advance our research mission innovatively and imaginatively to transform human health by accelerating the pace of discovery for the benefit of clinical medicine."



Jane and Steve Zaleski

Commitment to Scholarships

Zaleskis Establish Two Scholarships to Honor Strong Family Ties

As a young girl, Jane Turnbull Zaleski never became alarmed at hearing her family’s garage door opening in the middle of the night. She knew her dad, Theodore “Ted” Turnbull, ’45 MD, had his black bag in hand and was off to the hospital to see a patient. “My daddy loved being a doctor, and his patients were very dear to him,” said Mrs. Zaleski. In 1951, Dr. Turnbull launched his medical practice in Tulsa, Oklahoma—where doctors were scarce—after his service in WWII. An internist with cardiology training from the Mayo Clinic, he soon became the go-to “heart” doctor in the relatively small but growing Tulsa at that time.

Meanwhile, as Dr. Ted Turnbull was using the skills he learned at Northwestern, some 700 miles away in Evanston, Illinois, another Dr. Turnbull was teaching those very same skills to medical students and residents. A first cousin to Ted, George C. Turnbull, ’23 MD, served as a longtime attending physician at Evanston Hospital (now NorthShore University HealthSystem) and associate professor of Medicine at Northwestern. Active in professional societies, a John Evans Club member, and a proud alumnus, George was passionate about medical education.

Scholarships Are Tribute to One Family’s Extraordinary Passion for Medicine

Mrs. Zaleski grew up accompanying her father, Ted, on hospital rounds. She and her siblings also worked in the office of his solo practice. Not surprisingly, her father’s devotion to his patients inspired Mrs. Zaleski to become a nurse—a career she enjoyed for close to 40 years in the Chicago area before retiring in 2016.

As trustee of a philanthropic investment fund established by George’s only child, the late Mary Ellen Turnbull Fellman, Mrs. Zaleski decided to take the opportunity to recognize all that Northwestern has meant to the Turnbull family. Mary Ellen was a 1954 graduate of Northwestern’s Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences. In 2022, Jane along with her husband, Steve, an engineer, made a \$4 million commitment to scholarships to honor both the memory of her father and his cousin, George, and to help future generations of medical students.



Mrs. Louise Turnbull and Dr. Ted Turnbull



Michelle Roh, Turnbull Scholar

“Growing up in a low-income Korean-American family, I was the first person in my family to even consider becoming a physician. With the generosity of the Zaleskis, I can now pursue my dream!”

— Michelle Roh



Dr. George Turnbull



Dr. Ted Turnbull

The Zaleskis’ remarkable gift has led to the establishment of two unique scholarships at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. A four-year scholarship, the Theodore Turnbull, MD Scholarship has been awarded to first-year student Michelle Roh to support her four years at Feinberg.

“Growing up in a low-income Korean-American family, I was the first person in my family to even consider becoming a physician. With the generosity of the Zaleskis, I can now pursue my dream!” said Michelle. “The Turnbull scholarship allows me to focus on my education without a heavy financial burden. One day I hope to emulate the Zaleskis’ investment in me and contribute to the medical education of future students.”

A one-year award, the George C. Turnbull, MD Scholarship, will be awarded after Match Day 2023 to one or more graduating fourth-year Feinberg students in need of debt relief.

“My father and his cousin were farm boys who had really no money at all. Northwestern gave them the springboard to become well-respected and beloved doctors who touched many lives,” said Mrs. Zaleski of Geneseo, Illinois. “We hope that the students we support will some day pass forward the knowledge they gained at Northwestern to help many more people.”

The Zaleskis see their gift as a fitting tribute to all the Drs. Turnbull achieved as physicians. “We are honoring the amazing livelihood that Northwestern made possible for my father and Dr. George,” said Mrs. Zaleski. “The boys gave so much of themselves to others throughout their lives. Our goal is to help future physicians to do the same.”

For more information about supporting scholarships at the medical school, please contact [Larry Kuhn](#) at [312-503-1717](#) or larry-kuhn@northwestern.edu.

GEORGE AND TED TURNBULL

Raised on adjacent farms in small town Elmira in north-central Illinois, George and Ted Turnbull came from a long line of farmers. In 1849, the first Turnbulls emigrated from Scotland and started a sheep farm. (Today, Mrs. Zaleski manages the original Turnbull homestead, where corn and soybeans are now grown.) Looking to education as the best way to advance in life, George and Ted turned to Northwestern.

“During WWII, the military desperately needed doctors. My daddy joined a cohort of men whose medical school education was paid by the U.S. Army,” said Mrs. Zaleski. “He was in a three-year medical school program during the week and marched in the armory [now the home of the Museum of Contemporary Art] on the weekends.” Ted entered military service soon after receiving his medical degree. He served as an Army captain, making 10 crossings of the North Atlantic to care for soldiers. George also was in the Army, retiring with the rank of colonel after a distinguished tour of duty with the Army Medical Corps.

In 1975, George passed away after practicing internal medicine primarily in Evanston for more than 45 years. At age 80, Ted passed away in 1999 after a lifetime of earning the respect of many patients through his kindness and compassion.

Zoe Foundation Support of AFib Research Blossoms into Major NIH Grant



Ms. Julie Schmittiel and Dr. Rod Passman at the November 2022 NUCAR celebration on campus.

From seeds, apple trees grow and bear fruit. From seed funding, an innovative smart watch app to prevent stroke in patients with atrial fibrillation (AFib) is coming to fruition.

More than a decade ago, the Chicago-based nonprofit The Zoe Foundation began supporting the groundbreaking AFib research of Rod Passman, MD, director of the Center for Arrhythmia Research at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, also known as NUCAR. Today, the foundation’s initial starter grant of \$25,000 has helped Dr. Passman and Northwestern to realize a recent and very bountiful harvest.

In August 2022, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) awarded Northwestern, along with Johns Hopkins, a first-ever national grant to study the effectiveness of wearable digital health technology in atrial fibrillation treatment. The \$37 million award will fund a new trial to investigate if a customized smart watch can reduce reliance on blood thinners—the current standard of care for this most common heart arrhythmia. Called the Rhythm Evaluation for AntiCoagulaTion (REACT-AF), the study has the potential to revolutionize care for the 35 million people worldwide living with AFib, which can result not only in stroke, but also heart failure, dementia, and premature death.

Trial participants will use a customized app on a smart watch to monitor their heart rhythms. Blood-thinning medication will be used for a limited period of time and only in response to a prolonged episode of AFib as detected by the wearable device. This strategy offers a truly personalized care approach unique to each individual.

“Many of these patients are on blood thinners for the rest of their lives even if they have infrequent episodes of atrial fibrillation,” said principal investigator Dr. Passman, the Jules J. Reingold Professor of Electrophysiology and professor of Medicine (Cardiology) and Preventive Medicine. “If we can show this strategy is equally protective against stroke and reduces bleeding, that could save lives, reduce healthcare costs, and improve quality of life.” REACT-AF will build a bridge between consumer electronic devices and medical care.

For a decade, former electrophysiology nurse clinician Julie Schmittiel, RN, worked alongside Dr. Passman at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. Inspired by Dr. Passman’s passion for finding solutions to improve the care of patients with AFib, Ms. Schmittiel founded The Zoe Foundation to support his work and that of other investigators studying arrhythmia disorders at the medical school.

Since 2011, The Zoe Foundation has made annual gifts to serve as seed funding to advance the work of Dr. Passman and his colleagues. As the director of NUCAR, Dr. Passman works closely with clinical investigators such as faculty members Bradley Knight, MD, the Chester C. and Deborah M. Cooley Distinguished Professor of Cardiology and professor of Medicine (Cardiology) and Medical Education; Philip Greenland, MD, the Harry W. Dingman Professor of Cardiology and professor of Preventive Medicine (Epidemiology) and Medicine (Cardiology); Rishi Arora, MD, professor of Medicine (Cardiology); and Michael Markl, PhD, vice chair for Research, Department of Radiology, the Lester B. and Frances T. Knight Professor of Cardiac Imaging, and professor of Radiology.

“I saw the potential for Dr. Passman’s research to help people around the world,” said Ms. Schmittiel, president of The Zoe Foundation, which counts among its membership many grateful patients. “I feel privileged to have worked closely with so many brilliant minds at Northwestern during my almost 20 years there. I wanted to stay involved by educating people about AFib and the importance of research to discover novel treatments for this growing disorder.”

“Philanthropy, like that of The Zoe Foundation, reminds us that science progresses through the selfless contributions of people like Julie Schmittiel and other generous supporters. They are making a difference and will have a positive impact on people living with AFib, today and in the future,” said Dr. Passman.

During its early days before the pandemic, the foundation held fundraising events that raised awareness about the importance of seed funding. “Many people do not realize that any contribution — no matter how small — can help advance scientific research,” said Ms. Schmittiel. “It is super exciting to see what has transpired with the initial support we provided to Dr. Passman that led to the recent NIH award. We continue our journey alongside Dr. Passman and can’t wait to see what comes next.”

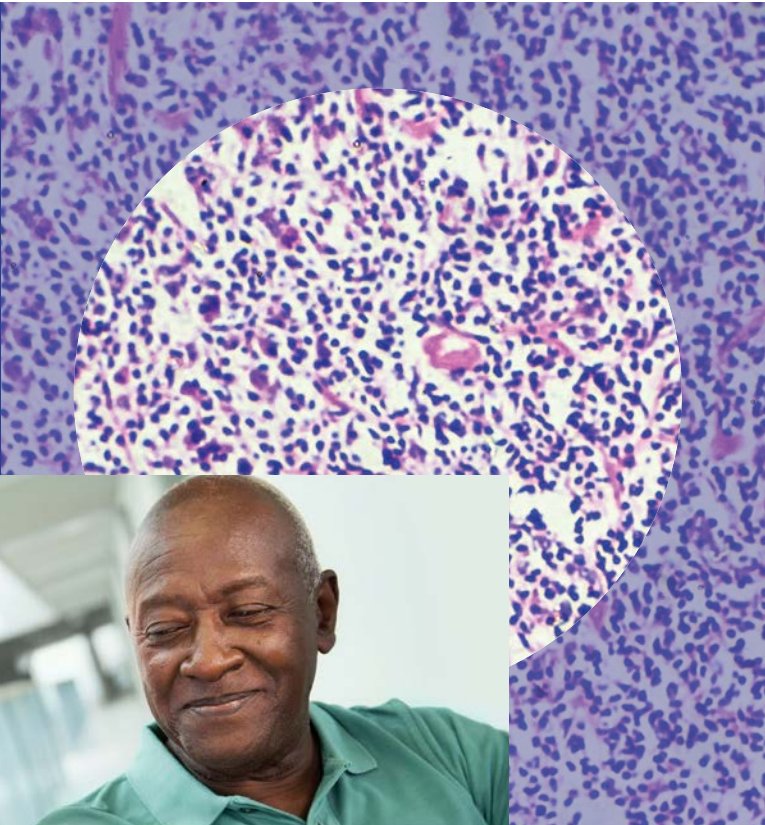
For more information about supporting NUCAR and Dr. Passman’s research, please contact [Kathleen Praznowski](mailto:kathleen.praznowski@northwestern.edu) at 312-503-0762 or kathleen.praznowski@northwestern.edu.



Advancing Breakthrough Treatments for Lymphoma

“Today we are able to save the lives of patients — who wouldn’t have been alive five to seven years ago — because of the many novel treatment strategies.”

— Dr. Jane Winter



Immunotherapy has been a game changer in cancer treatment. An innovative targeted therapy, immunotherapy works by harnessing the body’s immune system to seek and destroy the abnormal cells of blood cancers and solid tumor diseases.



Dr. Jane Winter

Renowned lymphoma expert Jane Winter, MD, ’82 GME, has been at the forefront of this revolutionary cancer treatment. During the past several years, she has served as the principal investigator of clinical trials testing a new immunotherapy for patients with Hodgkin lymphoma. Dr. Winter is a professor of Medicine in the Division of Hematology and Oncology at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and a member of the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University.

“This is one of the most exciting times in history to be a hematologist,” said Dr. Winter, who in 2022 served as president of the American Society of Hematology, the world’s largest professional society focused on conquering blood disorders worldwide. “Today we are able to save the lives of patients — who wouldn’t have been alive five to seven years ago — because of the many novel treatment strategies.”

Longtime patient Barbara Olin Taylor, PhD, is one of many impressed with Dr. Winter’s ability to tease out and find solutions to the cancer puzzle. The Northwestern hematologist also cared for Dr. Olin Taylor’s late husband, Buzz, when he developed mantle cell lymphoma.

Hoping to accelerate Northwestern’s lymphoma research, Dr. Olin Taylor made a generous gift to establish an endowment to be named the “Jane Winter, MD Innovation Research Fund” in the Division of Hematology and Oncology to honor Dr. Winter’s work and with the intent that others will help support Dr. Winter and this crucial research as well.

Pioneering New Research Avenues

The out-of-control growth of white blood cells is the hallmark of Hodgkin lymphoma, a common cancer of adolescents and young adults and a growing population of octogenarian men. While a curable form of blood cancer, it still claims too many lives. In addition to the lives lost annually, treatment for Hodgkin lymphoma with traditional chemotherapy and radiation treatments can be toxic. These therapies may lead to late effects, such as the development of cancers of the breast or lung as well as cardiovascular disease that can result in death or seriously impact quality of life. To date, Dr. Winter’s breakthrough clinical studies have shown that treatment with a checkpoint inhibitor can in some cases entirely eliminate the disease or significantly reduce tumor size in Hodgkin lymphoma patients before they undergo chemotherapy for the best outcomes.

In 2023, the Winter team plans to launch a new clinical trial to further shift the balance away from chemotherapy to immunotherapy for treating Hodgkin lymphoma. This novel approach involves increasing the number of cycles of immunotherapy while decreasing the number of cycles of standard chemotherapy to reduce its harmful side effects. She also hopes to study various biological indicators of immunotherapeutic response to predict outcomes and investigate circulating tumor DNA to better tailor treatment to the

individual patient. Dr. Winter’s work dovetails with other exciting immunotherapy studies in the division and at Lurie Cancer Center, including a clinical trial investigating the addition of a checkpoint inhibitor and another novel agent to CAR T-cell therapy for the treatment of other forms of lymphoma.

Dr. Winter’s successful investigator-initiated clinical trials have earned her industry-sponsored support for her upcoming trial. The studies also have led to a recently concluded international trial to validate her initial experience in a much larger number of patients. However, with increasingly scarce National Institutes of Health and pharmaceutical company sponsorships, every philanthropic dollar is critical to these and future research efforts at Northwestern.

“Launching these studies requires significant resources that are becoming more challenging to obtain,” said Dr. Winter. “Barbara’s generous commitment provides the starting point to grow this fund, for which I am so grateful. I know that Barbara hopes that her gift will inspire others to support this important work as well.”

For more information about supporting cancer research and education and the Jane Winter, MD Innovation Research Fund, please contact [Terri Dillon](mailto:terri-dillon@northwestern.edu) at [312-503-4837](tel:312-503-4837) or terri-dillon@northwestern.edu.

Lewis Landsberg Society

Providing Camaraderie and Support for All Medicine Residents, Fellows, and Alumni



At the 2017 Landsberg Society Weekend Update, from left to right: John Pandolfino, MD, '97, '01 GME, chief of Gastroenterology and Hepatology in the Department of Medicine and the Hans Popper Professor; Douglas E. Vaughan, MD, chair of the Department of Medicine and the Irving S. Cutter Professor of Medicine; the late Dr. Lewis Landsberg; Angelo Costas, MD, '97 GME, assistant professor of Medicine in the Division of General Internal Medicine and Geriatrics.

The late Lewis Landsberg, MD, former dean of Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, made medical education his life's passion during his 30 years at Northwestern. As the Irving S. Cutter Professor and chair of the Department of Medicine before becoming dean, Dr. Landsberg treasured sharing his clinical knowledge with students and residents. Traditional morning reports — when trainees present patient cases — with Dr. Landsberg were legendary.



Dr. James Flaherty

"His signature expression was: 'This can only be one thing,'" recalls James Flaherty, MD, '02, '05, '06 GME, who is an associate professor of Medicine (Cardiology). "Meaning that he had heard enough information to quickly come to a diagnosis, while the rest of us were still far from figuring it out!"

Alumna Candice Tung, MD, '99 GME, also marveled at Dr. Landsberg's command of every medical topic. "His mastery of clinical medicine was incredible, and his pearls of medicine still help me in my practice today — more than 20 years later."

In 2016, Dr. Landsberg's remarkable contributions to the Department of Medicine prompted several of his former trainees to establish the Lewis Landsberg Society to support Northwestern residents and fellows and the residency and fellowship training programs. The society welcomes to its membership all former, current, and future medicine residents and fellows. Among several goals, the society aims to strengthen ties to internal medicine trainee alumni through continuing medical education (CME) and social events. At the same time, it also supports current trainees in ways that go beyond the curriculum, from funding research grants and covering travel expenses to professional meetings. Additionally, funding goes toward providing innovative tools to improve current training.

"It was a no brainer for us to honor Dr. Landsberg for all he did for the department and residency program," said John Pandolfino, MD, '97, '01 GME, chief of Gastroenterology and Hepatology in the Department of Medicine and the Hans Popper Professor. Dr. Pandolfino joined forces with alumni Angelo Costas, MD, '97 GME, assistant professor of Medicine in the Division of General Internal Medicine and Geriatrics, and Micah Eimer, '98 MD, '03, '06 GME, a health system clinician of Medicine (Cardiology), to form the society. "He inspired us to be the best physicians we could be," said Dr. Pandolfino. "To many of us who trained under him, he was the epitome of what makes Northwestern special."

During the academic year, the Landsberg Society hosts regular educational events and get-togethers for current residents and fellows. Every other year, the group strives to hold one large CME event to attract both local and out-of-town resident alumni. The society hosted several "Late Night Morning Report" dinners with Dr. Landsberg before he passed away in 2021, bringing back the fond memories that his many former residents still hold dear.

"He inspired us to be the best physicians we could be. To many of us who trained under him, he was the epitome of what makes Northwestern special."

— Dr. John Pandolfino

UPCOMING EVENTS



Dr. Candice Tung

“The Landsberg Society events have provided me with social reconnection, networking, and academic enrichment,” said Dr. Tung, an internal medicine specialist in Las Vegas who supports the Landsberg Society through her generosity. “My training experience was truly stellar, and the friendships I made remain strong to this day. I left Northwestern with the experience necessary to go out in the world and practice medicine as a confident young physician.”

The Landsberg Society’s philanthropic efforts all go toward bringing value to the residency program. In 2023, the group hopes to raise enough funds to purchase portable point of care ultrasound (POCUS) devices to enhance the resident training experience. POCUS allows healthcare providers to immediately perform ultrasound exams at the bedside, decreasing the time from diagnosis to treatment for patients.

“In the hospital our internal medicine trainees are at the frontlines, caring for patients at all hours of the night. We need to provide them with the best tools to be the best physicians they can be,” said Dr. Pandolfino. “POCUS is ushering in a new era of medicine that we would like to introduce to the residency program. Lew Landsberg embraced new technology and, in many ways, this gift from all of us who support the Landsberg Society will be a fitting tribute to him.”

For more information about supporting the Lewis Landsberg Society in the Department of Medicine, please contact **MaryPat Mauro** at **312-503-1090** or **marypat.mauro@northwestern.edu**.



Dr. Lewis Landsberg at a 2019 Landsberg Society event.



John Csernansky, MD Portrait Unveiling and Reception

May 4, Robert H. Lurie Medical Research Center, Hughes Auditorium, Chicago
Info: **Mary Kreller** at **312-503-0742**, **mary.kreller@northwestern.edu**

Malnati Brain Tumor Institute Minds Matter Benefit Event

May 5, The Ritz-Carlton, Chicago
Info: **Ashley May** at **312-503-0759**, **ashleymay@northwestern.edu**
[For more information, click here](#)

Spring Music & Art Gala Charity Event to Benefit Brain Cancer Research

May 6, Golden Fox Brewing, Decatur
Info: **Ashley May** at **312-503-0759**, **ashleymay@northwestern.edu**
[For more information, click here](#)

A Night with Northwestern in San Francisco: Is Aging Inevitable or Preventable?

May 10, Northwestern University, San Francisco
Info: **MaryPat Mauro** at **312-503-1090**, **marypat.mauro@northwestern.edu**
[For more information, click here](#)

29th Annual Alzheimer Day

May 11, Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Feinberg Conference Center
Info: **Jordan Sund** at **312-503-2706**, **jordan.sund@northwestern.edu**
[For more information, click here](#)

Concerts for Concern benefiting Lurie Cancer Center

May 19, Fourth Presbyterian Church, Chicago
Info: **Ashley May** at **312-503-0759**, **ashleymay@northwestern.edu**

Cancer Survivors' Celebration Walk & 5K

June 4, Grant Park, Chicago
Info: **Ashley May** at **312-503-0759**, **ashleymay@northwestern.edu**
[For more information, click here](#)

Day 1 Survivors Grand Garden Party and Bocce Tournament for Cancer Care

June 10, Wilmette Harbor Club, Wilmette
Info: **Ashley May** at **312-503-0759**, **ashleymay@northwestern.edu**
[For more information, click here](#)

Associate Board of Lurie Cancer Center Cocktail Reception

July 20, Woodwind, Chicago
Info: **Nicole Langert** at **312-503-1656**, **nicole.langert@northwestern.edu**

The H Foundation Goombay Bash

July 22, Aon Grand Ballroom at Navy Pier, Chicago
Info: **Nicole Langert** at **312-503-1656**, **nicole.langert@northwestern.edu**
[For more information, click here](#)

Les Turner ALS Foundation's 2023 ALS Walk for Life

September 23, Soldier Field, Chicago
Info: **Andrew Christopherson** at **312-503-3080**, **andrew.christopherson@northwestern.edu**
[For more information, click here](#)

16th Annual Robert J. Havey, MD Institute for Global Health Benefit Dinner

September 27, The Peninsula Chicago
Info: **Jenn Burke** at **312-503-4635**, **jennifer.burke@northwestern.edu**

Alumni Weekend 2023

October 13–14, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
Info: **Babette Henderson** at **312-503-0855**, **babette.henderson@northwestern.edu**
[For more information, click here](#)

Commitment to Scholarships Luncheon

October 14, The Ritz-Carlton, Chicago
Info: **Olympia Asimacopoulos** at **312-503-0754**, **olympia1@northwestern.edu**

The Founders Society Cocktail Reception

October 14, The Arts Club of Chicago
Info: **Sarah Kalsbeek** at **312-503-3459**, **s-kalsbeek@northwestern.edu**

Our Community in Action



In December, **The H Foundation** presented a check to the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University for basic science cancer research following its record-breaking Goombay Bash in 2022, raising more than \$1.1 million. Since 2001, The H Foundation has raised over \$11 million for innovative basic cancer research that will lead to important clinical advances in patient care. The H Foundation is a leading organization dedicated to developing novel treatments for patients, and is a vital partner in Northwestern's mission of finding a cure for cancer.

Pictured left to right: H Founders leaders Cortney Hausser and John Rot, joined Kathleen J. Green, PhD, associate director of basic sciences research at Lurie Cancer Center and the Joseph L. Mayberry, Sr., Professor of Pathology and Toxicology; Jodi Johnson, PhD, research assistant professor of Pathology and Dermatology; and Sue Nesbitt and Dan Chopp of The H Foundation at the December 2022 check presentation on campus.



Brian Wallach and Sandra Abrevaya, recipients of this year's Harvey and Bonny Gaffen Advancements in ALS Award, shared about their work advocating for the ALS community.



Andrea Pauls Backman, chief executive officer of the Les Turner ALS Foundation, next to board chair Erin Reardon Cohn (right) as Ms. Pauls Backman was honored for her eight years of service as CEO.

Over 450 people attended the Hope Through Caring Gala on February 18 to support the **Les Turner ALS Foundation's** mission to provide care and support to people living with ALS. At the gala, hosted at the Radisson Blu Aqua Hotel, the Les Turner ALS Foundation raised more than \$600,000 to continue the fight against ALS. This year's gala comes after a promising year of medical research with two new drugs for treating ALS — RELYVRIO™ and an oral form of Radicava (RADICAVA ORS®) — receiving FDA approval in 2022. The Lois Insolia ALS Clinic at the Les Turner ALS Center at Northwestern Medicine hosted clinical trials for both drugs. Brian Wallach and Sandra Abrevaya received the Harvey and Bonny Gaffen Advancements in ALS award. Janie Gobeli, who is living with ALS, presented First Bank Chicago with the Hope and Caring Award for its 22 years of support for need-based grant programs for people living with ALS and their families. Andrea Pauls Backman, who announced recently that she will step down as CEO of the Les Turner ALS Foundation, was honored during the gala for her eight years of service in the role.



Pictured left from right: Bony Matthew, Danny Kopelson '81 MS, Phil Burgess, Jim Nutter, Michael Leppen '87 MS, and Russ Bauer.

On January 19, the Medical Alumni Association hosted Northwestern alumni, donors, and guests from Chicago and Palm Springs motivated in their support of LGBTQ health equity, research, and education. Northwestern has a leadership position in creating career pathways for LGBTQ health researchers and educators, while working with policymakers and service providers to close the health disparity gap for the Sexual and Gender Minority (SGM) communities. The **Institute for Sexual and Gender Minority Health and Wellbeing (ISGMH)** addresses everything from healthy LGBTQ relationships, mental health, aging, to HIV prevention to name a few focus areas. ISGMH leaders Brian Mustanski '99, PhD, Jagadīśa-devaśrī Dācus, PhD, and Cindy Veldhuis, PhD, presented at the event.



Pictured left to right: Claudia Hawkins, MD, '06 GME, MPH; Egon A. Ozer, MD, '09, '11, '12 GME, PhD; Igor J. Koralnik, MD; Lori A. Post, PhD; Lifang Hou, MD, PhD; Kate Klein, MA, '14 MPH; Robert L. Murphy, MD, '81, '84 GME; Chad J. Achenbach '96, '02 MD, '02 MPH; Robert J. Havey, '80 MD, '81, '83 GME; Lisa R. Hirschhorn, MD, MPH; William R. Leonard, PhD; Sally M. McFall, PhD; Matthew R. Glucksberg, PhD; Fizan Abdullah, MD, PhD; and Ashti A. Doobay-Persaud, MD.

At the 15th Annual **Robert J. Havey, MD Institute for Global Health** Benefit Dinner, more than 250 friends and members of the Feinberg community came together to support critical global health work at Northwestern and around the world. The event recognized the institute's many benefactors and celebrated the achievements made possible through their generous philanthropy. The evening featured inspiring speeches from institute leaders Drs. Robert L. Murphy and Robert J. Havey on the institute's significant growth, the importance of improving healthcare globally, and the impact of support on the institute's success. In addition, two Feinberg students shared the influence their global health experiences have had on their educations, and leadership unveiled a short documentary about the Havey Institute for Global Health's most vital work. The benefit dinner took place on September 21, 2022, at The Peninsula Chicago.

INNOVATION SPOTLIGHT

Empowering Feinberg's Unsung Heroes

Each day, our faculty, students, and trainees at Feinberg dedicate time to innovative new ideas and programs that will move the needle in medicine and science. Here, we spotlight some of the exciting work that often happens behind the scenes and beyond daily clinical care.

Thank you to all of the donors who contribute to these efforts, now and in the future. Your philanthropy fuels these projects and programs — enabling their very existence and empowering them to grow for the benefit of patients today and tomorrow.

Developing Better Treatments for Traumatic Brain Injuries

Theresa Bender Pape, DrPH, MA, CCC-SLP/L, FACRM, is a clinical neuroscientist with a dual appointment at Edward Hines, Jr. VA Hospital and Feinberg, where she serves as a research professor of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation. Dr. Pape conducts research on behalf of persons with traumatic brain injury or TBI. Approximately 15 to 20 million people are living in a vegetative or minimally conscious state caused by severe TBI, and about every 5 seconds a US citizen suffers a moderate to mild TBI (also known as concussion). There are over 400,000 military personnel, from our most recent wars, coping with mild TBI, one-third of whom are also experiencing PTSD. Dr. Pape is the lead principal investigator for an interdisciplinary neuroscience team, the Neuroplasticity in Neurorehabilitation Laboratory. She is currently conducting clinical trials assessing treatments that combine non-invasive brain modulation, such as repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation and intermittent Theta Burst Stimulation, with learning-based interventions such as familiar auditory stimulation and attention training exercises. Preliminary findings demonstrate that these treatments are improving recovery of consciousness and communication, cognitive capabilities, PTSD, and performance of daily life activities.



Dr. Theresa Pape

For more information about supporting the efforts above, please contact **Mary Kreller** at 312-503-0742 or mary.kreller@northwestern.edu.

On the Front Lines of Neurocritical Care and Research

Sherry Hsiang-Yi Chou, MD, MSc, associate professor of Neurology and chief of the Division of Neurocritical Care in the Ken and Ruth Davee Department of Neurology, is a physician-scientist with expertise in neurocritical care, vascular neurology, and biomarker discovery. Shortly after her arrival at Northwestern in 2021, Dr. Chou was also named the medical director for the Neuro/Spine ICU at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. Dr. Chou led her division and the Neuro/Spine ICU through COVID-19 surges and rebuilding of neurocritical care services following a critical frontline personnel shortage due to COVID-19. Dr. Chou's research program aims to understand the potential role of inflammation and immune responses in vascular brain injuries and brain-body interactions in critically ill, brain-injured patients. Specifically, Dr. Chou's lab focuses on discovery and development of biomarkers to understand disease pathophysiology, assess disease progression, and predict outcomes in patients with severe hemorrhagic strokes and vascular brain injury.



Dr. Sherry Chou

For more information about supporting the efforts above, please contact **Andrew Christopherson** at 312-503-3080 or andrew.christopherson@northwestern.edu.



Dr. Jian-Jun Wei



Dr. Ping Yin

For more information about supporting the efforts above, please contact **Jordan Sund** at 312-503-2706 or jordan.sund@northwestern.edu.

Studying Fibroids that Can Become a Lethal and Rare Cancer

An estimated 20 to 50 percent of women of reproductive age currently have benign leiomyomas, commonly known as fibroids. Up to 77 percent of women will develop fibroids sometime during their childbearing years. Most women (and their physicians) see fibroids to be largely benign, so when and if some turn cancerous, it is often a shock. This reality spurred the research described here and will help answer how doctors and their patients can be better prepared for signs of malignancies. **Jian-Jun Wei, MD**, director of Gynecologic Pathology in the Department of Pathology, the Floyd Elroy Patterson Research Professor of Pathology, and professor of Pathology and Obstetrics and Gynecology, and **Ping Yin, MD, PhD**, research associate professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology (Reproductive Science in Medicine), are collaborating on the study "Exploring Genes and Pathways Transforming Benign Uterine Leiomyoma to Malignant Leiomyosarcoma." In their study, they have several cases that show histologic and molecular features suggesting a tumor transformation or progression from fibroid to malignant leiomyosarcoma, which is a rare cancer that grows in the smooth muscle of the body and in organs such as the uterus. Drs. Wei and Yin have recently tested a new "omics" method defined as "spatial transcriptomic single cell analysis," and an AI-based spatial analysis of histologic map for benign and malignant transformation in tissue section. These are powerful and innovative techniques to better define and map cellular changes in three-dimensional level and differentiate different cell types, as well as different stage of tumor cells. This test may help to clarify their hypothesis of tumor progression in tissue level. They recently submitted their preliminary data to the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology, and it was accepted for the platform presentation at the 2023 meeting.

Empowering Clinicians through Communication Skills Training

Julia Vermynen, '11 MD, '11 MPH, '14, '16 GME, assistant professor of Medicine (Hospital Medicine-Palliative Medicine) and Medical Education, and **Gordon Wood, MD, '07 GME, '07 MS**, associate professor of Medicine (Hospital Medicine-Palliative Medicine) and Medical Education, are using evidence-based communication skills training to ensure that seriously ill patients receive care that is aligned with what matters most to them. They co-lead the Northwestern Simulation Healthcare Communication Program, which has pioneered a simulation-based mastery learning approach to teaching clinicians how to have difficult conversations like delivering serious news or discussing goals of care when an illness is advancing. The method, a partnership with talented Chicago actors who portray the patients and their families, involves a pretest, a workshop, and a posttest with ongoing deliberate practice until everyone reaches a standard of mastery on a checklist developed by experts in the field. This approach ensures that everyone masters these crucial and challenging conversations. The program now includes 16 faculty from across the Feinberg School of Medicine and, since 2018, has taught over 1,300 people at Northwestern from all levels of training and a multitude of specialties.



Dr. Julia Vermynen



Dr. Gordon Wood

For more information about supporting the efforts above, please contact **Meghan Monaghan** at 312-503-1091 or meghan.monaghan@northwestern.edu.

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If you would like to receive future issues of this publication electronically, or if you would like more information about any of the stories in this issue, please email Ann Ross at a-ross3@northwestern.edu.

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On Front Cover: Erin Hsu, PhD, (left) is pictured with former research colleague Soyeon (Sophia) Jeong, MS, in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery. Dr. Hsu is a research associate professor of Orthopaedic Surgery, serves as assistant director of the Simpson Querrey Institute for BioNanotechnology, and is faculty director of the Simpson Querrey Institute's core facilities.

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