



RUTGERS

Robert Wood Johnson
Medical School

2023 Distinction Symposium

Rutgers – Robert Wood Johnson Medical School’s prestigious and rigorous Distinction Programs support and recognize students who have shown exceptional involvement, accomplishment, and scholarship in specialized areas in medicine.

**Thursday, March 16th
3:00pm-6:30pm**



PROGRAM

Greetings - Carol A. Terregino, MD

Senior Associate Dean of Education and Academic Affairs

3:00 pm

Distinction in Bioethics

Dr. Carol A. Terregino

3:05 pm -3:15 pm

Michelle Yi

Ethical Considerations in Brand vs. Generic Antiepileptic Drugs

Distinction in Global Health

Directors: Dr. Karen Lin, Dr. Angela Gitau

3:15 pm-3:50 pm

Niharika Bhatia

The U.S. Initiative to Eliminate Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health: The Impact on the Outcomes of STEMI in New Jersey

Rachel Patel

Telemedicine

Alexandra Fiina Schmidt

Finnish Maternity Care as a Potential Model for the USA: Preliminary Results, Limitations, and Future Directions

Kelsey Thompson, Jessica Occhiogrosso, Marissa Carranza, Juline Hanna, Jake Schade

Creation of the RWJMS HIPHOP-Asylum Clinic, a Medical Student-Led Asylum Clinic for Central and Northern New Jersey

Distinction in Medical Education (DIME)**3:50 pm-4:30 pm**

Director: Dr. Kristen Coppola

Ellen M. Cahill

The Effectiveness of a Journal Club for Improving Evidence-based Medicine Skills and Confidence in Pre-clerkship Medical Students

Alisa O. Girard, MBS

Teaching the DSM-V Diagnostic Criteria for Substance Use Disorders Through an Illustrated Narrative

Saloni Jain

In Case of Emergency: Assessing the Effectiveness of a Hands-On Suturing Session in Pre-Clinical Medical Students

Sarah Tian

Assessing the Effectiveness of Early Childhood Literacy Promotion Education in Medical Students

~~Break from 4:30pm-4:50pm~~
(Refreshments will be served)

Distinction in Medical Innovation and Entrepreneurship (DIMIE)**4:50 pm- 5:20 pm**

Director: Dr. Paul Weber

Sahil Amin and Dhiraj Peddu

Rencare: A Holistic Renal Support Application

Anna Obee Giarratana

CancerClique: Anything You Need, Just One Click Away

Erin P. McDonnell

Project 1: Using Quantitative Fit Testing to Compare Safety of Half-Mask Respirators with Various Skin Barriers: A Pilot Study

Project 2: Connecting Older Adults and Medical Students During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Distinction in Research (DIR)**5:20pm- 6:00pm**

Chair: Dr. Céline Gélinas, Chair of DIR Committee: Dr. Anna Petrova

Aishee Bag

Genomics and Epigenetics Guided Identification of Tissue-Specific Genomic Safe Harbors

Matthew Beier

Prenatal and Early Childhood Antibiotics and Chronic Pediatric Conditions

Daniel I. Bisno

Virtual Peer Groups Reduce HbA1c and Increase Continuous Glucose Monitor Use in Adolescents and Young Adults with Type 1 Diabetes

Daniel S Yoon

Antigen Specific Profiling of CD8 T Cells in Human Melanoma Identifies Markers that Predict Response to PD-1 Blockade

Distinction in Service to the Community (DISC)

6:00pm-6:35 pm

Chair: Dr. Michael Steinberg

Co-Directors: Ms. Maria Pellerano, MA, MBA, MPH and Ms. Susan Giordano

Kellianne Costello, Nishali Shah, Gabriela-Portilla Maldona, Raaga Rambhatla

Wellness Around the World: Promoting Life-Long Healthy Habits in a Population of Diverse Elementary School Age Children

Divya Krishna, Kelsey Thompson, Jennifer Rha, Jerry So

Patient Liaison Advocacy and Navigation

Vineeta Maddali, Sharanya Bhatheja, Charmi Rana, Shivani Ramolia

Virtual Health Outreach for South Asians

Amy Matthews, Alexa Altchek, Raadhika Kher, Tania Atanassova

Wellness Warrior Workshop

Closing Remarks***2023 Distinction Graduates***

Distinction in Bioethics	Distinction in Medical Education	Distinction in Medical Innovation & Entrepreneurship	Distinction in Service to the Community
Suma Mallepeddi	Ellen M. Cahill	Sahil Amin	Alexa Altchek
Priyanka Patel	Taylor Corsi	Anna Obee Giarratana	Ngozi Anaemejeh
Michelle Yi	Kellianne Costello	Erin P. McDonnell	Sharanya Bhatheja
Distinction in Global Health	Zoe D'Costa	Dhiraj Peddu	Kellianne Costello
Niharika Bhatia	Alisa O. Girad	Robert Plummer	Alexis Etheridge
Anna Obee Giarratana	Oluwadamilola H. Ilesanmi	Nitish Sardana	Divya Krishna
Rachel Patel	Saloni Jain	Distinction in Research	Yessenia Leon
Alexandra Fiina Schmidt	Divya Krishna	Aishee Bag	Vineeta Maddali
Fady Soliman	Parth Patel	Matthew Beier	Amy Matthews
Kelsey Thompson	Michael Rigor	Daniel I. Bisno	Krysten Mayers
Distinction in Leadership in Academic Healthcare	Sarah Tian	Daniella Portal	Nishali Shah
Robert Kamil		Tiffany Smith	Kelsey Thompson
		Daniel S.Yoon	