Volume 1, Issue 1 Fall 2017

#### Weill Cornell Medicine **Graduate School** of Medical Sciences

A partnership with the Sloan Kettering Institute

# WorthWEILL

### MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

'm honored to have been appointed Dean of the Weill Cornell Graduate School of Medical Sciences of Cornell University. The educational partnership between Weill Cornell Medicine and Sloan Kettering Institute has never been stronger. While I earned an MD rather than a PhD myself, I've been engaged in biomedical research almost every year of my life from the beginning of high school. I've had the privilege of serving as mentor for 33 PhD students in my own lab and as a thesis committee member for many others. I helped establish the Tri-Institutional MD-PhD program and served as its director for the first 3 years. It's a privilege to continue my commitment to the value of graduate education as Dean of WCGS, along with my colleagues Vice Dean David Christini, PhD, Associate Dean for Student Affairs Randi Silver, PhD, Assistant Dean of Diversity and Student Life Marcus Lambert, PhD, Director of Administration Jake Sneva, PhD and Manager of Educational and Enrollment Opportunities Matt Cipriano.

Our goals are to train the next generation of scientific leaders in biomedical research by:

- Positioning our students to make innovative scientific discoveries
- Showing them how to work in laboratory, local and global communities of scholars, with science as a bridge across national, cultural, political, religious and ethnic identifications
- Matching them with skillful mentors who guide them to independence and support them thereafter
- Equipping them to compete in the biomedical workforce and related areas with strong skills in multi-disciplinary technologies; in the analysis, visualization and statistical evaluation of data; and in written and verbal communication
- Developing in them habits for life-long learning that grows in depth and breadth
- Inculcating in them principles of ethics, honesty and rigor in research
- And preparing them to articulate, defend and demonstrate the value of evidencebased reasoning in civic life and public policy.

We welcome those who want to share in this endeavor.

Carl F. Nathan, MD Dean, Graduate School of Medical Sciences









# GSEC Welcomes Entering Class 2017

n the behalf of our student body, I would like to warmly welcome you to Weill Cornell. The Graduate Student Executive Council (GSEC) is here to enhance what we hope will be a very fulfilling and productive graduate school career.

GSEC provides valuable insight to graduate school administration about student life and continuously advocates for student interests. Additionally, by supporting student extracurricular clubs and planning social events, we embrace and contribute to the vibrant and active student community that Weill Cornell thrives upon.

We look forward to having you join the Weill Cornell community at such an exciting time in scientific research.

Best regards, Dylan Drakes GSEC President

# Providing Support Embracing Diversity Building Inclusion

Ithough Weill Cornell Medicine has been promoting diversity for many years, the recently launched Office of Student Diversity aims to strengthen our efforts to support a diverse graduate student body by fostering a sense of belonging, as well as provides a climate of inclusion and acceptance on campus.

Dr. Marcus Lambert, Assistant Dean of Diversity and Student Life who oversees this office, received his Ph.D. in biomedical science from New York University School of Medicine. His career has steadily transitioned into areas of clinical epidemiology and higher education research.

Dr. Lambert joined the Weill Cornell Graduate School of Medical Sciences in 2014 as Director of Diversity and Recruitment. In the same year, he took on a new role as Director of Diversity and Student Services where he managed diversity initiatives, science outreach, housing and immigration services for our students. These roles have empowered him to use his passions to fulfill his mission, which is to mentor and work to create a more diverse and inclusive biomedical and medical academic environment.

"With the help of great staff, I think we've made a lot of improvements in these areas, particularly for diversity and inclusion -- 42% of our PhD students are international and 20% of domestic students are from underrepresented minority backgrounds, but we certainly embrace forms of diversity from all avenues. It provides a more innovative and enriching community," says Dr. Lambert.

Investing in programs that promote di-

versity and inclusion is essential. According to Dr. Lambert, it has to be a national priority to develop effective programs and policies that support diversity in graduate training and academia. "If we are to increase diversity in the biomedical and physician workforce, we must focus on repairing a leaky 'pipeline' and accessing the talent pool of future scientists and physicians," explains Dr. Lambert. "However, it's not enough to just have diversity. The inclusion part is often overlooked. Diversity asks, 'Who's in the room?' Inclusion asks, 'Have everyone's ideas been heard?'"

The Office of Diversity plans to have regular social events, seminars, and workshops to help cultivate community and celebrate diversity among students and members of the Weill Cornell community. It will also provide resources for students who are interested in outreach, recruitment, community service programs, and overall student life. "In fact, we are physically connected to the Office of Student Life in Olin Hall, which includes aspects such as student wellness and disability services," says Dr. Lambert.

His advice to first year students: "The wise sage, Master Yoda, once said, '*Train yourself to let go of everything you fear to lose.*' In other words, have confidence in your research ability. Let go of any fear that you may have of failure. It is OK to feel unfamiliar and uncomfortable when starting your graduate program. Graduate school is a new environment, and the research realm can seem like its own world with its own unique culture. But if you stay in your comfort zone and avoid taking risks, you will hinder yourself as a budding scholar."



MISSION OF THE OFFICE OF STUDENT DIVERSITY

- » Promote the recruitment and retention of a talented and diverse medical and graduate student body, particularly from populations underrepresented in science and medicine
- » Ensure that all students inclusive of gender, sexual, racial, ethnic, cultural, political, and religious identity and background, have a *genuine sense of belonging* in the Weill Cornell Medicine community
- » Help students achieve their highest potential for scholarly excellence and career advancement
- » Engage and support community service and outreach both in medicine and science to underserved communities

**DR. JAMES C. LO** joined Weill Cornell Medicine in 2015 as an Assistant Professor of Medicine and Pharmacology, as well as an Assistant Attending Physician in the division of Cardiology where he sees patients with cardiovascular disease. He completed his M.D. and Ph.D. training at University of Chicago in 2006, followed by an impressive record of research training and accomplishments.

Dr. Lo's lab studies molecular pathways in diseases such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes and obesity. In November 2016, Dr. Lo received the Gilead Research Scholars Program in Cardiovascular Disease, which has traditionally sponsored early stage scientists showing a lot of promise in the broad area of cardiovascular disease. Dr. Lo will be funded up to \$130,000 over a two-year period.



Dying pancreatic beta cells in mouse model of type II diabetes



James C. Lo, MD, Ph.D. Assistant Professor

#### Tell me about your current research.

Our lab is interested in identifying the molecular mechanisms that govern metabolic diseases such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes and obesity. These diseases are interconnected but surprisingly to this date we still don't really understand how. It is our hope that by identifying and characterizing novel factors and pathways involved in disease pathogenesis, we will be able to design new therapeutics to target them.

While I was a postdoctoral fellow in Bruce Spiegelman's lab, we discovered that a fat cell secreted complement factor called adipsin had an unexpected role to stimulate insulin secretion from pancreatic beta cells. We also found that patients with type 2 diabetes and pancreatic beta cell failure displayed lower levels of adipsin. This opened up the possibility that adipsin supplementation may be a new and durable therapy for patients with type 2 diabetes.

We are currently testing the idea that adipsin may prevent or treat complications of metabolic diseases such as type 2 diabetes. Meanwhile, we are working on identifying new factors that regulate metabolic diseases. We have a fantastic group of talented postdocs, students and a technician who are developing these exciting projects in the lab and hope to have them out soon. So, stay tuned.

What inspired you to get into this field of research? I got into this field through a combination of my clinical work

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in cardiology and research interest in metabolism. The obesity and diabetes epidemic has transformed the landscape of clinical cardiology. These are two of the fastest–growing risk factors for cardiovascular disease. Dissecting complex metabolic pathways has always interested me. So, what better way to fuse my passion for basic research and clinical medicine.

#### Congratulations on receiving the 2016 Gilead Sciences Research Scholars Program in Cardiovascular Disease award. How will this award impact your research and patients?

This program has a very competative selection process with acceptance rates in single digits. I was very fortunate to receive this award, which is going towards funding an ambitious research project in its early stages. This project has the potential to transform how we think about cardiovascular disease in the future. I am very grateful to Gilead for their support.

<sup>44</sup>The institution's commitment to basic research has paved the way for researchers like myself to tackle some of the big questions in biomedical research.<sup>77</sup>

### What have been the joys and challenges of being a physician-scientist?

It is a wonderful privilege to pursue a scientific question with freedom and to have patients entrust their care to you, whether during acute situations (such as a heart attack) or when they are healthy and we work on preventing heart attacks. There have been a lot of memorable moments from making the first scientific discoveries on research projects to stabilizing patients in the cardiac intensive care unit. It is not always easy to find enough time to be at the top of your game in two different fields. This can be challenging on junior faculty members like myself as I build my lab in the current competitive research funding environment.

#### What made you decide to join Weill Cornell?

I was drawn to the first-rate research and clinical environment here at Weill Cornell. The medical and graduate school leadership have made excellence in research and clinical medicine top priorities. The institution's commitment to basic research has paved the way for researchers like myself to tackle some of the big questions in biomedical research. Weill Cornell has proven to be an exciting and dynamic place where our lab has had the pleasure of collaborating with many different experts in the field. We get to continuously push the scientific boundaries.

#### What is you favorite part about Weill Cornell?

Working with all of the phenomenal yet friendly people here, whether it is in the lab, graduate school or hospital. From the brilliant faculty, energetic trainees and great staff there is a common goal of excellence. This creativity and collegial atmosphere makes for a really superb environment to conduct research.

#### What do you like to do in your spare time?

I enjoy spending time with my family, playing basketball and getting out on the slopes in the winter time.

# Care. Discover. Teach.

Shira Yomtoubian PhD Student, 4th Year Pharmacology Program



\*\* The caliber of research is exceptional and the choices of research subjects is vast.\*\*

ailing from the Silicon Valley, Shira Yomtoubian is a proud daughter of two immigrants from Iran and Israel. Shira received her Bachelor's degree in Biological Sciences and Cinematic Arts from the University of Southern California in 2012. "Honestly, I had no intention of moving to New York," says Shira. She learnt about the Weill Cornell Graduate School from a friend, whose sister was a graduate student in the Pharmacology program. "When I came for my interview, I was delighted in the high quality of faculty and students. I also appreciated that they encouraged students to spend time together outside of the classroom and lab."

Shira is currently a 4<sup>th</sup> year Ph.D. student doing her thesis work under the tutelage of Dr. Vivek Mittal in the Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery. Her research focuses on elucidating the role of an epigenetic regulator, EZH2 histone methyltransferase, on triple negative breast cancer metastasis. Each day, she looks forward to spending her time in the lab. Shira feels "fortunate to have supportive and playful lab mates" and they continually challenge her to be a better, more critical scientist.

In addition to her work in the lab, Shira also contributed greatly to the Weill Cornell community. She was the Parliamentarian and Vice President of the Graduate School Executive Council (GSEC), where she organized social and philanthropic events such as the Halloween Party, Thanksgiving Potluck, Holiday Food Drive, and Ski Trip. "It was such a pleasure organizing these events because I love bringing people from my community together," Shira says.

Shira did not have any close friends or family when she moved to the city. She reveals that her classmates became her New York family. "Graduate students come from all over the world and may not have a community or family in the city. The events led by GSEC allow students to feel like they have a home here at Weill Cornell."

If that were not enough, Shira was also the Co-Chair of the DuVigneaud Research Symposium, an annual student research symposium where students present their research in the form of poster or oral presentations. "This symposium is a great opportunity for students to share their findings and techniques with the community, as well as to support each other on this long academic journey," explains Shira.

In the future, Shira would like to continue conducting translational research that promotes disease therapy discoveries and developments. "As a fourth-year doctoral candidate, I've been contemplating this question with more urgency. Whatever my future holds, I'm confident my experience at Weill Cornell will have prepared me well for it," she says.

Shira maintains a work-life balance by painting, traveling, playing volleyball, cooking and scouting out brunch spots. "I love traveling and learning about different cultures. Also, one of my classmates, Beiyu Tang, and I have started an Instagram account called @brunchnerds that blogs our food outings in the city."

#### HAVE FUN GET INVOLVED BE WELL



#### WCM Hockey Team (ICE-OTOPES)

The Weill Cornell ICE-OTOPES are coming off their inaugural season as a part of the Central Park Ice Hockey League, set outdoors amidst the snow at scenic Lasker Rink in Central Park North.

Led by Captain A.C. Antonelli, Alternate Captains Gabe Fitzgerald and Becky Paugh, the team finished third in the standings with a record of six wins and six losses. Goaltender Stefannie Moak regularly demonstrated her superiority in net, making save after save to keep the team in every game. Defenseman Peter Mussels Pires never missed an opportunity to showcase his offensive abilities, scoring the lion's share of the team's goals, while rookie forward André Pineda tallied two of the team's more memorable game-winning goals. Forward Rudy Pisa suffered a dislocated shoulder in Game 2, leaving the team a man down for the majority of the season, but the team did their best to rally in his absence.

The defensive presence of Cassidy Cobbs, Becky Paugh, and Katie Carnazza incited much frustration from opposing offensive lines, and consistent offensive rushes from forwards Brad Rosenberg and Ben Schwartz kept opposing defensemen busy and out of breath.

The team returns to Lasker Rink this November for their second season in the league. The league is co-ed, 18 years or older, non-check and zero tolerance. Full equipment is required with full shield or cage for all divisions. All member of the Tri-I community including Ph.D., PA & MS students, postdocs and Pls are invited to play, whether you've never played hockey before or were practically born with ice skates on.

Games are always free and all are encouraged to join and cheer them on. Game times will be announced by email as the season approaches.

Contact: A.C. Antonelli Captain ana2065@med.cornell.edu



#### WCM Early STEM Outreach Club

The early STEM Outreach Club was founded upon the realization that while robust outreach efforts are being made at both the public and private level to engage young minds with STEM, this work is disproportionately geared towards high school and middle school-aged children with few options for elementary school-aged children of about 5-10 years old. This certainly does not happen because of lack of demand for such young age STEM programming. Most parents in NYC jump at the chance to expose their children to STEM. Yet, options allowing an active role for the child such as hands-on STEM activities and experiments are hard to come by.

At Weill Cornell and the Tri-I, we are fortunate to have a large community of biomedical graduate students who are passionate about science outreach. Many of you became valued friends, contributors, members and volunteers. Together we develop STEM lesson plans, organize and run outreach events in local public schools, at community events, as well as at WCM/Tri-I events and campuses.

Whether it's helping a child build their first art robot from scratch and witnessing their surprise and satisfaction at affecting the bot's behavior; letting them walk on dozens of eggs to demonstrate surface pressure distribution; or imaging rainbow bacteria with high power microscopy to teach about fluorescent protein isolation from marine life, the goal is to engage young minds in science, to nuture and expand the children's curiosity.

We are supported by GSEC, mentored by faculty and administration at WCM, faculty at RU and CUNY Hunter. We are open to all Tri-I students and are looking forward to have you on board! If you wish to become a member of the club and be the first to find out about exciting future volunteer opportunities, please email us.

Contact: Delia Tomoiaga Founder & President dto2007@med.cornell.edu



#### WCM Wellness Program

Welcome to Weill Cornell Graduate School! In the coming years, you will likely work longer and dig deeper into your pool of motivation than you ever have before. You will take classes, write grants and lose sleep, all the while building the kind of friendships that only shared suffering can forge. Graduate school is, at times a solitary endeavor. As you become iteratively focused on your work, it is always helpful to remember that we all exist in the context of each other and our community, who best understand what each of us is taking on.

To help you along your quest for knowledge and glory, we have a few things available to our students, courtesy of the wellness program:

Wednesday Breakfasts – Every Wednesday morning we have free muffins, tea and coffee for all students from 6:30–10 AM at the student lounge in Archbold Commons on the second floor of 1300 York Ave. Great time to mingle with friends old and new, while thoughtfully navigating awkward silences with a well-timed nibble of a muffin. Can't beat it!

**PROJECT US** – We have an ongoing installation in Archbold Commons Student Lounge where you can share with the community things that worry you and things you are doing about them via post its (provided). The installation has steadily grown over the months and we are so excited to see people engaging thoughtfully (and hilariously) with each other. Feel free to post your own or drop it off in the boxes provided and we will post them anonymously!

**Peers Advocating Wellness (PAWs)** – PAWs is an anonymous, walk-in, peer-to-peer conversational platform run by your fellow medical and graduate students. They are there to provide a listening ear for whatever you need. Whether you are having trouble adjusting, stressed out, or just want to talk about something with a thoughtful listener, PAWs are there to hear you out every Wednesday and Thursday night from 6–9 PM. No appointments needed. Find out more details at wellness.weill.cornell.edu and keep an eye out for the PAWs posters for more details and exquisite memes! ermont native Alec Stranahan received his Ph.D. in May 2017 and is currently an MBA candidate at the Cornell University Johnson College of Business. He is the 2017 recipient of the Lee Family Scholarship, a highly competitive award given to only one medical or graduate student each year that provides full tuition support for accelerated MBA training. Alec's graduate research training focused on identifying novel drug targets for the treatment of acute myeloid leukemia under the supervision of Dr. Christopher Park in the BCMB Allied program.

#### What made you decide to get a Ph.D. degree in Biomedical Sciences?

I realized that without a Ph.D. I would quickly hit a very low ceiling in my career, regardless of whether I wanted to stay in academia or not. Beyond this, while I had several years of research experience under my belt, I wanted to see how science was done at the graduate level, particularly in respect to cancer research.

# Congratulations on receiving the Lee Family Scholarship. You received your Ph.D. early this year and decided to get an MBA. How do you like it so far?

As the majority of my education over the past 10 years has been devoted to science, it's refreshing gaining exposure to an entirely different discipline. While I gained some experience working with companies and various organizations in NYC during my Ph.D., most of my business acumen to this point I picked up on the fly. It's great to finally be sitting down to learn business concepts in a more structured setting.

#### What inspired you to pursue this path?

I've always had an eye towards combining science with business – I majored in Molecular Genetics with a minor in Business Administration in college. I think there is a gap of highly educated professionals who have a solid grasp of both science and business, which has resulted in a divide between academia and life science company creation. The biggest impact this has is slowing the translation of scientific advances in academia into technologies that can actually impact patients.

#### How did Weill Cornell prepare you for this?

Being in New York City, there are plenty of opportunities to interact with life science professionals from a range of industries if you have a little hustle. I made it a focus of my free time during my Ph.D. to go out and interact with these individuals, which has given me a strong sense of the drug development process and the areas where I can make the biggest impact.

#### What's next for you?

I'm looking to combine the scientific expertise gained during my Ph.D. with business concepts to drive future clinical translation.

## Do you have advice for current students and those who want to pursue a non-traditional science career?

The Ph.D. is really what you make of it. The more motivated you are to go out-





Alec Stranahan, Ph.D. '17

I was attracted to Weill Cornell for the high level of academic rigor of the program, combined with the partnership with MSKCC. I know I wanted do to cancer research, but I wanted the interdisciplinary training that the BCMB program afforded.



side of lab to network, learn about various career paths, consult, and do internships, the more differentiated you'll become from your peers. Although lab work takes a lot of time and effort, it doesn't take all of your time and effort. So, making the push to go above and beyond will prove invaluable when it comes to applying for a job after graduation.

In the current funding and political climate, graduate programs are doing their students a disservice if they don't offer non-academic courses and career services. **BBI**, **Tri-I Biotech Club**, and **Tri-I Consulting Club** are a handful of student-initiated services that allow students and postdocs an environment to gain exposure to various career

possibilities outside of research. I hope to see programs like this becoming a fundamental component of the PhD curriculum at Weill Cornell Medicine and elsewhere in the next few years.

#### What do you do in your free time?

I golf, hike and play softball (Go 'Topes!)



Drunk Science is a live comedy show where intoxicated comedians compete to present the best scientific dissertation to a panel of real scientists. Shannon Odell, a 4th year Ph.D. student in the Neuroscience program hosts and produces the show every other month at Littlefield in Brooklyn, NY.

The show is cohosted by comedians Joanna Rothkopf, managing editor at *Jezebel*, and Jordan Mendoza. Past shows have featured scientists Caleb Scharf (Columbia), Rob DeSalle (AMNH), Heather Berlin (PBS), as well as Weill Cornell's very own Kristen Pleil (WCMC Pharmacology).

The show has featured writers for *SNL, Late Night*, and the *Daily Show*. Drunk Science has also been featured in the *NY Times* and selected as *Time Out NY* and *Gothamist* critics' picks. It was a finalist in the *TruTV* comedy breakout initiative for the New York Television Festival. You can learn more about the show at www.drunksci.com





Untitled 1 - James Ryan, PhD Student

What is this life but a constant battle? Nearly all the time spent in the saddle.

But through the endless war, With shield and sword so worn. There was a blinding, mesmerizing, sight that stood before.

A castle arose in iron vest, Taller than near all the rest.

Approach with caution, yet to see What it was standing before me.

I approach the entry with steady gait, The forever soldier set to wait.

For on the door that stood before me, Was a padlock of uncertainty.

I examine this lock with curiosity, Thinking that I have the key.

#### The Forever Soldier

A key that's soft, a key that bends, With anything this key contends.

But lo to my eyes, for they knew, The true key was out of my view.

I think, I ponder, I ruminate, With myself I still debate.

What can I do without the key? Is there any hope for me?

I stand at the entry with steady gait, The forever soldier set to wait.

I shall not worry, I won't despair, All things the hands of time repair.

The right key I will one day find, My patience I will stand behind.

I have one thing to comfort me, There are worse things than uncertainty.

What is this life but a constant battle? Nearly all the time spent on the saddle.

Until the moments come, Saved for worthy some. From which there is no way to run.

No turning back, but no way ahead, There is no other way instead.

From what's inside I can't turn away, When I cross the threshold will come the day.

I stand at the entry with steady gait, The forever soldier set to wait.

By Danny Kramer, MD/PhD Student

The Graduate Student Council (GSEC) sponsors and organizes a variety of clubs and events. From career development and science outreach to sports and social groups, and more. Joining a club is a great way to broaden your horizons, meet fellow grad-uate students and other members of the community. And most importanly, have fun!

There is something for everyone – for as much or as little time commitment as you would like, so be sure to check them out.

#### **Badminton Club**

Come play badminton with other members of the WCGS community! Open to players of all skill levels.

Meeting Time & Place: Mondays & Thursdays at 7:00-9:00pm, Olin Gym

Ashlesha Odak (aso2002@med.cornell.edu)

#### **Biotech Club**

The Tri-Institutional Biotech Club was created to foster a community of members with a shared interest in biotechnology and healthcare within the Tri-I Area (Weill Cornell Medicine, Memorial Sloan Kettering & Rockefeller University). Our mission is to host events to discuss important elements in biotechnology including business, technology, marketing, and communications to better prepare our members for industry careers. By bringing individuals at the graduate, post-graduate, and professional levels together, we hope to bridge the gap between industry and academia.

Konner La (kcl78@cornell.edu)

#### **Book Club**

The book club meets every 2-3 months to discuss a book voted on by attendees. A home-made dinner is provided at every meeting and we always have a fun and lively discussion. The president of the club will send emails in advance of meetings to solicit RSVPs. So, stay tuned!

André Pineda (anp2050@med.cornell.edu)

#### **Capoeira Club**

Cornell Capoeira is a group of medical students, graduate students and house staff dedicated to learning capoeira, a traditional afro-Brazilian martial art that encompasses music and acrobatics, and is often described as "breakdance-fighting". We are lucky enough to practice the art with world renowned instructor Mestre Carioca of Carioca Capoeira. We also host and attend several nationwide showcases throughout the year.

Meeting Time & Place: Tuesdays at 7:30pm; Saturdays at 12:30pm, Olin Gym

Rohan Soman (ros2035@med.cornell.edu )

#### **Craft Club**

Indulge in your crafty side! Craft club is here to enable your DIY side. If you aspire to DIY something more outside-of-the-box, we can also find outside professionals to lead a workshop. Previous crafts include knitting, origami, film development, candle making, woodworking. If you have an idea and want some buddies to craft out with, let us know! Bonnie Quach (bog2001@med.cornell.edu)

#### **Data Science Club**

The Weill Cornell Medicine (WMC) Data Science Club is a student-run organization for data enthu-

siasts in the Tri-Institutional community that provides a supportive environment to improve data analysis skills and career development related to data science. Keep an eye out for event announcements!

Bonnie Quach (bog2001@med.cornell.edu)

#### **International Club**

The International club is a social club open to all Weill Cornell graduate students. Its mission is to expand our sense of belonging as part of an international community and bring attention to issues that affect scientists around the globe. Everyone, regardless of their citizenship, is welcome to participate!

Carlos Diaz (cad2039@med.cornell.edu)

#### **Outdoors Club**

The Weill Cornell Outdoor Adventure Club organizes outdoor adventures ranging from hiking in the Hudson Valley, to canoeing in the Adirondacks, to climbing, to cycling, even occasionally skiing. We have one meeting in the fall and one meeting in the spring. Email us to learn more!

Bess Rosen bess.rosen@gmail.comto

#### **SEPA Club**

The Science & Education Policy Association (SEPA) is a student-run organization that aims to explore policy as it relates to scientists at the bench and in the classroom as a potential career pathway, as well as an outlet for direct participation in the political process through advocacy. We host monthly general meetings, special events and community outreach projects.

Sahana Rao nyc.sepa@gmail.com

#### Soccer Club

This is a great club for anyone interested in learning about soccer, looking to improve their game or just want to exercise. The game is played in an indoor basketball court (no cleats) and we follow futsal soccer rules/format. There are people from all ages, various international backgrounds, and career paths coming to enjoy the game. We are always looking for new players. All skill levels welcome!

Meeting Time & Place: Mondays & Thursdays at 9:00-11:00pm, Olin Gym

Khalil Anchouche (<u>kha2015@med.cornell.edu</u>) or Bo Tharma (<u>bt222@cornell.edu</u>)

#### **Science Communication Club**

The Science Communication Club was founded because of the increasingly interest amongst Ph.D. students to develop more effective communication skills for their respective career. The mission of this club is to help students develope necessary leadership and communication skills, aids students in navigating various career options involving science communication and help bridge the communication gap between scientists and the general population.

Jackie Kubala (jak2047@med.cornell.edu)

#### Softball Club

The Weill Cornell *Isotopes* Softball Team is Weill Cornell's oldest and most storied sporting franchise. The season runs from late May-August with practices, games and other team events taking place in the evening on weeknights. The team is open to all Weill Cornell graduate students (no softball experience necessary).

Dylan Drakes (dyd2001@med.cornell.edu)

#### **Tri-I Consulting Club**

The Tri-Institutional Consulting Club aims to further awareness and understanding of the consulting profession among Tri-I community members. We educate members about the application process, facilitate interview practice and provide recruitment opportunities that strengthen the quality of Tri-I job candidates and provide invaluable career development assistance. Meetings and events take place from February through September. Recruitment events are generally scheduled periodically on Wednesday evenings. Case interview practice sessions are held every Thursday night.

Alyssa Bagadion (alb2052@med.cornell.edu); Club email: w3c.nyc@gmail.com

#### Volleyball

Volleyball Club aims to provide students in the Tri-I area with the opportunity to play volleyball to socialize and relax from routine work by organizing co-ed indoor volleyball matches in Olin Hall gym court on a weekly basis. We welcome any level of players (experienced players, sorta players and casual level players).

Meeting Time & Place: Sundays at 4:00-7:00pm, Olin Gym

Doowon Huh (<u>doh2011@med.cornell.edu</u>) or Ali (<u>acihan@rockefeller.edu</u>)

#### **Yoga Club**

We meet once a week for a yoga class led by a yoga instructor. In our vinyasa-style yoga classes, you will coordinate your breath and movement while maintaining proper body alignment and building strength, endurance, flexibility, and body awareness. Look out for weekly emails for sign-up sheet and schedule updates.

Meeting Time & Location: Mondays at 7:30pm, New York Presbyterian Hospital (Room F-1190) Mehtap Isik (mei2007@med.cornell.edu)

# Care. Discover. Teach.

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Speak your mind. Share your story. Show off your talent. Be a part of **WorthWEILL**. Contact us to get involved at <u>sok2016@med.cornell.edu</u>

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