



MASSACHUSETTS  
GENERAL HOSPITAL

CENTER FOR FACULTY  
DEVELOPMENT

# Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) New Faculty Orientation

October 4, 2021

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Miriam Bredella, MD

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*(in order of appearance)*

**Miriam A. Bredella, MD**



Dr. Bredella is Professor of Radiology at Harvard Medical School (HMS), Vice Chair for Faculty Affairs in the Department of Radiology, and a musculoskeletal radiologist at MGH. In her capacity of Vice Chair for Faculty Affairs, she established a department-wide faculty mentoring program which was awarded the Program Award for Culture of Excellence in Mentoring from HMS. She also serves as Director of the Center for Faculty Development at MGH and has established a new office for well-being to improve the well-being of our faculty and trainees across the career span. During the COVID-19 pandemic Dr. Bredella implemented multiple hospital-wide initiatives to support the emotional and physical wellbeing of our faculty with special focus on women faculty and trainees, which received the 2020 Innovative Initiatives Award from the Boston Women’s Workforce Council. Dr. Bredella is leading departmental initiatives to fight physician burnout and serves on the hospital Frigoletto Committee on Physician Well-Being.

Dr. Bredella is Principal Investigator (PI) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded Harvard KL2/Catalyst Medical Research Investigator Training Program where she mentors clinical translational researchers across all Harvard hospitals and specialties. She has been elected to be a member of the NIH Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) Program Steering Committee and chairs several CTSA working groups. She is an active member of the Diversity and Inclusion Task Forces at MGH and HMS where she designed successful initiatives for increasing diversity in research operations.

Dr. Bredella’s research focuses on the effects of different fat depots on bone metabolism and metabolic risk in states of under- and overnutrition. She established a multidisciplinary clinical research program in the area of metabolic imaging that combines innovative translational, clinical, and outcomes research. Since joining the faculty at MGH, Dr. Bredella has been continuously grant-funded as PI by the NIH, and currently is the PI of five NIH grants. She serves as a grant reviewer for the NIH, the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF).

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**David F. M. Brown, MD, FACEP**



Dr. Brown became the President of MGH and Executive Vice President at Mass General Brigham (MGB) on September 8, 2021. He currently serves as Chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine at MGH, interim President of Cooley Dickinson Health Care, and the MGH Trustees Professor of Emergency Medicine at HMS. As a leader, we have seen how Dr. Brown has advanced MGH’s long-standing legacy of delivering the highest-level care, research and innovation—and his clear vision of the path forward as we continue to build the integrated academic health care system of the future with patients at its center.

Serving as Department Chair since 2013 and Vice-Chair for a decade before that, Dr. Brown has significantly advanced MGH’s research and education missions. In fact, MGH’s 2019 Harvard departmental review described the research program that Dr. Brown has built as “best-in-class,” yielding a five-fold increase in funding over the last ten years. As an academic physician, he has been recognized with multiple awards and is currently serving as the Chair of the Executive Committee on Teaching and Education (ECOTE). One of its founding faculty members, for the past seven years he has served as the Academic Head of the Harvard Affiliated Emergency Medicine Residency at MGB, with sites that include MGH, Brigham and Women’s Hospital (BWH) and Newton-Wellesley Hospital (NWH).

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In this role, he has led the training of a generation of world-class clinicians, educators, scientists, and policy experts, many of whom have gone on to leadership positions in their own right.

Through his clinical work over three decades, Dr. Brown has seen the needs of our communities up close, providing direct patient care in the Emergency Department (ED) and clinics at MGH and across the region. In addition to attending in the MGH ED and ED Observation Unit, Dr. Brown has also cared for inpatients on the MGH medical service and outpatients in Chelsea, Revere and the Internal Medicine Associates Clinic, while interfacing with every department and service across MGH and our broader system. His focus is on the wellness of faculty and staff while always keeping the patient at the center of every discussion and unfailingly applying an equity lens to his decisions, actions and outcomes.

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### **Marcela G. del Carmen Amaya, MD, MPH**



Dr. del Carmen is a Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology at HMS, holds a dual appointment in the Department of Surgery at the MGH, and Chief Medical Officer of the Massachusetts General Physicians Organization (MGPO). In that role, she leads over 3,200 MGPO physician members. Dr. del Carmen is the first woman and Latino to ascend to the academic rank of Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology and in Gynecologic Oncology at HMS. She graduated from medical school and completed her residency training in gynecology and obstetrics at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and Hospital and fellowship training in gynecologic oncology at Massachusetts General Hospital. Dr. del Carmen holds a Masters in Public Health from Harvard School of Public Health. She has served on the Ovarian Cancer Committee for the Gynecologic Oncology Group, is a member of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology PROLOG task force, is a member of several committees in the Society of Gynecologic Oncology and serves as oral examiner for the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology for both general gynecology and gynecologic oncology. Dr. del Carmen is a member of the Promotions Committee, the Admissions Committee, and Faculty Council at HMS. Dr. del Carmen has authored over 250 papers in the peer-reviewed literature and has authored a textbook. Dr. del Carmen's research focuses on disparities in gynecologic cancer outcomes in underserved minorities and rare gynecologic malignancies. She serves as an examiner for the oral board at the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology, both in General Gynecology and Gynecologic Oncology. Dr. del Carmen is also a member of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology's Gynecologic Oncology Division Committee. Dr. del Carmen is the recipient of numerous teaching and service awards including the National Council on Resident Education in Obstetrics and Gynecology (CREOG) Award, the Howard Ulfelder Teaching Award, the CINE Golden Eagle Award, CBS Cares, and the McGovern Award for Clinical Excellence.

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### **Joseph R. Betancourt, MD, MPH**



Dr. Betancourt is the Senior Vice President, Equity and Community Health of MGH, the Founder, Senior Advisor and Faculty of the Disparities Solutions Center (DSC) at MGH, Faculty at the Mongan Institute, an Associate Professor of Medicine at HMS, and a practicing Internal Medicine physician. He has also served on the leadership team of the MGH Center for Diversity and Inclusion. Dr. Betancourt is a nationally and internationally recognized expert in health policy, health care disparities, diversity, and cross-cultural medicine, and has served on several Institute of Medicine Committees, including those that produced the landmark reports, Unequal Treatment, and Increasing Diversity in the Healthcare Workforce. Dr. Betancourt has secured grants and contracts that have led to over 60 peer-reviewed publications, and advises private industry, government, and not-for-profit health systems on approaches to eliminating racial and ethnic disparities in health care. He sits at on the Board of Trinity Health, a large national health system; and sat on the Boston Board of Health and the Board of Neighborhood Health Plan in Boston. He is a 2015 Aspen Institute Health Innovator Fellow.

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Dr. Betancourt received his Bachelor of Science from the University of Maryland, his medical degree from Rutgers-New Jersey Medical School, and completed his residency in Internal Medicine at the New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center. Following residency, he completed The Commonwealth Fund-Harvard University Fellowship in Minority Health Policy and received his Master's in Public Health from the Harvard School of Public Health.

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### Bob Carter, MD



Dr. Carter is the Chair of the Department of Neurosurgery at MGH and the William and Elizabeth Sweet Professor of Neurosurgery at HMS. Dr. Carter is also co-founder of Mass General Neuroscience, a unique collaborative of over 2000 faculty and clinical and research staff at MGH. One of the nation's leading clinical neurosurgeons, Dr. Carter co-leads MGH's brain tumor program, which is focused brain tumor clinical care, research and education.

As a prolific researcher, Dr. Carter's scientific work has included the development of EGFRvIII directed CAR T-cell therapy, the first characterizations of exosomes in glioblastoma, and the clinical development of novel iPS derived stem cell therapy for neurologic disorders. In 2020, he and a team of investigators reported on the first patient treated with autologous dopaminergic progenitor cells for Parkinson's disease. He has served as a PI participating in the NIH-funded Extracellular RNA Communication Consortium and the NCI Liquid Biopsy Consortium. Dr. Carter has been active in developing the role of "big data" in characterizing outcomes in oncologic and vascular neurosurgery.

Dr. Carter is extensively published, and he lectures internationally on neurosurgery topics. He has co-chaired the editorial board for the Journal of Neurosurgery and served as editorial advisory board member for Neurosurgery. Dr. Carter is known for his interest in professional mentorship, and career development of resident and faculty colleagues, including several faculty who have gone on to serve as current Chairs of Departments of Neurosurgery.

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### Jeffrey L. Ecker, MD



Dr. Ecker is the Chief of the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology; a high-risk obstetrician; and a Professor at HMS. He also serves as Chair of the Executive Committee on Community Health (ECOCH). A graduate of Princeton and HMS, he completed his OB/GYN residency at Boston's BWH and MGH integrated program and fellowships in maternal-fetal medicine and obstetrical ultrasound at the University of California in San Francisco.

Dr. Ecker has filled many leadership roles in the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, including his past service as Chair of the Committee on Obstetric Practice and Vice-Chair of the Committee on Genetics. Dr. Ecker is a Founding Member of the Massachusetts Perinatal Quality Collaborative and serves on the Perinatal Advisory Committee for Leapfrog, a national quality measurement organization.

Dr. Ecker's academic and clinical interests include work in the areas of reproductive ethics and quality, equity and safety. In each of those arenas, he works to identify and reduce, if not vanish, disparities in care and outcomes with a goal of providing all with truly equitable care.

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## MGH New Faculty Orientation Speaker Biographies

### Harry W. Orf, PhD



Dr. Orf is the Senior Vice President for Research at MGH, where he oversees the largest hospital-based research enterprise in the nation.

Dr. Orf earned a BS in Chemistry from the University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL). He then went to Harvard where he earned his PhD in Chemistry, joined the faculty shortly thereafter where he conducted research in organic chemistry, served as Dean of Mather House at Harvard College, and later became the inaugural Director of Biochemical Laboratories at Harvard University. Dr. Orf later moved to HMS and MGH to become its first Director of Molecular Biology Laboratories. He also founded Cambridge Laboratory Consultants, a company that helped found over 65 biotech and pharmaceutical companies in the greater Boston area over a 20-year period.

In 2003, Dr. Orf's Army Reserve unit was activated for Operation Iraqi Freedom. A Colonel and Senior Nuclear Medical Officer, he spent a year in Iraq, where he earned the Bronze Star and Legion of Merit. Shortly after returning home in 2004, Dr. Orf was named Vice President for Scientific Operations and Professor of Chemistry at The Scripps Research Institute, where he directed the construction of its new 350,000 SF Florida campus and built and directed the entire science support operation. In February 2012, he left Scripps and returned to MGH as its Senior VP for Research. Also in 2012, he received an honorary ScD degree from UMSL.

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### Merit Cudkowicz, MD, MSc



Dr. Cudkowicz is the Julieanne Dorn Professor of Neurology at HMS, Chief of Neurology Service, and current Chair of the Executive Committee on Research (ECOR) at MGH. Dr. Cudkowicz's research and clinical activities are dedicated to the study and treatment of people with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). Dr. Cudkowicz directs the Sean M. Healey & AMG Center for ALS at MGH. She is one of the founders and former co-director of the Northeast ALS Consortium (NEALS), a group of over 140 clinical sites in the United States, Canada, Europe, and the Middle East dedicated to performing collaborative academic led clinical trials and research studies in ALS. In conjunction with the NEALS consortium, she planned and completed several multi-center clinical research studies in ALS. She is PI of the Clinical Coordination Center for the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke's Neurology Network of Excellence in Clinical Trials (NeuroNEXT). With her colleagues at MGH and NEALS, she is currently leading the first ALS Platform Trial initiative to greatly accelerate therapy development.

Dr. Cudkowicz received the American Academy of Neurology 2009 Sheila Essey ALS award and the 2018 Boston Chamber of Commerce Pinnacle Award. She is a pioneer in promoting and developing more efficient methods of developing new therapies for people with ALS. A dedicated educator, Dr. Cudkowicz mentors many young neurologists in clinical investigation of ALS and related neurodegenerative disorders.

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### Susan Slaughaupt, PhD



Dr. Slaughaupt is the Scientific Director of the Mass General Research Institute (MGRI), a strategic initiative that supports the entire research enterprise at MGH to foster and sustain medical innovation. She is also a Professor in the Department of Neurology at MGH and HMS, and an Investigator in the Center for Genomic Medicine. Dr. Slaughaupt's research focuses on two neurological disorders, familial dysautonomia (FD) and mucopolysaccharidosis type IV (MLIV), as well as the common cardiac disorder mitral valve prolapse (MVP). Discoveries in Dr. Slaughaupt's laboratory have led to the successful implementation of critical population screening for FD and MLIV, and to the development of a treatment for FD that directly targets the mRNA splicing mechanism. Dr.

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Slaughaupt spearheads several programs and educational initiatives at MGH, including a thriving undergraduate summer internship program. Her MGRI team works to promote science at MGH by increasing interactions with industry, by fundraising for MGRI initiatives, including partnering with individual philanthropists, their families and foundations and by promoting MGH research to the community through events and social media. She also co-directs the Partners Biobank at MGH, an exciting initiative that will speed the translation of research discoveries into improved clinical care for patients. In 2013, Dr. Slaughaupt was named the Elizabeth Riley and Daniel E. Smith, Jr. MGH Research Scholar. In 2016, she was honored with a prestigious Javits Neuroscience Investigator Award by the National Institute for Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) at NIH, and in 2016, she was named one of the Top Ten Women to Watch in Science and Technology by the Boston Business Journal. In 2020, she was named the Elizabeth G. Riley and Daniel E. Smith, Jr. Endowed MGH Research Institute Chair.

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### **Maurizio Fava, MD**



Dr. Fava is Psychiatrist-in-Chief of the MGH, Executive Director of the MGH Clinical Trials Network and Institute, Associate Dean for Clinical and Translational Research and the Slater Family Professor of Psychiatry at HMS. Dr. Fava is a world leader in the field of depression. He has edited eight books and authored or co-authored more than 900 original articles published in medical journals with international circulation, articles which have been cited more than 85,000 times in the literature and with an h index of over 140.

Dr. Fava obtained his medical degree from the University of Padova School of Medicine and completed residency training in endocrinology at the same university. He then moved to the United States and completed residency training in psychiatry at MGH. He founded and was Director of MGH's Depression Clinical and Research Program from 1990 until 2014. Under Dr. Fava's direction, the Depression Clinical and Research Program became one of the most highly regarded depression programs in the country, a model for academic programs that link, in a bi-directional fashion, clinical and research work. In 2007, he also founded and is now the Executive Director of the MGH Psychiatry Clinical Trials Network and Institute, the first academic Clinical Research Organization (CRO) specialized in the coordination of multi-center clinical trials in psychiatry.

Dr. Fava has been successful in obtaining funding as principal or co-PI from both the NIH and other sources for a total of more than \$120 million. Dr. Fava's prominence in the field is reflected in his role as the co-PI of STAR\*D, the largest research study ever conducted in the area of depression, and of the RAPID Network, the NIMH-funded series of studies of novel, rapidly-acting antidepressant therapies. Dr. Fava is a well-known national and international lecturer, having given more than 300 presentations at national and international meetings. In 2009, Dr. Fava received the A. Clifford Barger Excellence in Mentoring Award from HMS, and in 2013 the John T. Potts, Jr., MD Faculty Mentoring Award from MGH. He is also the former President of the American Society of Clinical Psychopharmacology.

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### **Noelle Huntington, PhD**



Dr. Huntington is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at HMS and Director of the Connector and Network programs at Harvard Catalyst. Dr. Huntington has a strong interest in supporting the growth of early-career investigators. She joined the faculty at Boston Children's Hospital in 2004 where she teaches a weekly research seminar to clinical fellows from multiple divisions and teaches medical students in Essentials I. In 2018, she became the Director of Harvard Catalyst's Connector program which provides consultation and support to investigators at all phases of clinical research.

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### Wilton C. Levine, MD



Dr. Levine is an anesthesiologist at MGH where he serves as the Medical Director for Perioperative and Procedural Services. Dr. Levine is a national leader in anesthesiology, patient safety, and organizational management. He lectures and teaches nationally and internationally on topics related to leadership and operating room management.

Dr. Levine is an Associate Professor of Anesthesia at HMS. Dr. Levine has numerous patents, peer reviewed publications, and book chapters related to medical device innovation, leadership, process improvement, and operating room management. Dr. Levine has received numerous local and national awards for his innovative patient safety work.

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### John Herman, MD



Dr. Herman is Associate Chief of the Department of Psychiatry, the Trustees Chair for Medical Psychiatry at MGH, and Associate Professor of Psychiatry at HMS. Dr. Herman established and is Medical Director of MGB's Employee Assistance Program, serving more than 100,000 employees and family members of its self-insured population. In addition to his clinical practice and teaching, he consults to hospital leadership regarding complex management and administrative challenges.

Dr. Herman's interests focus on addressing the gap between the large unmet mental health needs of communities and limited services available locally, nationally, and globally. He is currently a leader of MGH's efforts to improve the work lives of the physicians of MGH with particular attention to the special challenges of medical providers in primary care practices. He received his medical degree from the University of Wisconsin Medical School and completed an internship in internal medicine at Brown University Medical School and a residency in psychiatry at MGH. He is co-editor of the *MGH Guide to Primary Care Psychiatry* and *Psychiatry Update & Board Preparation*.