

MOUNT SINAI SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
PSYCHIATRY RESIDENCY  
INCOMING RESIDENTS 2009



**Jacob Appel, MD, JD**

UNDERGRADUATE: Brown University, B.A. in English and American Literature, and History  
MEDICAL SCHOOL: Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons

Dr. Appel is a medical ethicist, an attorney, a university professor, a journalist, and a writer of plays and short stories. He holds a JD from Harvard Law School and masters degrees in European History (Brown), American History (Columbia), and Creative Writing (NYU), all prior to beginning medical school. He is currently working on a PhD thesis on the history of American Medicine and Psychiatry (Columbia). While in medical school, he continued to teach bioethics at Brown and Columbia and published 25 works of fiction as well as papers in the field of bioethics. He has won the teacher of the year award at Brown as well as awards for his short stories and fiction.



**Hansel Arroyo, MD**

UNDERGRADUATE: University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez, B.S., with Honors in Biology  
MEDICAL SCHOOL: Universidad Central del Caribe

Hansel originally matched into the adult psychiatry program at St. Vincent's Medical Center in downtown Manhattan, and upon that hospital's precipitous closure, he was able to transfer his residency position to Mount Sinai as a PGY-2. Hansel was born and raised in Puerto Rico, where he quickly developed a profound interest in psychiatry, human behavior, and the arts. Through an extensive history of community volunteer work with youth and the indigent, and leadership responsibilities spanning from his pre-undergraduate years through residency, he has exercised his ethics of kindness and sympathy. In medical school he served as his class Vice President and Psychiatry/Behavioral Medicine class Representative and Coordinator. He has participated in Grand Rounds presentations on the effects of dialysis on psychiatric illness, and as part of his personal pursuits has played starring theatrical roles as a member of the college theater group. He is bilingual in English and Spanish.



**Drew Bianchi, MD**

UNDERGRADUATE: State University of New York, at Albany, B.A. Psychology and Anthropology  
MEDICAL SCHOOL: State University of New York at Buffalo School of Medicine

Following a longstanding curiosity about the mind, Dr. Bianchi has travelled the globe pursuing this knowledge. Combining interests in psychology and anthropology, he has studied abroad in the Madagascar rainforest, the Australian outback, and the rainforests of Northern Bolivia where he researched the behavioral ecology of monkeys. He has additionally pursued research on dysthymic disorder. His other interests have ranged from mentoring adolescents to accomplishments as musician.

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**Megan Crochet, MD**

UNDERGRADUATE: The George Washington University, B.A. *magna cum laude* in American Studies  
MEDICAL SCHOOL: Drexel University College of Medicine

Prior to medical school, Dr. Crochet began her work in community service, most intensively with teenage mothers as well as with special-needs children. Her solid leadership ability combined with her interest in the emotional quality of the educational environment have led to her multiple teaching roles in medical school and her being recognized by the faculty as a Medical Scholar. She is interested in child and adolescent psychiatry.



**Claudine Egol, MD**

UNDERGRADUATE: Binghamton University, B.S. in Accounting  
MEDICAL SCHOOL: Creighton University School of Medicine, Nebraska

With a background in business, Dr. Egol has served in many leadership positions in medical school. She was elected vice-president and then president of the Creighton Medical Student Body, coordinator of the Honor Code Committee, and coordinator of multiple other medical school groups as well as community-based projects, including developing a program to provide influenza vaccines to underserved populations. She is interested in a career in academic psychiatry involving education and clinical supervision.



**Kyle Lapidus, MD, PhD**

***Physician-Scientist Research Track***

UNDERGRADUATE: Harvard University, B.A. *magna cum laude* in Biology / Mind, Brain, and Behavior  
MEDICAL AND GRADUATE SCHOOL: Albert Einstein College of Medicine

At Harvard, Dr. Lapidus combined circadian behavior research with volunteer work for the homeless. Coming to Mount Sinai psychiatry residency's Physician Scientist research track, Dr. Lapidus earned his PhD at Einstein, where he furthered his interest in studying the basic biological correlates of how the internal and external environments influence thought and mood. He worked with Robert Singer on a RNA binding protein ZBP1, utilizing transgenic mice and tumor cell lines to investigate cell motility and metastasis. Additionally, he has worked in the laboratory of Eric Kandel, studying neuronal plasticity and the molecular bases of behavior, learning, and memory, again through the use of transgenic mice. He has several publications in leading journals.

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**Andrei Moroz, MD**

UNDERGRADUATE: Temple University, *magna cum laude* in Biological Anthropology

MEDICAL SCHOOL: Temple University School of Medicine

In medical school, Dr. Moroz played leadership roles in multiple projects focusing on education, humanism in medicine, and the effects of the therapeutic relationship on patients' states of mind, clearly defining his interest in places where medicine and the humanities interact. He was crucial in helping to develop a curriculum for a new Medical Humanities Scholars Program, and his work is being used to obtain funding for the venture. Additionally, he was involved in the development of a center for Medical Humanities and Urban Bioethics.



**Sanjay Patel, MD**

UNDERGRADUATE: University of Chicago, B.A. in Economics

MEDICAL SCHOOL: Mount Sinai School of Medicine

Dr. Patel has an impressive track record of community volunteer leadership and teaching responsibilities throughout his undergraduate and medical school careers. In addition to receiving grants to teach inner city children, as a co-director of the University of Chicago Student Teachers organization (a non-profit teaching body), he received the President's Award for Student Volunteer Services bestowed by Michelle Obama. He won Mount Sinai's Award for Outstanding Service to the medical school for his work with the admissions committee, as well as the school's Leadership Award and several awards for his poetry. His interest in child and adolescent psychiatry has been recognized with the Beatrix Hamburg Medical Student Training Fellowship. Prior to beginning medical school he held a position with the Boston Consulting Group, among the nation's leading business development groups.



**Diana Samuel, MD**

UNDERGRADUATE: Virginia Commonwealth University, B.A. in Psychology, minor in business

MEDICAL SCHOOL: Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine

Diana originally matched into the General Adult Psychiatry program at St. Vincent's Medical Center in downtown Manhattan, and upon that hospital's precipitous closure, she was able to transfer her residency position to Mount Sinai as a PGY-2. At a young age Diana was already demonstrating great interest in the study of human behavior and psychopathology, which moved her to study psychology as an undergraduate. Her leadership skills have been marked by her being voted Vice President of the American Medical Student Association in her medical school in which she advocated for student rights, organized lecture series and fund raisers, and promoted unity among the student body. Being well rounded in both the sciences and community work, Diana nurtured her interest for academics and teaching by being involved as a co-leader teaching junior medical students clinical and basic medical knowledge. During her free time she enjoyed working as an EMT, traveling abroad and also working out. She is bilingual in English and Malayalam.

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**Marianna Shimonova, MD**

UNDERGRADUATE: University of Washington, B.S. in Neuroscience

MEDICAL SCHOOL: University of Washington

Dr. Shimonova began pursuing her interest in psychiatry prior to medical school, being awarded a Howard Hughes Research Internship and publishing 4 papers on the neuropsychology and hormonal effects of aging and dementia. She has further interests in philosophy, ethnicity, and medical ethics, which she spent a year studying in a seminary in Israel. She is an accomplished musician, having studied piano and singing



**Laili Soleimani, MSc, MD**

***Physician-Scientist Research Track***

UNDERGRADUATE & MEDICAL SCHOOL: Tehran University of Medical Sciences

POSTGRADUATE STUDIES: University of Toronto

Dr. Soleimani is coming to Mount Sinai psychiatry residency's Physician Scientist research track. Having initially left Iran to pursue research training and the biological substrates of behavior, she recently completed a masters degree in Neuroscience from the University of Toronto where she studied with John Roder and published her findings on the molecular correlates of a depression-like phenotype in transgenic mice. While at Toronto, she won several departmental awards from the Institute of Medical Sciences, and while in Iran, she ranked among the top national students for the Talented and Gifted Students school, scoring 72<sup>nd</sup> out of 350,000 on the national university entrance exam. She has also recently co-authored a chapter on suicide prevention.



**Caitlin Stork, MD**

UNDERGRADUATE: Harvard University, B.A. *magna cum laude* in Comparative Study of Religion

MEDICAL SCHOOL: University of Michigan Medical School

During her undergraduate career, Dr. Stork spent two years working as a mental health specialist on a locked inpatient unit, leading to her thesis study of perceived religious experiences and delusional psychoses. This was followed by her beginning work on the neurochemistry and neuroimaging of severe mental illness, out of which she produced a highly-cited first-author publication featured on the cover of *Molecular Psychiatry* and another paper in *Biological Psychiatry*. At medical school her diverse interests continued, with a focus on international and religious stigma against mental illness, and her leading independent medical student groups on medical service trips to address global issues of advocacy and access.

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**Hiwot Woldu, MD**

UNDERGRADUATE: Graceland University, B.S. *summa cum laude* in Biology and Chemistry  
MEDICAL SCHOOL: University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

As an undergraduate valedictorian and president of her class, Dr. Woldu then went on to pursue research in a program on Cardiovascular Sciences at the University of Toronto where she has won awards for her master's project studying over-expression of human Endothelin-1 in mice. This research has been submitted for review prior to publication. At Pittsburgh, working with David Brent, she produced another paper on medication adherence in adolescent depression. Throughout college and medical school, she has engaged in and coordinated a vast number of community-based projects with underserved and disadvantaged populations, for which she has won multiple awards.