

GW Heart and Vascular Institute e-Newsletter: May 2024

Faculty Spotlight



Dr. Richard Katz received an invitation to attend the "Dinner with Doctors White Coat Ceremony" held at Calvin Coolidge High School on June 29th. This high school offers a unique educational pathway tailored for students aspiring to pursue careers in medicine.

The NAF Academy of Health Sciences program at Coolidge High School boasts a student enrollment of over 60 individuals. During the event, Dr. Katz played a pivotal role in the ceremonial "cloaking" of the graduating class of 2024.

Cardiology Events

This month, **Dr. Dipti Itchhaporia** delivered the 47th annual Jack Understein Memorial Lectures. Dr. Itchhaporia, Clinical Professor at the University of California, Irvine, and Immediate Past-President of the American College of Cardiology, holds the Eric & Sheila Samson Endowed Chair in Cardiovascular Health. Additionally, she serves as the Director of Disease Management at Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian in Newport Beach, California.

On May 1st, she presented the GW Understein Cardiology Grand Rounds on AI and the Future of Cardiology. Following this, on May 2nd, she delivered the GW Understein Medical Grand Rounds focusing on The Role of Technology as a Disrupter to Achieve Health Equity. Once again, **Mr. Norman Understein**, son of **Mr. Jack Understein**, was present at the lectures.



Pictured Above: Dr. Dipti Itchhaporia



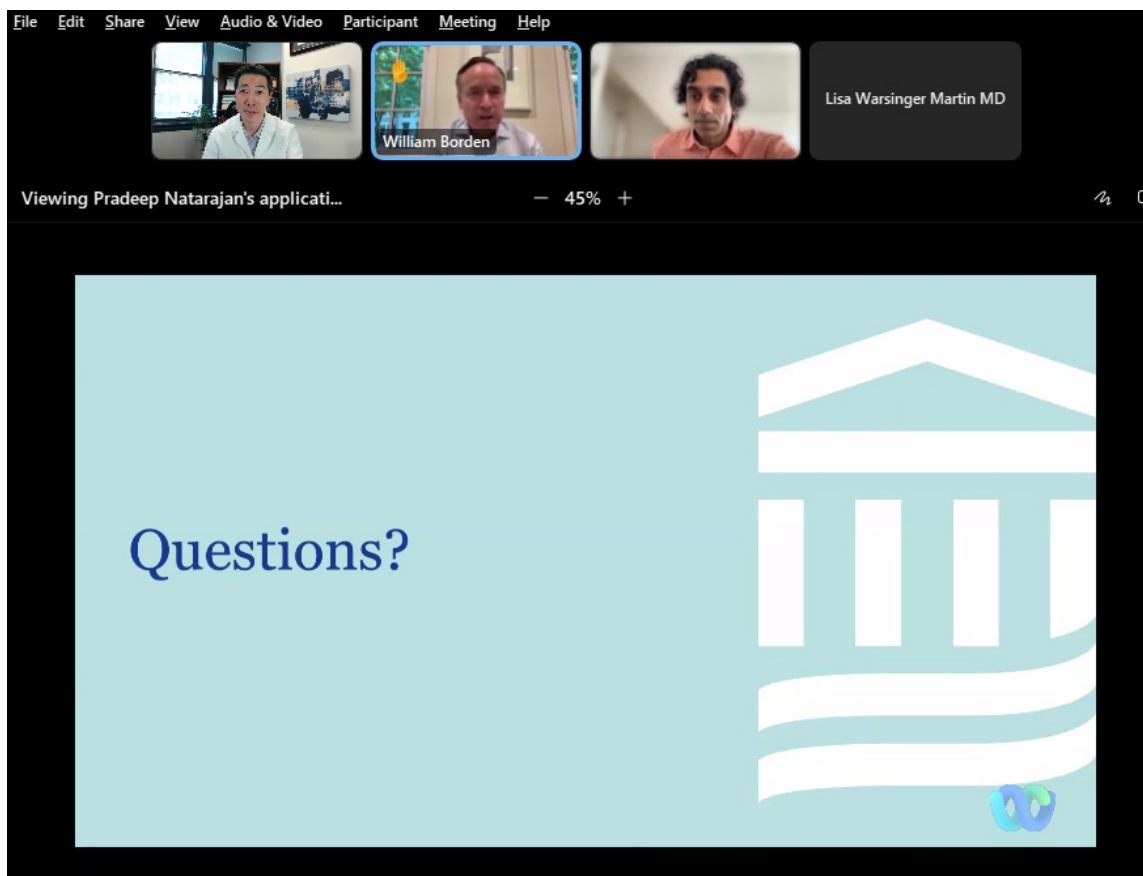
Pictured Above: Dr. Devi Gopinath Nair

On May 29 th, **Dr. Devi Gopinath Nair** delivered the Jacob Varghese lecture. This lecture series was started by GW faculty and alumni in celebration of **Dr. Jacob Varghese** who served as faculty for four decades prior to his retirement; he is fondly recognized as being a master clinician and educator to generations of trainees and faculty. Dr. Nair discussed “Setting the LAAO Stage. Past, Present and Future”.

Dr. Nair is a Clinical Professor at the University of Arkansas Medical School and Director of Cardiac Electrophysiology and Research at St. Bernard’s Heart and Vascular Center.

Treadwell Visiting Professor - Advancements in Heart

Prevention in Genetics and Polygenic Risk Scoring



Identifying early risk of heart disease has been a dedicated investigative focus of the GW Heart and Vascular Institute through imaging, genomics and lipid management. With faculty hosts **Dr. Andrew Choi**, lipid program lead and **Dr. William Borden**, Interim Chair of Medicine, **Dr. Pradeep Natarajan**, The Fireman Endowed Chair in Vascular Medicine and Associate Director of Personalized Medicine at Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital provided cutting edge education on "Polygenic Risk Scoring" and "Genetics of Cardiovascular Disease". This research holds particular promise for identifying heart disease in younger adults in conjunction with current proven therapies

Pictured Above from left to right: Dr. Choi, Dr. Borden and Dr. Natarajan.

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