

RESEARCH DAY

MAY 2, 2023

The Power of Collaboration





Message from the **PRESIDENT**

For more than 50 years, Touro has set ambitious goals for our university, our faculty and our students. One of our great milestone achievements, this past decade, has been a notable increase in our institution's commitment to research. Indeed, our research accomplishments are a great source of pride. The growing deep and talented pool of faculty within our institution gives Touro professors and students excellent increasing opportunities for collaborative research. Fittingly, this year's Research Day will address the Power of Collaboration, with Keynote Speaker Dr. Irving Weissman from Stanford University, and our Distinguished Research Speaker, Dr. Andrea Taylor from TUC. I look forward to hearing their perspectives on this vital issue for Touro.

Held at our beautiful, new Cross River Campus, today's all-inclusive Research Day allows the entire Touro family of campuses to participate. Organized and implemented by an intercampus Planning Committee led by Dr. Salomon Amar, Senior Vice President for Research Affairs, both our program and the posters being presented embody our institution's commitment to intellectual curiosity and scientific advancement. The varied and impressive work of our faculty and students allow us to showcase the impressive scope of Touro's research activities and academic offerings.

Excellence in scholarly publication has long been a hallmark of the research enterprise. We are pleased to highlight the importance of our faculty's contributions to knowledge in general, and to Touro's reputation in particular, within the academic community and beyond. Student and faculty research projects exhibited today span the gamut from medicine and pharmacy to social work, humanities and more. Touro's reach, both in terms of academic offerings and experiential, community-based learning opportunities, is unparalleled, and we are determined to explore and further develop a wide array of applied and theoretical knowledge. Research Day is but a small window into the world of change that we effect.

Touro University schools from across the country are well represented today and provide clear evidence of our growing enterprise as an important academic research institution, particularly in medicine and the allied health sciences. After the formal program, I urge you to participate in our Poster Session either virtually or in person. You will enjoy engaging with Touro's faculty and students, and speaking with them about the research initiatives that fuel their professional and educational passions.

I hope today's presentations and poster exhibition stimulate in you the same kind of excitement I feel about research and inspire more collaboration and synergy across our entire University.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Alan Kadish". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Alan Kadish, M.D.
President | Touro University



Welcome to YOU

It gives me great pleasure as a scientist to welcome our community to the second institution-wide Research Day for Touro University. As the vice president for research, I am inspired as we continuously witness the growing prowess of our institution.

Be it in research funding endeavors, in the expansion of our family of institutions, or in the implementation of new programs, we work together towards making these aspirations come to fruition. Each year I am enthralled by the passion I see in our esteemed community and by the tenacity in both our established and budding researchers alike as they too make strides towards achieving the milestones they've set in their individual careers. It is this persistence towards excellence that allows our community to prosper.

Last year as we celebrated Research Day on a wider scale for the first time, we delved into our last 50 years of achievements and then turned to the future of Touro. This year, we will focus on what makes that future possible—the collaborative nature of research itself.

Join me in celebrating our faculty and students as we reward them for their diligence in the pursuit of knowledge. As we listen to our keynote speaker, Dr. Irving Weissman of Stanford University, and our distinguished speaker, Dr. Andrea Taylor of Touro University California, and as we applaud our award recipients and poster presenters, I ask that you keep in mind that we are strongest when working in tandem towards our goals. The results of each presenter's work are the greatest example of this fact.

Finally, I would like to thank each and every individual who not only presents today, but who has collaborated with these innovators in research. I would also like to commend those who submitted their work for consideration, and hope to see each of you thrive and succeed in your future endeavors.

Salomon Amar, D.D.S., Ph.D.

Senior Vice President for Research Affairs | Touro University



Welcome to TOURO RESEARCH DAY 2023

I am delighted to welcome you to our second Touro University Research Day. We here in New York are delighted to host the day's formal program at our new Cross River Campus, which just had its ribbon cutting ceremony only a few weeks ago.

Research Day provides a unique forum to connect, spread out as we are across a world-wide geographic spectrum. Today, we highlight original research by faculty and students not only from all of our campuses but also throughout the broad range of disciplines that makes Touro University quite exceptional.

First as the Touro College Research Council, and now as the Touro University Research Council, we aimed to inspire Research Day participants through curating a series of exciting speakers, acknowledging excellence in faculty research publications and student posters, and showcasing intellectual achievement. Complementing the other initiatives brought forward by President Kadish and Senior Vice President Amar to build the research enterprise, our goal has been to foster intellectual synergy and energy that is a key factor in enhancing Touro's success and reputation.

On behalf of all of us in New York who are hosting the 2023 Research Day, I am delighted to welcome you to today's program and poster event. I thank members of the Planning Committee for all of their contributions to our success.

Enjoy our speakers. Celebrate our prize winners. Partake of the virtual poster session and the video presentations and posters by reaching out to a presenter available to respond to your questions. Appreciate this day for sharing our collective search for knowledge.

Thank you for participating.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Piotr B. Kozłowski". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Piotr Kozłowski, M.D., Ph.D.

Chair | Touro University Research Council (New York)



**Patricia E. Salkin,
J.D., Ph.D.**
Senior Vice
President for
Academic Affairs
Provost,
Graduate and
Professional
Divisions
Touro University

With our 50th Anniversary celebration behind us, we push onward towards the centenary mark—an unfolding period in which research will play an ever more prominent part of life at Touro. During our celebratory year, Research Day 2022 was convened as our first University-wide event for all of our faculty and student researchers, thereby establishing an important new tradition for our scholarly community. Today we again applaud our faculty and student researchers who engage in their inquiries through work in labs, clinics, offices, libraries—and home—across six states and four countries, representing a rich diversity by which we contribute to new knowledge.

Since arriving at Touro thirteen years ago, President Kadish, with imagination and vision, has vigorously sought to expand and firmly establish our research enterprise. Under his charge, the provosts and vice presidents have incorporated scholarly activity as a guiding principle informing the design of new programs, the hiring of faculty, and the building of new campuses. Our Senior Vice President for Research Affairs, Dr. Salomon Amar, has advanced collaboration in all sectors of the University. Scholarly production in the forms of publication and presentation have increased, contributing to Touro’s national and international reputation. And throughout these initiatives we have always fostered engagement of our students so they can come to appreciate the dynamic interface between instruction and research.

The academic leadership across our campuses are so proud of what our students and faculty accomplish, individually and collectively, as they attain and share new insights across the spectrum of the disciplines in which we teach. Kudos to your success! Keep up the good work!



**Stanley L.
Boylan, Ph.D.**
Vice President of
Undergraduate
Education and
Dean of Faculties

With deep appreciation for the tremendous effort involved, I thank all of those who have contributed to this year’s Research Day program—both participants and organizers.

This past year we celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the founding of Touro College—now University— which provided us with the opportunity to focus on the accomplishments of our faculty and students over the years. It also reminded us of the core roles played by our excellent undergraduate schools and the university’s abiding commitment to the Jewish intellectual experience. Our late President Dr. Bernard Lander, a distinguished social scientist and educational leader, founded Touro with about three dozen undergraduate students and an outstanding faculty deeply steeped in the traditions of research and scholarship. Under the leadership of President Alan Kadish, the institution, its faculty, and their intellectual contributions, have grown exponentially, both in New York and across the entire Touro University System, exhibiting a vitality that is amazing and most gratifying to witness.

Traditionally focused on excellence in instruction, it is important to realize that scholarship and research always have held a valued place at Touro. Dr. Kadish’s challenge to expand our research focus has been incredibly invigorating. Research Day provides clear evidence of the enrichment brought to instruction by the resultant synergy. It is fitting that following our Jubilee anniversary, we have again broadened Research Day to include all of our campuses using the technical innovations of live broadcast webinars and other virtual presentations.

We are one “University” community. I would like to congratulate the student researchers who are presenting. We are very proud of them as well as the research contributions made by Touro graduates over the past years—truly a testimony to the excellence of the Touro University educational experience.

FROM THE GOLDEN STATE

Meet Our **SPEAKERS**

Having a passion for forging and strengthening paths in various aspects of research and community health, it is no surprise that Touro University has a community of innovators and trailblazers in each of these fields. Be it our business and law schools, the public health schools, basic sciences or social sciences, we are proud of faculty and students alike as they make their mark across their various locations around the world. This year as we honor one of the most important aspects of research, collaboration, we are doubly privileged to learn from our guest speakers. Both traveling from California, please meet...

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



“Bringing Stem Cell Collaborations to Touro”

Irving Weissman, M.D. | Stanford University

Dr. Weissman was the first researcher to identify, prospectively isolate, and transplant blood-forming stem cells, called HSC, from mice and humans. HSCs generate and regenerate the entire blood and immune systems throughout life. Since his discovery, his lab has focused primarily on stem cell biology in health, disease and the development of macrophage-based immunotherapy. Dr. Weissman’s lab has also been able to use their own research endeavors to form collaborations with other labs and in other organisms, such as with the Hopkins Marine Station and the Leeper lab. Whether it is in his own research on stem cells or his work conducted alongside like-minded experts in their own fields, his presentation today will surely highlight the role that teamwork and collaboration has played on the success of those scientific investigations.

TOURO UNIVERSITY’S DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER



“The science of collaboration and collaboration in science: keeping it original and impactful in the realm of biomechanics”

Andrea B. Taylor, Ph.D., FAAAS, FAAA | Touro University California

As an expert in biological anthropology, Dr. Taylor will use her own research on the biomechanics of feeding systems in primates to showcase how collaboration has led to greater insights into complex problems and allowed her work to have a greater impact across a range of disciplines well beyond her own. Dr. Taylor’s work is a clear example of how collaboration in research has been shown to positively impact research with higher diversity, as she not only conducts her own research but also serves as the co-editor in chief for the Journal of Human Evolution and as a member of the board of directors for the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology and ad faculty with Duke University and the Institute for Biodiversity Science and Sustainability within the California Academy of Sciences.

Program **SCHEDULE**

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| 12:00-12:30 p.m. | Reception |
| 12:30-12:35 p.m. | Opening Remarks on Behalf of the Touro University Research Council Piotr Kozlowski , M.D., Ph.D. Chair, Touro University Research Council Touro University |
| 12:35-12:45 p.m. | Welcome Alan Kadish , M.D. President, Touro University |
| 12:45-12:55 p.m. | Welcome and Award Introductions Salomon Amar , D.D.S., Ph.D. Senior Vice President for Research Affairs, Touro University |
| 12:55-1:25 p.m. | TU/LBRI Innovative Intramural Research Grant Recipients Salomon Amar , D.D.S., Ph.D. Senior Vice President for Research Affairs, Touro University |
| | Faculty Research Publications Awards for 2020 Zvi Loewy , Ph.D. Associate Dean for Research, College of Pharmacy |
| | Student Posters Touro University Research Day 2023 Salomon Amar , D.D.S., Ph.D. Senior Vice President for Research Affairs, Touro University |
| 1:25-1:30 p.m. | Introduction to Distinguished Speakers Salomon Amar , D.D.S., Ph.D. Senior Vice President for Research Affairs, Touro University |
| 1:30-2:00 p.m. | Keynote Speaker “Bringing Stem Cell Collaborations to Touro” Irving Weissman , M.D. Director, Institute of Stem Cell Biology & Regenerative Medicine, Stanford University |
| 2:00-2:30 p.m. | Touro University Distinguished Speaker “The science of collaboration and collaboration in science: keeping it original and impactful in the realm of biomechanics” Andrea B. Taylor , Ph.D., FAAAS, FAAA Professor, Dept. of Basic Sciences, Touro University California |
| 2:30-2:50 p.m. | |
| 2:50-3:00 p.m. | Q & A Session |
| | Closing Remarks Salomon Amar , D.D.S., Ph.D. Senior Vice President for Research Affairs, Touro University |
| 3:00-3:15 p.m. | |
| 3:15-5:00 p.m. | Break Poster Session (Virtual and Live) |

