

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 9, 2016

Rutgers New Jersey Medical School to Host Convocation Ceremony

NEWARK, N.J.—On **Monday, May 16**, 163 students will receive their medical degrees from Rutgers New Jersey Medical School (NJMS) in the school's 56th convocation ceremony. **The ceremony will begin at 10 am at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark.**

The NJMS convocation ceremony is a time-honored event that recognizes and celebrates the achievements of the school's graduates. The ceremony will be presided over by Dean Robert L. Johnson, M.D., FAAP, The Sharon and Joseph L. Muscarelle Endowed Dean.

The keynote address will be delivered by Debbie Salas-Lopez, MD, MPH, FACP, Associate Chief Medical Officer, Lehigh Valley Health Network and Professor of Medicine, University of South Florida Morsani College of Medicine and College of Public Health. Dr. Salas-Lopez graduated from NJMS in 1996.

Medical students will be available for interviews:

Moorice Caparo, born in Callao, Peru, immigrated to the U.S. at the age of 14. His family settled in Paterson where he was raised in a single parent home. Caparo attended Panther Academy, an inner-city magnet school focusing on science and technology. He excelled academically and won admittance to Johns Hopkins University, where he was elected a Bloomberg scholar in 2011. He was accepted to NJMS as an early decision candidate for the class of 2016. Caparo has "matched" to a residency in physical medicine and rehabilitation at Harvard beginning in June.

Deborah Horenstein, who once had a career in finance, graduates from NJMS as a humanism scholar. At a time when many people are at the prime of their career, Deborah is just beginning hers. After raising three children, she will become a doctor at this stage of life – mainly because of her youngest daughter, Ariella, who died at the age of 8 1/2 following a bone marrow transplant in 2007.

About Rutgers New Jersey Medical School (NJMS)

Celebrating over 61 years of service, NJMS was founded in 1954 and is the oldest school of medicine in the state. Today it is part of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey and graduates approximately 170 physicians a year. In addition to providing the MD degree, NJMS offers MD/PhD, MD/MPH and MD/MBA degrees through collaborations with other institutions of higher education. Dedicated to excellence in education, research, clinical care and community outreach, the medical school comprises 21 academic departments and works with several healthcare partners, including its principal teaching hospital, University Hospital in Newark. Its faculty consists of numerous world-renowned scientists and many of the region's "Top Doctors." Home to the nation's oldest student-run clinic, NJMS hosts 27 centers and institutes, including the Public Health Research Institute Center, the Global Tuberculosis Institute and the Neurological Institute of New Jersey. In 2015, NJMS was named the #1 NIH funded institution in the state of New Jersey.