We have enjoyed remarkable growth this past year at the Phillips School of Nursing at Mount Sinai Beth Israel, and I want to thank our faculty, staff, and colleagues throughout the Mount Sinai Health System (MSHS) for their commitment to fostering the best in nursing education.

In February we hosted our first White Coat Ceremony for 27 students in the Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. Supported with a grant from the Arnold P. Gold Foundation, the ceremony serves to welcome students to health care practice and to elevate the value of compassion in combination with scientific excellence. Patricia Bruckenthal, PhD, APRN-BC, FAAN, Associate Dean for Research and Innovation and Associate Professor at Stony Brook University School of Nursing, gave an inspiring keynote address, where she reminded the students to “Always inquire and wonder if what you are doing makes sense: does it hold up to scientific scrutiny?”

In April we received official notification from the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) that our Associate of Applied Science in Nursing Program was reaccredited for the maximum seven-year period. Our school has enjoyed continuous accreditation since 1985. In its final report, ACEN members commented on the rich cultural diversity found at our school and the breadth of community clinical experiences that we offer to nursing students.

We are very excited to announce that we will be joining our MSHS colleagues on a National Cancer Institute-sponsored Program to Advance Interprofessional Education in Care. The program will be led by The Center for Spirituality and Health at the Icahn School of Medicine and also includes Mount Sinai Cancer, the Department of Social Work Services, and the Department of Spiritual Care and Education at Mount Sinai Beth Israel. The goal is to help our team develop, implement, and evaluate interprofessional education in palliative care at our institution. We will be networked with others across the country doing this important work.

Lastly, we will celebrate the inaugural commencement of the Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (ABSN) Program on Thursday, August 23, 2018. We anticipate that 27 students will graduate with their Bachelor of Science in Nursing and be eligible for national licensure as a registered nurse. The ABSN is a program for adult learners who have completed an undergraduate degree in a non-nursing discipline. The program is just 15 months long and allows us to provide a path for students who are eager to launch their careers as quickly as possible, while at the same time helping to fill the significant need for registered nurses.

I remain committed to ensuring that all paths from the School of Nursing lead to the best and brightest futures. Best wishes for a healthy and safe summer.

Sincerely,

Todd F. Ambrosia, DNP, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC, FNAP
Dean
*Distinguished Fellow, National Academies of Practice*
*Bravewell Fellow in Integrative Medicine*