FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:
Gina Ravosa 212.822.7285 | gravosa@nyam.org

New York Academy of Medicine Announces 2016-17 Fellow Ambassadors

Prestigious Academy Fellows provide expertise in health care delivery and quality, public health, mental health, oral health and medical ethics

New York (September 8, 2016) — The New York Academy of Medicine announced today the 2016-17 Fellow Ambassadors chosen from the Academy’s prestigious membership of more than 2,000 experts from across the professions affecting health. The second class of ambassadors will work with Academy staff and leadership as expert spokespersons on a variety of critical health-related topics. Seven ambassadors with wide-ranging expertise in public and urban health, health care quality and delivery, mental health, oral health and medical ethics were selected.

The Fellows Ambassador Program was established in 2015 to increase the direct engagement of Fellows with the research and policy staff of the Academy, and provide the public with access to the wealth of knowledge that the Academy’s Fellows possess through public communication and media interviews. The program offers several ambassador positions each year through an application process open to the Academy’s Fellows.

“We are thrilled to continue the Fellows Ambassador program after a successful inaugural year,” said Academy President Jo Ivey Boufford, MD. “The Fellows are the foundation on which the Academy was built and the Fellows Ambassador program provides a unique opportunity for the distinguished health professionals in our fellowship to share their expertise and experience with the public.”

The Ambassadors were selected by the Academy based on their interest and ability as spokespersons for their field of expertise, as well as for their ability to address broad-reaching topics in the news today such as, urban health, prevention and health disparities. In addition to being available to media for comment and interviews, the 2016-17 Ambassadors will author commentaries, blog posts and op-eds. The program’s goal is to develop a critical mass of Fellows prepared to work with the media and help the Academy become a valuable resource for media seeking health expertise to inform the public.
The Academy is pleased to announce the 2016-17 Fellow Ambassadors:

**Joseph J. Fins, MD, MACP**  
The E. William Davis, Jr., MD Professor of Medical Ethics  
Chief, Division of Medical Ethics and Professor of Medicine  
Professor of Medical Ethics in Neurology and Medicine in Psychiatry  
Professor of Health Care Policy & Research  
Weill Cornell Medicine  
Director of Medical Ethics  
NewYork–Presbyterian Hospital Weill Cornell Medicine  
*Expert in medical ethics, specifically bioethical issues in neuroscience*

**Mark P. Jarrett, MD, MBA, MS**  
Senior Vice President & Chief Quality Officer  
Associate Chief Medical Officer  
Northwell Health  
Professor of Medicine  
Hofstra Northwell School of Medicine  
*Expert in emergency preparedness in hospitals, and health care quality and delivery*

**Nadia Laniado, DDS, MPH**  
Director, Community Dentistry and Population Health  
Jacobi Medical Center  
*Expert in community dentistry and oral health*

**Joseph P. Merlino, MD, MPA**  
Vice President for Faculty Affairs & Professional Development; Professor, Psychiatry,  
Public Health, and the Health Related Professions  
SUNY Downstate Medical Center  
*Expert in psychiatry and psychotherapy, disaster psychiatry, and physician and medical student mental health*

**Terri Ann Parnell, DNP, RN**  
Principal & Founder, Health Literacy Partners, LLC  
*Expert in health literacy and communication among health providers*

**Patricia Schnabel Ruppert, DO, MPH, DABFM, FAAFP**  
Health Commissioner  
Rockland County  
Assistant Professor of Medicine  
Columbia University Medical Center  
Distinguished Lecturer in Epidemiology and Community Medicine  
NY Medical College  
*Expert in public health and health policy*
Henry H. Ting, MD, MBA
Senior Vice President and Chief Quality Officer
NewYork–Presbyterian
Professor of Medicine at Columbia University Medical Center
Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons
Expert in health care quality and hospital safety

For more information about the Fellow Ambassadors and their areas of expertise, as well as the inaugural 2015–16 class, visit www.nyam.org/fellows/fellows-ambassador-program/

To connect with a Fellow Ambassador, contact Gina Ravosa, Director of Marketing and Communications at the Academy, at (212) 822–7285 or gravosa@nyam.org.

About The New York Academy of Medicine
The New York Academy of Medicine advances solutions that promote the health and well-being of people in cities worldwide.

Established in 1847, The New York Academy of Medicine continues to address the health challenges facing New York City and the world’s rapidly growing urban populations. We accomplish this through our Institute for Urban Health, home of interdisciplinary research, evaluation, policy and program initiatives; our world class historical medical library and its public programming in history, the humanities and the arts; and our Fellows program, a network of more than 2,000 experts elected by their peers from across the professions affecting health. Our current priorities are healthy aging, disease prevention, and eliminating health disparities.

About The New York Academy of Medicine Fellows
The Academy’s prestigious Fellows program, the foundation on which the Academy was established in 1847, includes more than 2,000 individuals, elected by their peers, from across the professions affecting health. Working collaboratively across disciplines and specialties, in a tradition of honor and service, the Fellows are organized into 18 diverse sections and workgroups that address clinical and population health issues facing individuals and communities in New York City and cities around the world.

###