



# Philanthropist



JOHN ABBOTT

## **A Gift of Hope: Susan Hinko and Carl Batlin**

After 11 years of cognitive decline symptoms with no clear diagnosis, Carl Batlin was in need of answers. It was at Weill Cornell Medicine that he was finally given a diagnosis, allowing Mr. Batlin and his wife, Susan Hinko, a chance to experience the world-class medical research and patient care offered here.

The couple's positive experiences at Weill Cornell prompted them to fund three new endowed Clinical Scholar Awards with a generous \$3 million bequest. When funded, the awards will help bolster research efforts in the areas of Alzheimer's disease, multiple sclerosis and stroke.

Clinical Scholar Awards are part of an innovative program designed to reduce the financial and administrative demands on talented junior and mid-level faculty, giving them the time and support they need to strengthen their activities in clinical care, research and education.

"Supporting quality research is important to us," says Mr. Batlin. "Good research is something that requires a lot of effort and time; it starts with great ideas, but you also have to get results at the end."

Two of the awards are in honor of the couple's family members who struggled with these diseases. The Betty Hinko Clinical Scholar Award will honor Ms. Hinko's mother, who had multiple sclerosis, and the Alexander Batlin Clinical Scholar Award will honor Mr. Batlin's father, who had Alzheimer's disease.

While their family's health history certainly played an important role, the impetus to create the awards was inspired by Mr. Batlin's own medical challenges. In 2005, following years

**"Whatever level of financial wealth you have, you can make a lasting impact."**

**Susan Hinko**

of misdiagnoses, the couple feared that he would never improve. Two years later, they were introduced to Dr. Matthew Fink, chairman of the Department of Neurology, the Louis and Gertrude Feil Professor of Clinical Neurology and associate dean for clinical affairs at Weill Cornell Medicine. Mr. Batlin was diagnosed with antiphospholipid syndrome,

a rare autoimmune disorder that can cause blood clots and silent strokes. Under Dr. Fink's care, Mr. Batlin tried a variety of medications to help him regain cognitive function, and last year experienced a turning point in his improvement after consultation with a colleague of Dr. Fink's and the introduction of a transformative medication.

"The element of hope makes all the difference in the world, and before meeting with Dr. Fink, I didn't have much hope," says Mr. Batlin, a former head of quantitative research for a financial instrument trading bank subsidiary.

*(continued on page 2)*

# From the Stimson Society Co-Chairs

Dear Friends,

We were delighted to see so many of you at the annual Stimson Society Luncheon in June. This year's event featured a presentation from Dr. Mark Lachs, who shared strategies for living a longer, healthier life. It also provided a great opportunity to thank you, our donors and friends, for your continued generosity. We are grateful to those of you who have included Weill Cornell Medicine in your financial or estate plans through a bequest, living trust, retirement fund, charitable gift annuity, remainder trust or other planned gift.

With strategic philanthropic planning, your gift can bolster the work of a researcher, faculty member or program area that has special meaning for you – and you may be able to make a larger gift than you thought possible.

One of the simplest ways to give is to name Weill Cornell Medicine as a beneficiary of your will or trust, or your retirement or financial account. Your gifts matter: They help us grow our research programs, teach the healthcare leaders of tomorrow and provide the finest care to our patients.

We are honored to have you as an important member of the Weill Cornell Medicine family.

Sincerely,

**We are grateful to those of you who have included**

Weill Cornell Medicine in your financial or estate plans



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A.J.C. Smith'.

**A.J.C. Smith**  
Member, Board of Overseers  
Co-Chair, Lewis Atterbury  
Stimson Society



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Alexiades'.

**Michael Alexiades, MD '83**  
Co-Chair, Lewis Atterbury  
Stimson Society

## A Gift of Hope *(continued from the cover)*

"We've been inspired by the care and attention of everyone we've interacted with at Weill Cornell," adds Ms. Hinko, head of industry relations at TriOptima, a financial technology firm. "Dr. Fink was sympathetic, supportive and hopeful as we



worked to find a solution and improve Carl's quality of life." The third award funded by the couple is the Matthew Fink Clinical Scholar Award, which honors Dr. Fink and provides support in the field of stroke. "I'm immensely flattered and honored,"

says Dr. Fink. "In my view, the scholar awards are the most important Weill Cornell endowments, because the most difficult problems include finding support for our junior faculty."

Clinical Scholar Awards are among the most prestigious academic honors that can be bestowed upon a faculty member and support the next generation of world-renowned physicians and researchers at Weill Cornell.

"Funding these endowed positions is a way to attract the best and the brightest to these fields," says Ms. Hinko. "Everyone has direct experience with a health issue that has influenced the well being of their lives or those of their loved ones. You can create a meaningful legacy by supporting research or care in that area. It's important to realize that whatever level of financial wealth you have, you can make a lasting impact."



From left: Overseer A.J.C. Smith, Dr. Michael Stewart, Dr. Mark Lachs, Dr. Michael Alexiades (MD '83)



From left: Dr. Daniel Wellner, Dr. Marcus Reidenberg



From left: Susan Yager, Robert Berkowitz

# Stimson Society Luncheon and Presentation

Living Longer: Secrets to a Healthier Life



Pamela Reis



Robert Taisey, Esq.



From left: Richard Kay, Esq., Tamara Weintraub, Rhoda Greif

Over 150 guests filled the Starr-Greenberg Conference Center in the Belfer Research Building on June 28 for the annual Lewis Atterbury Stimson Society Luncheon and Presentation. Keynote speaker Dr. Mark Lachs – the Irene F. and I. Roy Psaty Distinguished Professor of Clinical Medicine and co-chief of the Division of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine at Weill Cornell Medicine – spoke on “Living Longer: Secrets to a Healthier Life.” The event was hosted by Stimson Society co-chairs, Overseer A.J.C. Smith and Dr. Michael Alexiades (MD '83), associate professor of clinical orthopaedic surgery at Weill Cornell Medicine.

Following welcoming remarks, Dr. Michael Stewart – Vice Dean of Weill Cornell Medical College and chairman of the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery – gave an update on new developments at Weill Cornell Medicine, including the institution’s progress in funding for research and education, and its clinical expansion throughout New York City.

Dr. Lachs’ presentation covered various hereditary and environmental factors that may influence longevity, and highlighted strategies for healthier living, including getting appropriate medical care, remaining active, seeking purpose in life and keeping a positive attitude.

# Strategic Philanthropy – Flexible Ways to Give

There are many ways to give to Weill Cornell Medicine. You can direct your support toward the work of a faculty member or physician-scientist. Or you can specify that your gift supports an area that is important to you, such as patient care, research or medical education.

Creative gift strategies may help you maximize your resources to achieve your philanthropic goals.

## **Gifts in your will or living trust are simple and meaningful**

A charitable bequest in your will or trust is the most popular way to make a legacy gift. A bequest is considered low risk, because you retain full use of the gift property throughout your lifetime and your out-of-pocket costs are minimal. A gift through a bequest may also reduce estate taxes for your heirs.

A will is one of the most effective ways to protect loved ones, provide for the charities you care about and ensure that your intentions are carried out. If you have a will, but want to revise it to include a bequest to Weill Cornell Medicine, it is an easy process. Your attorney can update your will with a simple codicil.

## **More than one way to make your gift**

A bequest can be made with cash or specific property, such as a work of art or real estate.

- **Specific bequest** is a designation to distribute a specific asset or give a specific amount.
- **Percentage bequest** allows you to allocate a percentage of your estate to be distributed.
- **Residual bequest** designates that Weill Cornell receives the remainder of your estate after all other obligations have been met.

## **Beneficiary designations**

Beneficiary designations on financial accounts and assets are a simple yet often overlooked opportunity for making gifts. By designating Weill Cornell in this way, the assets pass directly to charity more quickly, and in a more cost-effective manner, than through a probated will.

## **Strategic reasons to name Weill Cornell as an IRA or 401(k) beneficiary**

If you have more than one retirement plan – IRA, 401(k) or 403(b) – and your financial goals include providing for loved ones *and* Weill Cornell, consider naming us as one of the beneficiaries of these accounts while leaving other assets to family members. Retirement assets left in your estate to loved ones are typically taxed at rates over 60 percent, while retirement assets designated to charity retain their full value.

## **Designating your savings and checking accounts**

Another option for making a flexible gift is to name Weill Cornell as the beneficiary for the Payable on Death (POD) designation for your savings, checking or other financial accounts. Your bank can provide the proper form, and it's easy to do.

## **Name Weill Cornell as a life insurance beneficiary**

If you have a life insurance policy that is no longer needed, you can name Weill Cornell Medicine as the beneficiary or contingent beneficiary of that policy.

## **Your gift can help transform the future of medicine**

Weill Cornell's ability to deliver excellent patient care, conduct groundbreaking research and provide a world-class medical education is made possible through the generosity of loyal friends and supporters like you. Gifts of all sizes are appreciated and have an impact on our mission. We are here to help you and your advisor(s) as you consider your unique philanthropic goals.

## **Learn more**

To request our complimentary "Ways to Give" guide, or for suggested language to assist you or your attorney in preparing your plans, please return the enclosed reply card. For questions, **please contact Weill Cornell's planned giving professionals at (646) 962-9567 or [plannedgiving@med.cornell.edu](mailto:plannedgiving@med.cornell.edu)**. All inquiries are confidential, and there is no obligation.



Weill Cornell's ability to **deliver excellent patient care, conduct groundbreaking research and provide a world-class medical education** is made possible through the generosity of loyal friends and supporters like you.



## Generous Bequest to Support Students

JOHN ABBOTT

Joan Toepfer wants to make a difference in the world. After her parents, Jeanne and Jerome Goldman, both died of cancer, she began supporting research dedicated to finding a cure for the disease. When she was diagnosed with ovarian cancer in 2015, she became an outspoken advocate of ovarian-cancer awareness. Today, she is grateful for the extraordinary care she has received from her team of doctors – all faculty members at Weill Cornell Medicine – and is hopeful that a new generation of medical students will be inspired to pursue cancer-related specialties.

The cheery, brightly colored art in Ms. Toepfer’s Upper East Side apartment – much of it collected during her international travels – is a reflection of her passion for life and her determination to focus on the positive.

Yet even as she concentrates on living in the moment, Ms. Toepfer remains committed to the fight against cancer. Recently, she established a \$300,000 bequest in her will to create the Jeanne and Jerome Goldman and Joan Toepfer Scholarship at Weill Cornell Medicine, named in memory of her parents and created in honor of her internist, Dr. Richard Cohen (MD ’75).

“From the moment I met Dr. Cohen, he made me feel welcome and cared for,” says Ms. Toepfer. “I’m lucky to have all these wonderful doctors.”

Ms. Toepfer gained a new appreciation for the cutting-edge cancer research conducted by physician-scientists at Weill Cornell Medicine after taking a tour of the Sandra and Edward Meyer Cancer Center.

Joan Toepfer gained a new appreciation for the **cutting-edge cancer research** conducted by physician-scientists at Weill Cornell Medicine.

“Partnering with Weill Cornell has made me feel that I am contributing to something transformational that will lead to better cures and treatments, positively impacting the quality of life for those with cancer,” she says.

“Making a gift to Weill Cornell Medicine through a bequest in my will allows me to plan for meaningful philanthropy, while giving me the financial flexibility to live life to the fullest today.”

# Maximize Your Year-End Giving

## Appreciated Securities

When you donate appreciated securities that you have held for more than one year, your gift is for the full fair market value of the asset. In most cases, you pay no capital gains tax and you receive a tax deduction of up to 30 percent of your adjusted gross income. The greater the appreciation on the asset, the greater your tax savings.

## Charitable IRA Rollover

If you are age 70½ or older, you are allowed to make a charitable distribution from your traditional IRA of up to \$100,000 to Weill Cornell Medicine, and the transferred amount will be excluded from your gross taxable income. This gift counts toward your required minimum distributions (RMDs) and must be made directly from your IRA administrator to Weill Cornell Medicine.

## Donor-Advised Fund

Contributing to a Donor-Advised Fund (DAF) may make you eligible for a charitable deduction for the full fair market value of the asset on the date of contribution, and will allow you to recommend when and how much you would like to contribute to Weill Cornell Medicine and other causes in the future. A DAF centralizes your giving and avoids the cost and administration of managing a private foundation. You may also consider setting up a DAF to benefit Weill Cornell Medicine through the Cornell University Foundation, which is administered at no charge to you, for a minimum gift of \$100,000. Additional details may apply.

## Learn more

For more information on these strategies, for the legal name of our organization, or for our tax ID number, please contact our planned giving professionals at (646) 962-9567 or [plannedgiving@med.cornell.edu](mailto:plannedgiving@med.cornell.edu), or return the enclosed reply card.

Tax-efficient strategies to minimize your taxes and maximize the impact of your donation

# Lewis Atterbury Stimson Society

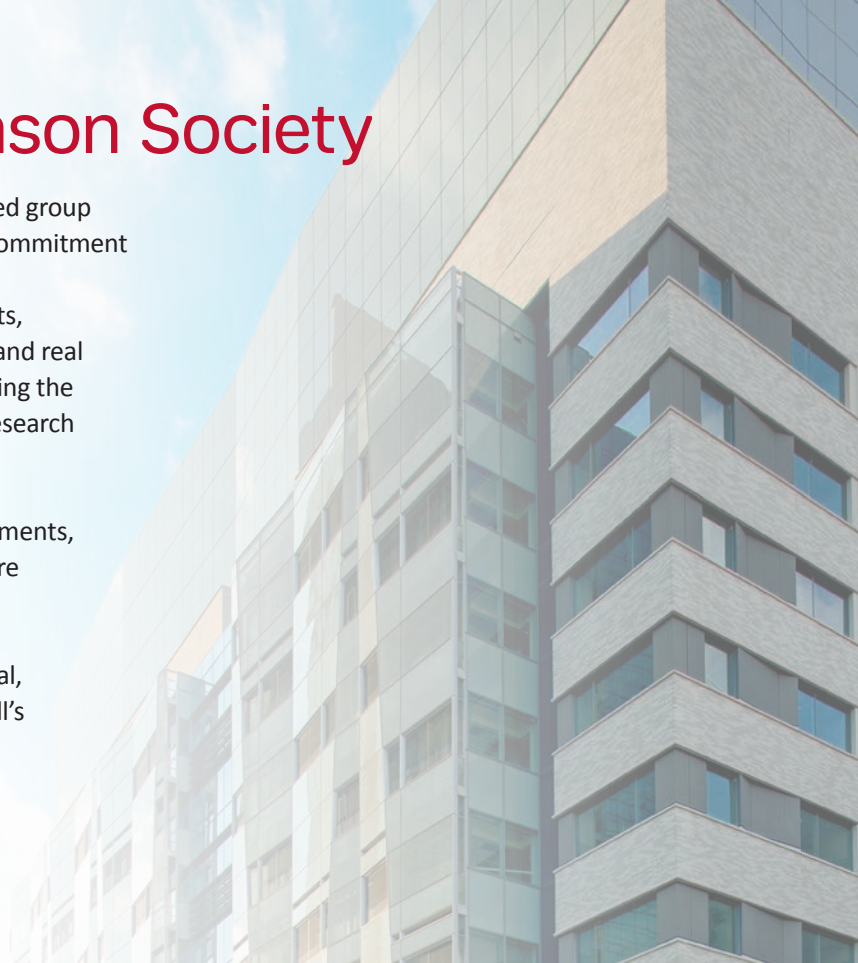
The Lewis Atterbury Stimson Society honors a distinguished group of alumni, faculty, staff and friends who have included a commitment to Weill Cornell Medicine in their charitable estate plans.

Through planned gifts such as bequests, life income gifts, charitable trusts, retirement plans, life insurance policies and real estate, Stimson Society members play a vital role in ensuring the institution's continued excellence in medical education, research and patient care.

Planned gifts can be directed toward any purpose at Weill Cornell Medicine, including research into new treatments, student scholarships and funding of innovative clinical care programs.

Stimson Society members receive invitations to special events, the *Philanthropist* newsletter and valuable financial, estate and charitable gift planning ideas from Weill Cornell's planned giving professionals.

**How To Reach Us:**  
**Planned Giving Office**  
**Phone: 646-962-9567**  
**Email: [plannedgiving@med.cornell.edu](mailto:plannedgiving@med.cornell.edu)**



## Who Was Dr. Lewis Atterbury Stimson?

"I have been privileged to add something to the sum of knowledge, to aid some in trouble, to receive the blessings of the poor."

Dr. Lewis Atterbury Stimson

The Stimson Society is proud to carry on the tradition of generosity and innovation embodied by its namesake, Dr. Lewis Atterbury Stimson (1844-1917). A tireless educator and influential surgeon, Dr. Stimson was one of the founders of the Medical College and its first professor of surgery. In 1878, the visionary Dr. Stimson performed one of the first surgeries in the United States using the antiseptic method, which was considered novel at the time and saved countless lives.

Like our planned giving partners, Dr. Stimson also recognized that charitable contributions are the cornerstone of this institution. In 1898, he helped secure a major gift from his friend and Yale classmate Colonel Oliver Hazard Payne, a philanthropist and oil industrialist, to establish the new Medical College campus. Thanks to the connection established by Dr. Stimson, Payne became a loyal supporter of the Medical College, contributing annual gifts totaling more than \$4 million.

Dr. Stimson left his mark on the future of Weill Cornell Medicine by believing in the power of education and science to change the world for the better. More than a century later, Stimson Society members are doing the same.

This publication is prepared for the general information of our friends and supporters. Its purpose is to describe current developments that may be helpful in your tax and financial planning. Please consult your attorney or other advisor as to the applicability of any option to your personal situation.

If you wish to have your name removed from lists to receive fundraising requests supporting Weill Cornell Medical College in the future, please either 1) write to us at: Privacy Office, Weill Cornell Medicine, 1300 York Avenue, Box 303, New York, NY 10065; 2) call us at 646.962.9565; or 3) e-mail us at [optoutwcmc@med.cornell.edu](mailto:optoutwcmc@med.cornell.edu).