



**Boston University School of Medicine
Alumni Association**

Greetings,

I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving with your friends and loved ones.

I encourage you to read the story of [Rahul Desikan, MD \(MED '09\)](#). A neuroscientist doing groundbreaking research on degenerative brain diseases, such as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), he was diagnosed in 2016 with ALS. He continues to work on the tough research question of who is most at risk for this disease.

The BU community was inspiring on #GivingTuesday, the worldwide day of philanthropic giving to nonprofits. In just 24 hours, BU donors gave more than \$150,000! As you know, students' education at BUSM is greatly enriched by donors. I invite you to give back to BUSM to benefit the next wave of students. If you are looking for some inspiration, look no further than this month's [Donor Spotlight](#).

I wish you well as we enter the busy holiday season. If your schedule permits, I hope to see you at the second annual Wine Down after Rounds event for students, faculty, and alumni, to be held on Monday, January 28, 2019.

Best wishes.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jean E. Ramsey'.

Jean E. Ramsey, MD '90 MPH '08
Associate Dean for Alumni Affairs
Vice Chair of Education and Program Director of Ophthalmology
Associate Professor, Ophthalmology and Pediatrics



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ALUMNI IN THE NEWS |



Rahul Desikan's (MED '09) Story of Love, Science, and Facing Down Death

The BUSM alum, a pioneering neuroscientist, was attacking ALS — Then ALS attacked him.



Students and Alumni Celebrate Inaugural EMSSP Weekend

Sponsored by the BUSM Alumni Association, events included a social hour and a networking brunch and panel discussion for students and alumni.



Herman Williams (MED '88) Gives Inspiring Talk to Aspiring Medical Students

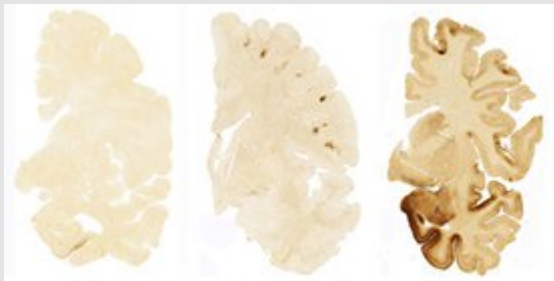
After a near death experience, Dr. Williams (MED'88) shared an inspiring comeback story with BUSM students and faculty at an event hosted by Dr. N. Stephen Ober (MED'86).



Stacey Rosen (MED '85) Honored with the Women in Cardiology Mentoring Award

American Heart Association's Council on Clinical Cardiology recognizes importance of mentoring in the professional development of women.

SCHOOL NEWS |



Genetic Risk Factor for CTE Detected

BUSM, VA researchers have identified a gene that might influence which individuals are at greater risk to develop severe Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE).



70 Years, 15,000 Participants, 3,716 Research Papers: Celebrating the Framingham Heart Study

The Framingham Heart Study (FHS) invited all of its participants to a two-part, daylong celebration.



SPH Professor Named Board Chair at Wounded Warrior Project

Jonathan Woodson, MD, professor of health law, policy & management, has been selected to chair the Wounded Warrior Project's Board of Directors.



American Academy of Ophthalmology Honors Stephen Christiansen, Babak Eliassi-Rad

Stephen Christiansen, MD, received a Senior Achievement Award, while Babak Eliassi-Rad, received an Achievement Award.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT |

Alumni Spotlight



Gerasimos Bastas MED '10

Donor Spotlight



Linda Burke-Galloway MED '87

BUSM RESEARCH CORNER |

- **Race Plays Role in Regaining Weight after Gastric Bypass Surgery**
- **Elevated Blood Pressure in People Under 40 Poses Hazard of Developing Cardiovascular Diseases Prematurely**
- **Pain Sensitization Increases Risk of Persistent Knee Pain**

DONATE NOW

Choose to be great! **Join The Campaign for Boston University**



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Alumni Association

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