

## **Edward Halperin, MD, MA Will Be Keynote Speaker for Commencement; Halperin and Three Others to Receive Honorary Degrees**

---

At its commencement for the Class of 2017 on Thursday May 25, the New York College of Podiatric Medicine will grant 96 Doctor of Podiatric Medicine degrees to its graduates as well as four honorary degrees. The ceremony will take place at Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts.



The keynote speaker will be **Edward C. Halperin, MD, MA**, Chancellor and Chief Executive Officer of New York Medical College. Dr. Halperin will receive the degree of Doctor of Science, *Honoris Causa*, and address the graduates, their guests, and the NYCPM Board of Trustees. The three additional honorees -- Benjamin B. Choi, Esq., of The Choi Law Group, LLC and a Trustee of NYCPM; Stuart Salles, Esq., of The Law Office of Stuart Salles and legal consultant; and Ross E. Taubman, DPM, President and Chief Medical Officer of the PICA Group -- will receive the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, *Honoris Causa* at the ceremony.

**Edward C. Halperin, MD, MA** is Chancellor and CEO of New York Medical College, Professor of Radiation Oncology, Pediatrics, and History, and Provost for Biomedical Affairs of the Touro College and University System. Dr. Halperin's medical specialty is the care of children with cancer who require radiation therapy. He is the author and/or editor of seven editions of the textbook *Pediatric Radiation Oncology*, four editions of the textbook *Principles and Practice of Radiation Oncology*, and over 210 articles in the peer-reviewed literature on the subjects of childhood cancer, brain tumors, radiation-induced immunosuppression, and the history of racial, religious, and gender discrimination in health professions education.



**Benjamin B. Choi, Esq.** has been a Trustee of NYCPM since 2014. In January of 2014, Mr. Choi became Managing Partner at The Choi Law Group LLC, based in Rutherford, New Jersey, where he is responsible for the daily operations of a law firm consisting of eight attorneys. He is the Chief Municipal Prosecutor on behalf of the State of New Jersey within the statutory jurisdictions of the Municipal Courts in the cities of Hoboken and Avon-By-The-Sea. He has held his position in Avon-By-The-Sea since 2004 and in Hoboken since 2009. From 1999 to 2013, Mr. Choi was an Associate Attorney or Partner in several other New Jersey-based law firms. He earned a J.D. degree at Rutgers School of Law, in Newark, New Jersey, in 1999, having previously been an Eagleton Fellow at the Eagleton Institute of Politics, where he earned a Master of Science degree in 1997.

**Edward Halperin, MD, MA Will Be Keynote Speaker  
for Commencement; Halperin and Three Others  
to Receive Honorary Degrees, *cont'd***

---



**Stuart Salles, Esq.** has been counsel to the New York College of Podiatric Medicine for over fifteen years, assisting with all matters involving students and the College. He is an attorney admitted to practice in the Courts in the State of New York, the Federal Courts and the Supreme Court of the United States. He graduated from Baruch College of the City College of New York with a Bachelor of Business Administration and graduated from Brooklyn Law School with a Juris Doctor Degree. He has been a practicing attorney for over forty years. Over the last thirty years, his practice has focused on representing employees of the City and State of New York. He is counsel to many labor unions as well as fraternal organizations of city and state employees. For more than thirty years he has served as a part-time Judge of the Courts of the State of New York and is the longest-sitting Judge in Rockland County of the State of New York.



**Ross E. Taubman, DPM** is the President and Chief Medical Officer of the Podiatry Insurance Company of America (PICA), the nation's leading malpractice insurance company for podiatrists. Prior to joining PICA in 2011, Dr. Taubman was in private practice for 26 years in Maryland. He is a former President of the Maryland Podiatric Medical Association and served as President of the American Podiatric Medical Association in 2008-2009. Dr. Taubman is board certified in foot and ankle surgery by the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery (formerly ABPS) and is a Fellow of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons (ACFAS) and the American Society of Podiatric Surgeons (ASPS).