Victor Jimenez, who started his career at NYCPM in 1974, will retire on April 19 after 44 years. Starting as a lab tech, Jimenez was encouraged to pursue his education by Michael Valletta, then Dean of Clinical Education, and ultimately he obtained both a BS and an MS. Jimenez switched to the Foot Center in 1978, where he has worked as a medical technologist and as patient advocate (he is bilingual). He also lectured the second-year students in phlebotomies, and translated as needed. Since 1999, he has been working closely with FCNY social worker Julie Diaz as patient advocate. He loves multitasking!

Over the years, Jimenez has devoted time to the community, helping to aid the homeless with then-Congressman Charles Rangel and helping AIDS patients in the Foot Center. He considers his work as a patient advocate as continuing his obligation to help others. People here have always been good to him, he says, and he particularly wants to thank Marie Williams and Julie Diaz, who are “two special friends that helped me professionally with my job in the Foot Center. Jimenez says he learned the importance of having an education during his career at NYCPM/FCNY. He will never forget, he says, that “working here has made [him] a better person.”