ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE ALUMNAE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2017



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BLOSSOM ANDREA DAMANIA, CLASS OF 1992, the Alumnae Association of Mount Holyoke College is pleased to honor you with the Alumnae Achievement Award. This award is presented to alumnae whose accomplishments and service to society exemplify the values and virtues set forth by the College.

Blossom, one of the world's leading virologists, for sixteen years you have been on the faculty at the University of North Carolina (UNC) Chapel Hill School of Medicine. Your academic career began at Mount Holyoke. From there you went on to receive a doctoral degree from the biomedical graduate program at the University of Pennsylvania. A postdoctoral fellow at Harvard Medical School, you moved directly to the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at UNC-Chapel Hill, where you steadily climbed to full professor. In 2015 you received the Cary C. Boshamer Distinguished Professorship and became the assistant dean for research in the UNC School of Medicine, moving to the position of vice dean in 2016.

Throughout your career, you have received numerous honors, including the Mary Lyon Award from Mount Holyoke in 2005, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Scholar Award, and the American Heart Established Investigator Award, among many others. You are an active, groundbreaking researcher, and your work has tremendous relevance, focusing on understanding the pathology of viral-associated cancers, which make up approximately twenty percent of all human cancers. Your research lab group recently developed the UNG-Chapel Hill Global Oncology program, focusing on disparities in cancer incidence and death across the globe. In addition, your dedication to mentoring others has led to many of your trainees embarking on successful careers in academia, government, or the private sector.

Blossom, for your accomplishments, the Alumnae Association is honored to present you with the Alumnae Achievement Award on this, your twenty-fifth reunion.

MARCIA BRUMIT KROPF '67 PRESIDENT ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE NANCY BELLOWS PEREZ '76 INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE