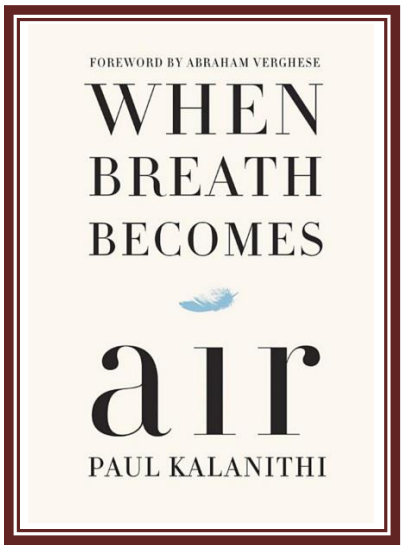
HOFSTRA NORTHWELL
SCHOOL *of* MEDICINE
AT HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY℠

Osler Book & Film Club Series

When Breath Becomes Air

By Paul Kalanithi



Wednesdsay, March 30, 2016

6:00p.m.: Hofstra Northwell School of Medicine (Room W104)

Virtual Participation via ZOOM conferencing is welcome.

For a link to participate remotely, please email Lisa.Martin@hofstra.edu.

Snacks and casual dinner will be provided for in-person attendees.

About our current selection:

At the age of thirty-six, just before completing his training as a neurosurgeon, Paul Kalanithi was diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer. *When Breath Becomes Air* chronicles Kalanithi's transformation from a naïve medical student "possessed," as he wrote, "by the question of what, given that all organisms die, makes a virtuous and meaningful life" into a neurosurgeon at Stanford working in the brain, the most critical place for human identity, and finally into a patient and new father confronting his own mortality. Paul Kalanithi died in March 2015, while working on this book, yet his words live on as a guide and a gift to us all. "I began to realize that coming face to face with my own mortality, in a sense, had changed nothing and everything," he wrote. "Seven words from Samuel Beckett began to repeat in my head: 'I can't go on. I'll go on.'" *When Breath Becomes Air* is an unforgettable, life-affirming reflection on the challenge of facing death and on the relationship between doctor and patient, from a brilliant writer who became both.

About the Osler Society Book & Film Series

Students, faculty and staff of the Hofstra Northwell School of Medicine and Hofstra University are invited to participate in this *Humanities in Medicine* program, designed to explore the depth and complexities of human relationships and illness.

Please RSVP to Lisa.Martin@hofstra.edu if you are interested in participating, and indicate whether you will participate in person or virtually.