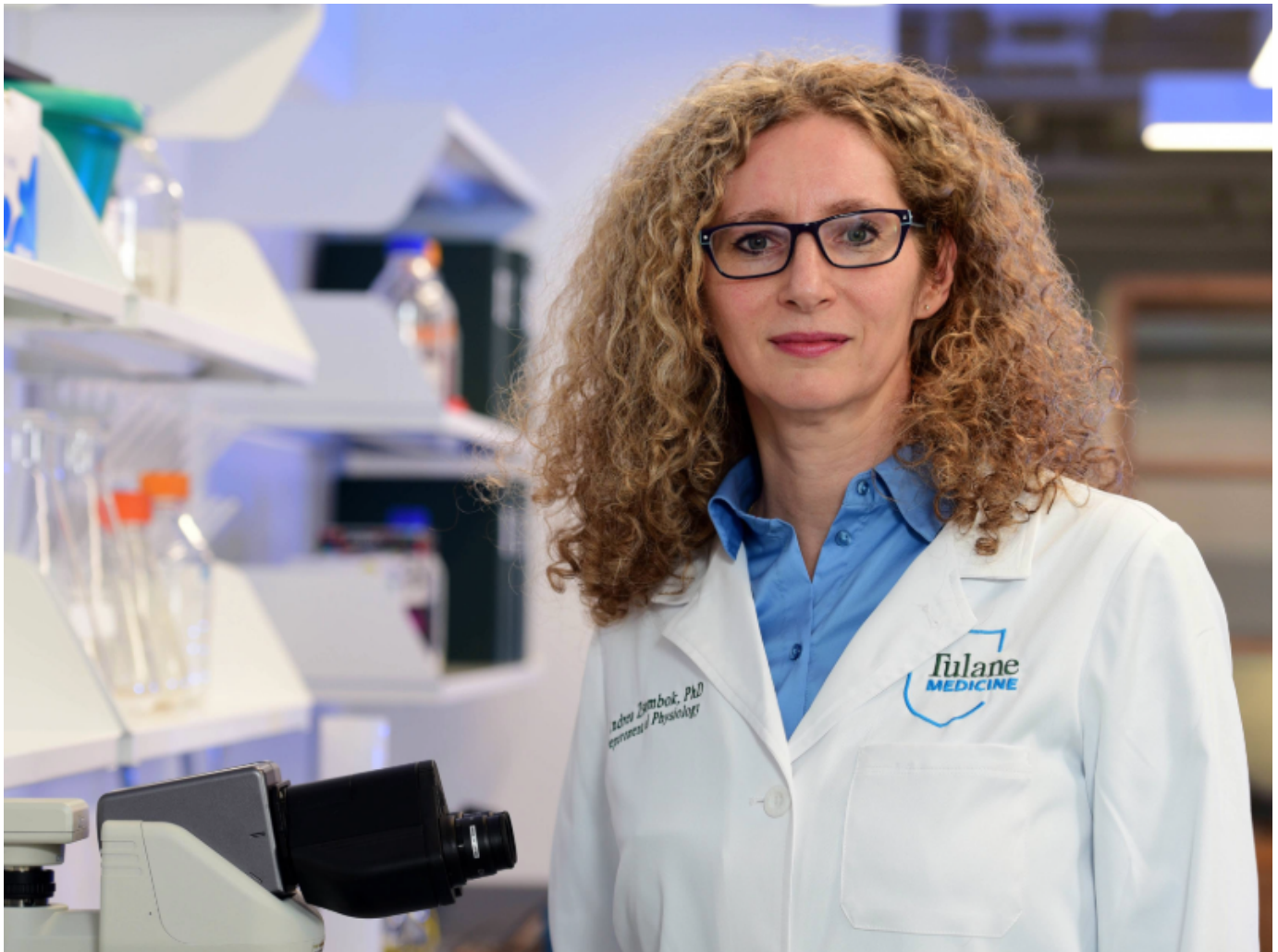


## **Bridging Science and Service: Andrea Zsombok Takes on Diplomatic Role**

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March 27, 2026 10:59 AM



Andrea Zsombok, PhD, is a professor of physiology at Tulane University School of Medicine.

In the laboratory, [Andrea Zsombok, PhD](#), a professor of physiology at Tulane University School of Medicine, studies how [brain circuits control organ function](#). In a new role beyond the lab, she is focused on something just as vital: community and connection.

Zsombok was recently appointed Honorary Consul of Hungary for Louisiana and Mississippi and received her letter of commission during a ceremony at the [Embassy of Hungary](#) in Washington, D.C. The appointment recognizes her commitment to strengthening relationships between countries and communities.

Honorary consuls are private individuals selected by foreign governments and approved by the U.S. Department of State. They support diplomatic, cultural, and economic ties while serving as a resource for the country's citizens. For Zsombok, the role is both personal and purposeful.

"I grew up in a small rural village in Hungary and received my doctorate degree from the University of Pecs," said Zsomeck. I then moved to the U.S., because I had an excellent opportunity to train with experts in neuroscience. After completing my post-doctorate training, I was recruited to Tulane School of Medicine, where I have been fortunate and blessed in my career. After moving here, I also found a strong Hungarian community that helped me settle in New Orleans.

Louisiana's Hungarian roots run deep. Livingston Parish, located in southeast Louisiana, was once home to one of [the largest rural Hungarian settlements](#) in the United States, with many families arriving from Europe to work in lumber and agriculture. Today, nearly 7,000 Hungarians live across Louisiana and Mississippi.

As Honorary Consul, Zsombok aims to honor this heritage while creating new opportunities. She will promote cultural, educational, and economic partnerships, support exchange programs, and assist Hungarian citizens throughout the region.

"Cultural heritage is an integral part of our identity, and it has a significant impact on many aspects of our lives," said Zsombok. "It influences our values, beliefs, goals, relationships, and helps us to deal with challenges. I was raised with traditional Hungarian values, which are still alive and cherished by the descendants of local communities.

"This March, as a testimony to the ties between the diaspora in Louisiana and Hungary, [we welcomed the President of Hungary](#), Dr. Tamas Sulyok, on his first official visit to Louisiana. The event attended by residents, state, and federal officials has brought much-needed attention to the 130-year-old Hungarian settlement in Livingstone Parish. I am proud to be part of this community and honored to serve as Consul to help to preserve Hungarian heritage and further promote the existing ties between countries and communities."



*The Ambassador of Hungary to the United States  
H.E. Szabolcs Takács and Mrs. Emese Gaál  
Cordially invite you to join us  
to the ceremony for presenting the Letter of Commission  
to the Honorary Consul-Designate  
Dr. Andrea Zsombok  
on Thursday, December 4, 2025 at the Embassy of Hungary  
at 6 p.m.  
followed by a reception from 6.30 p.m.  
Address: 1500 Rhode Island Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20005*

*Please RSVP by December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025  
to [EmbassyofHungary.WAS@mfa.gov.hu](mailto:EmbassyofHungary.WAS@mfa.gov.hu)*

*Dress code: Business attire*

*This invitation is non-transferable*

An invitation to a ceremony at the Embassy of Hungary during which Dr. Zsombok received her letter of commission.