2021

Drexel University
Commencement Ceremonies

College of Medicine

May the Eighteenth
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Dear Graduates,

I am privileged to honor you for the outstanding achievement that brought you to this pivotal stage in your medical training, research and scientific studies. This is a moment of celebration, when you should take great pride in your many accomplishments.

As you move on to further training, career development and other professional experiences, you can be certain that your achievements are magnified many times over — because they are part of something much larger. It is that cherished legacy of helping patients, saving lives, advancing knowledge and expanding access to health care that is central to the mission of Drexel’s College of Medicine.

There are many challenges in your chosen fields, from the transformative power of technology, to the need for patient-centered care, to the imperative to foster better public health and ensure social justice. With the COVID-19 pandemic, your skills have never been more in demand and the challenges before you loom that much larger. Even so, I am confident that you are joining the ranks of Drexel physicians, scientists and professionals who are making a difference across health care and related fields.

I salute your efforts, and those of everyone who helped you achieve this milestone. With the mentoring of the Drexel faculty and the support of your family and friends, you have completed a monumental learning journey.

As you join a Drexel alumni community that spans the globe, it is my hope that your time at the College of Medicine has instilled a desire to stay involved. The colleagues and friends from your time at Drexel will continue to enrich your life, and I urge you to serve as proud alumni ambassadors for the College you helped to shape and sustain.

What a rare privilege you have in serving others with dedication as clinicians, researchers or administrators. You can be confident that your preparation has been outstanding and that your future is bright.

On behalf of the trustees, faculty and professional staff of Drexel University, I wish you all the best in fulfilling your career and personal goals.

Sincerely,

John Fry
President
Academic Procession

Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1
Edward Elgar

National Anthem

Star-Spangled Banner
Francis Scott Key

Opening Remarks

Donna M. Russo, PhD
William Maul Measey Chair in Medical Education
Interim Vice Dean for Educational Affairs
Senior Associate Dean for Curriculum
Professor, Microbiology & Immunology

Remarks by the Dean

Charles B. Cairns, MD
Walter H. and Leonore Annenberg Dean, College of Medicine
Senior Vice President of Medical Affairs
Professor of Emergency Medicine

Welcome

John Fry
President, Drexel University

Greetings

Stanley W. Silverman
Vice Chair, Drexel University Board of Trustees

Recognition of Academic Awards

Charles B. Cairns

Citation of Fifty-Year Graduates 1971-2021

Charles B. Cairns

Conferring of Honorary Degree

John Fry
Charles B. Cairns

Doctor of Science

Drew Weissman, MD, PhD

Recognition of Student Awards

Charles B. Cairns

Spoken Word Poem

“A Survivor’s Guide to Graduating”
Theophilus Owofu Abah
Class of 2021

Charge to the Graduates

Charles B. Cairns

Conferring of Graduate Degrees

John Fry

Elisabeth J. Van Bockstaele, PhD
Founding Dean, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies
Chief Strategy Officer
Senior Vice President for Graduate and Online Education
Dean, Graduate College
Professor of Pharmacology and Physiology

Jed Shumsky, PhD
Senior Associate Dean of Educational and Academic Affairs
Professor of Neurobiology and Anatomy

Investiture

Administration of the Graduate Student Oath

Elisabeth J. Van Bockstaele

Confering of Doctor of Medicine Degrees

John Fry

Charles B. Cairns
Donna M. Russo

Amy C. Fuchs, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs
Associate Professor of Medicine

Seema Baranwal, MD
Associate Dean for Student Affairs
Associate Professor of Medicine

Linda Berardi-Demo, EdD
Associate Dean, Admissions, Enrollment & Student Affairs
Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine

All degrees awarded at this Commencement carry an official conferral date of May 14, 2021
Investiture

Administration of the Physician’s Pledge
Leon McCrea II, MD, MPH  
Senior Associate Dean of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion  
Associate Professor of Family, Community, & Preventive Medicine

Military Oath for MD Officers
Richard J. Hamilton, MD, HU ’87  
Captain, Medical Corps, United States Navy (Retired)  
Regional Associate Dean for Crozer Keystone Health System  
Academic Chair and Professor of Emergency Medicine

Induction into the Alumni Association
Edward Siegel, MD ’12, MBA  
President-Elect, Alumni Association

Faculty Marshals
Amy Baranoski, MD ’03, MSc  
Assistant Dean, Phase One Curriculum  
Associate Professor of Medicine  

Dana C. Farabaugh, MD ’03  
Associate Dean for Clinical Education  
Associate Professor of Obstetrics & Gynecology  

Nathalie S. May, MD  
Associate Professor of Medicine  
Anh-Thu Vu, MD  
Assistant Professor of Neurology

Graduate Remarks
Sitara Soundararajan, MD  
Class of 2021

Graduate Student Oath
I will represent my profession honorably by conducting myself and my professional endeavors in a manner that is above reproach. I pledge never to allow financial gain or ambition to cloud my judgment. I will pursue truth and create knowledge for the greater good, but never to the detriment of others. I will maintain scientific integrity in all my work.

I will acknowledge and honor the contributions of those who have preceded me and will commit myself to lifelong learning. I will show compassion, embrace diversity and uphold excellence so that I become a worthy role model deserving of respect by all.

World Medical Association Declaration of Geneva

The Physician’s Pledge:
AS A MEMBER OF THE MEDICAL PROFESSION...
I SOLEMNLY PLEDGE to dedicate my life to the service of humanity;  
THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF MY PATIENT will be my first consideration;  
I WILL RESPECT the autonomy and dignity of my patient;  
I WILL MAINTAIN the utmost respect for human life;  
I WILL NOT PERMIT considerations of age, disease or disability, creed, ethnic origin, gender, nationality, political affiliation, race, sexual orientation, social standing or any other factor to intervene between my duty and my patient;  
I WILL RESPECT the secrets that are confided in me, even after the patient has died;

I WILL PRACTICE my profession with conscience and dignity and in accordance with good medical practice;  
I WILL FOSTER the honor and noble traditions of the medical profession;  
I WILL GIVE to my teachers, colleagues, and students the respect and gratitude that is their due;  
I WILL SHARE my medical knowledge for the benefit of the patient and the advancement of healthcare;  
I WILL ATTEND TO my own health, well-being, and abilities in order to provide care of the highest standard;  
I WILL NOT USE my medical knowledge to violate human rights and civil liberties, even under threat;  
I MAKE THESE PROMISES solemnly, freely, and upon my honor.

©2017 World Medical Association
Hahnemann Medical College
Class of 1971
Leland Russell Abbey, MD
Edward B. Arenson Jr., MD
Stephen Babic, MD
Stephen E. Barron, MD
Ollice Bates Jr., MD
Joseph M. Becker, MD
Joseph M. Bednarek, MD
Mark Berger, MD *
Georgetta C. Bidwell-Voit, MD
Robert E. Black, MD
Michael H. Bleshman, MD
Harry L. Bremer, MD
Eric N. Burkett, MD
Patricia A. Camody-Johnston, MD
Anthony G. Campo Jr., MD
Henry H. Canton Jr., MD
Richard J. Carlson, MD
Paul T. Cass, MD
Jerome H. Check, MD
T. Craig Childs, MD
Alan Cicciarelli, MD *
Patricia A. Convery-Glover, MD
Patrick A. Coyne, MD *
Duane E. Davis, MD
Francis N. Deluca, MD
Alain R. Derasse, MD *
John E. Devenney, MD
Martin R. Eichelberger, MD
Robert Enck, MD
F. Richard Ervin, MD
Ronald Feigin, MD
Steven A. Field, MD
Theodore Fink, MD
Howard Frank, MD
Irvin D. Franklin, MD
Allen S. Gabroy, MD
Richard A. Gambescia, MD
Francis C. Gamza, MD
Stanley R. Goldman, MD
Herbert P. Goodheart, MD
James A. Gosper, MD
Michael E. Gotthelf, MD
Barry Edward Graham, MD
Lowell T. Greenwald, MD *
Gloria A. Grzybicki, MD *
Robert H. Hale, MD
Ward D. Heinrich Jr., MD
Robert P. Hershkowitz, MD *
Lee H. Hertz, MD
Orie E. Kaltenbaugh, MD
Sheldon R. Karasick, MD
George L. Kirkpatrick, MD *
William J. Knox III, MD
Clark Kopycinski, MD *
Gary H. Kramer, MD
Margaret A. Kraybill, MD
Lawrence F. Kron, MD
John R. Kuhns, MD
Stephen H. Laffey, MD
Edward C. Lamon, MD
F. Forrest Lang, MD *
Harry J. Lessig, MD
Bruce A. Levy, MD
J. Leonard Lichtenfeld, MD
Thomas E. Liston, MD *
James MacFadyen, MD
Stephen Machinton, MD
Stephen A. Matarazzo, MD *
James R. McCole, MD *
Edward P. McMahon, MD
Charles T. Meyer, MD
Richard Selig Meyer, MD
Michael A. Miles, MD *
Gerald Miller, MD
Lee H. Miller, MD
Mayer R. Mintz, MD
Frederick T. Murray, MD
Ralph Nazzaro, MD
John R. O’Neal, MD
Carol E. Ott, MD
William Thomas Poirier, MD
Melvin P. Richter, MD
Michael V. Rock, MD
Lawrence N. Rossi, MD
Millard A. Ruddell, MD
Vadim M. Schaldenbro, MD
John C. Schantz, MD
Fredric H. Schiffer, MD
James G. Shames, MD
Harlan J. Sicherman, MD
Ronald D. Snyder, MD
Alan R. Solts, MD
Calvin R. Stafford Jr., MD
John D. Sten, MD *
Melvin J. Tonkon, MD *
William M. Trachtenberg, MD
John Tumola, MD
Michael J. Vergare, MD
Dean R. Wasserman, MD
James R. Watson, MD
Jeffrey Charles Weidig, MD
Stephen E. Weinberg, MD
Richard Weimer, MD
Armand J. Wohl, MD
John C. Zahniser, MD

Woman’s Medical College / Medical College of Pennsylvania
Class of 1971
Lucrezia Aquino, MD *
Anna M. Baranauskas, MD
Virginia Bolmarcich, MD
Jean K. Boyd, MD
Sandra Mac Chase, MD
Mary E. Christenson, MD
Wendy Coleman, MD
E. Cheryl Cunningham, MD *
Corinne Devereux, MD
Mary Anita Dilloway, MD
Judith B. Feldman, MD
Gail A. Fisher, MD
Suzanne Smith Godec, MD
Norma Ruth Green, MD
Martha Margaret Grout, MD
Dillie Grunauer, MD *
Mary Ann Haflin, MD
Nancy Jermanovich *
Lorraine C. King, MD
Lyn C. Lederman, MD
Kathleen R. Malaney, MD
Kathleen Maloney, MD
Claire Coverdale Marsh, MD
Margaret Honora McAlloon, MD
Marian McNamara, MD
Jeanne Shami Meisler, MD
Kathleen Mirante, MD *
Denise Mary Mulvihill, MD
Carol A. Munch, MD
Marjorie E. Newman, MD *
Doris Jean Phillips, MD
Christine Quinn, MD
Julie Annette Ricking, MD *
Dolores E. Rodriguez, MD *
Beverly R. Roth, MD
Sandra H. Roth, MD *
Carolyn Ann Sack, MD
Mindy E. Sanders, MD
Natalie Shemosky, MD
Charlotte Ann Skibbs, MD
Lilian Spigelman, MD
Melody Ann Stancil, MD
Judith Terrell, MD
Alice A. L. Uong, MD
Kathleen M. VanAalten, MD
Nina Ward, MD
Carol Lynn Weed, MD
Marie Weinberger, MD
Mary F. Welsh, MD

* deceased
As a professor of medicine at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, Drew Weissman, MD, PhD, is best known for his work with RNA biology that laid the groundwork with Katalin Karikó for the mRNA vaccines for COVID-19 developed by Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna.

Dr. Weissman’s research focuses on the study of RNA and innate immune system biology and the application of these findings to vaccine research, therapeutics and gene therapy. His lab is developing many vaccines for pathogens, including malaria, norovirus, influenza, C. difficile, HSV2, HIV and HCV, as well as vaccines for potential future pandemics, universal influenza and pancoronavirus. His lab also develops mRNA delivery of proteins, including genetically deficient, therapeutic and monoclonal antibodies. In newer studies, his lab has developed new technologies to deliver mRNA-LNPs to specific cell types with simple in vivo injection. The cells and organs targeted thus far include lung, heart, brain, CD4+ cells, T cells and bone marrow stem cells. New therapies are being developed to treat genetic and other disorders in vivo, which has the potential to change and simplify such therapies and allow worldwide use for diseases such as sickle cell anemia.

Dr. Weissman received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Brandeis University and his medical degree and doctorate from the Boston University School of Medicine. He did his residency at Beth Israel Medical Center in Boston and a fellowship at the National Institutes of Health. He is widely published and holds memberships in the American Federation for Clinical Research, the Association of American Physicians and the American Association of Immunologists.

For his contributions to advancing world public health as a physician-scientist, Drexel is proud to confer upon Dr. Drew Weissman the degree of Doctor of Science, honoris causa.
### Doctor of Philosophy Degrees

(The graduate’s dissertation title and advisor are indicated.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Advisor</th>
<th>Department</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ilse Pamela Alonso</td>
<td>“Impact of sleep on incubation of cocaine craving and dopamine terminal adaptations following abstinence”</td>
<td>Rodrigo A. España, PhD</td>
<td>BIOCHEMISTRY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sara M. Blazejewski</td>
<td>“Dissecting Cellular Mechanisms of Neurite Formation in the Developing Cortex”</td>
<td>Kazuhito Toyooka, PhD</td>
<td>NEUROSCIENCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelly Donovan §</td>
<td>“Investigating the Pathogenesis of Pre-clinical Diabetic Retinopathy: Transcription Factor Sp1 Glycosylation Uregulates VEGF-A”</td>
<td>Jane Clifford, PhD</td>
<td>MOLECULAR AND CELL BIOLOGY AND GENETICS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaitlin Farrell §</td>
<td>“Neuroinflammation and circuitry changes in the dorsal raphe nucleus with depressive phenotype after spinal cord injury.”</td>
<td>John Houlé, PhD</td>
<td>NEUROSCIENCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Flashner</td>
<td>“The Transcription Factor Specificity Protein 1 Regulates Chromosome Assembly and Segregation During Mitosis”</td>
<td>Jane Clifford, PhD</td>
<td>MOLECULAR AND CELL BIOLOGY AND GENETICS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katherine Ann Innamorati</td>
<td>“Comparative genomics of the keystone mucosal pathogens Porphyromonas gingivalis and Gardnerella vaginalis reveal associations between virulence phenotypes and phylogenetic structure”</td>
<td>Garth Ehrlich, PhD</td>
<td>MOLECULAR AND CELL BIOLOGY AND GENETICS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dana Lengel</td>
<td>“Mechanisms of hippocampal dysfunction following pediatric brain trauma.”</td>
<td>Ramesh Raghupathi, PhD</td>
<td>NEUROSCIENCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stacia I. Lewandowski</td>
<td>“In Vivo Studies of the ERK1/2 Phosphatase, MKP3 in Dopaminergic Neurons on Cocaine-Associated Behaviors, Dopamine Signaling and Gene Expression”</td>
<td>Ole Valente Mortensen, PhD</td>
<td>PHARMACOLOGY AND PHYSIOLOGY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yuan-Ping Li §</td>
<td>“Local administration of biomaterials for inducing antigen-specific tolerance”</td>
<td>Hao Cheng, PhD</td>
<td>MATERIALS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ronak Subhash Loonawat</td>
<td>“Interplay of hepatitis B virus infection and hepatocyte metabolism: a virus-induced Warburg-like effect stimulates hepatitis B virus replication”</td>
<td>Michael J. Bouchard, PhD</td>
<td>MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kiran Kumar Madugula</td>
<td>“Over representation of myocyte enhancer factor (MEF-2) in HTLV-1-induced adult T-cell leukemia/lymphoma contributes to acute disease by facilitating the activity of antisense promoter and HBZ via JunD”</td>
<td>Pooja Jain, PhD</td>
<td>MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachel A. Nolan §</td>
<td>“Role of Dopamine in the Modulation of Macrophage-Mediated Inflammation: Implications for the Neuropathogenesis of NeuroHIV and Drug Abuse”</td>
<td>Peter Gaskill, PhD</td>
<td>NEUROSCIENCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amanda Jo Platt</td>
<td>“Characterization of adenylation enzymes and domain interactions involved in insect and bacterial non-ribosomal peptide synthesis”</td>
<td>Joris Beld, PhD</td>
<td>MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle L. Swift</td>
<td>“Investigating the role of cell cycle-dependent regulation of Sp1 in double-strand break repair”</td>
<td>Jane Clifford, PhD</td>
<td>PHARMACOLOGY AND PHYSIOLOGY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Wang §</td>
<td>“Investigation into synaptic and postsynaptic events of RAD51 mediated homologous recombination”</td>
<td>Alexander Muzin, PhD</td>
<td>BIOCHEMISTRY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riley Michele Williams</td>
<td>“Type I interferon from astrocytes restricts influenza A virus replication in neurons”</td>
<td>Glenn Rall, PhD</td>
<td>MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shasha Yang</td>
<td>“Thalamocortical inputs regulate the post-adolescent development of inhibitory circuitry in the mPFC”</td>
<td>Wen-Jun Gao, MD, PhD</td>
<td>NEUROSCIENCE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Master’s Degrees
(The graduate’s title and advisor are indicated if a thesis was required. All degrees are Master of Science unless otherwise indicated.)

DIVISION OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

Biochemistry

Eric Rossi

Biochemistry of Health & Disease

Thuraya Alruwaili

Prajakta Dilipkumar Methre
“Identification of the BORG2 Actin Binding Element”
Advisor: Shae Padrick, PhD

Cancer Biology

Marwah Khalid Abdulfattah Al-Aloosi

Aditi H. Shimpi
“Mechanistic target of rapamycin regulation of HBV replication”
Advisor: Michael J. Bouchard, PhD

Melissa A. Sutton-Navarro

Molecular and Cell Biology and Genetics

Tylor L. Brewster
“The Role of Timeless-PARP1 Interaction in DNA Repair and Cancer Growth”
Advisor: Eishi Noguchi, PhD

Diehl R. De Souza
“Understanding the role of the defective provirus in HIV-1 infected individuals with neuro-HIV”
Advisor: Michael Nonnemacher, PhD

Tejsi T. Dhameliya
“Role of KLF8 in breast cancer stem cells and crosstalk with O-GlcNAc transferase.”
Advisor: Mauricio Reginato, PhD

Emily Esquea
“Role of OGT/CDK5/ACSS2 Signaling Axis on Breast Cancer Brain Metastatic Growth”
Advisor: Mauricio Reginato, PhD

Alexandra A. Guffey

Daniel Kantner
“Cobamide amidohydrolase specificity governs cobamide remodeling in diverse bacteria”
Advisor: Joris Beld, PhD

Nima Sarfaraz

Daniel C. Slusaw
“HOTAIR domains can independently regulate gene expression in breast cancer”
Advisor: Srinivas Somarowthu, PhD

Microbiology and Immunology

Rita Aurora Esposito
“The effect of nonthermal plasma on herpes simplex virus type 1 infectivity”
Advisors: Fred Krebs, PhD, and Vandana Miller, MD

Brett LaBier
“Novel Insights into TLR4:TLR3 Crosstalk in Response to TLR4 Specific Ultrapure Lipopolysaccharide (LPS) from Highly Pathogenic Escherichia coli 0111:B4 in Murine Microglia”
Advisor: Sonia Navas-Martin, PhD

Bhavani Taramangalam
“Adenosine deaminase-1 (ADA-1) induces DC maturation and improves adaptive immunity”
Advisor: Elias El Hadad, PhD

Neuroscience

Emily Zihal

Pharmacology and Physiology

Gianna Rossi
Jieyi Zhang

DIVISION OF INTERDISCIPLINARY AND CAREER-ORIENTED PROGRAMS

Biomedicine and Business

Adam Cohen
Caleb Ethan Grossman
Morgan Iveson
Melissa Jeanine Jenkins
Polat B. Shakarov
Sean E. Smith

Biomedicine and Law

Samantha Judi-Mari Gaerlan
Amber Grover
Alexis Mariah McIlwain
Avinash Sookdeo

Clinical Research for Health Professionals

Jarrett D. Cain
Prakruthi Palepu

Clinical Research Organization and Management

Kiersten M. Bestgen
Esther J. Campbell
Christine Chase
Jennifer Cisar

Neuropsychiatry

Jessica M. Clark
Ruth Connolly

Psychology

Julia Deane
Tyeler M. Faulkner
Jacob Atemefah Fotaw

Nursing

Lukas Hoetzel
Cydney Lea Johnson

Gastroenterology

Timothy William Jones
Ami Kapadia
Claudia Kennedy
Sevak Keshishyan
Angel Kidd

Geriatric Medicine
Nareshkumar Vitthalbhai Nakarani
Todd Nesson
Michelle M. Onye
Angel Patel

Women’s Health
Atithi Patel
Alison Hope Pressman
Victoria K. Rath
Stephanie Rivera
Steven M. Schoenfeld
Kyle J. Skelton
Derek Smith
Shakina Smith
Erik Vincent Soliz
Mandeep Sran
Patrick Charles Sturges
Gary Summer
Irene M. Toropin
Allison Weiderhold
Brina Michelle Wright
Master’s Degree Recipients

Drug Discovery and Development

Ciara Alvarez
Christopher M. Bouslog
Margott Meg Drew
Ereselda Elezi
Juan Manuel Estrada
Simran Kaur Gill
Tiffany Hammonds
Anna Kolesnik
Yue Lu
Nisha Rajamohan
Michael S. Ryan
Janine Lynn Schippang
Lindsey Shelp
Caitlyn Stromko
Harshil Vyas
Wenda Wu
Hanming Zeng

Immunology

Samantha Albert
Bailey Banville
Moretti Pah Collins
Cameron T. Feathers
Ilanit Gutman
Jayla Hyde
Jacqueline Claire Robins
Holly M. Yost

Infectious Disease

Adrienne Bonow
Ruth Chung Buh
Sandhya Tara Chakravarthi
Adrienne Goode
Stephanie Hadid
Malia Monique Hairston
Kelecy Harper
Kerisa Naicker
Jasmine M. Nymick
Tyler John Reese
Brianna J. Smith
Ryan Thompson

Medical and Healthcare Simulation

Kim A. Froeschl
Ryan E. Jones
Taylor Marie Kolhe
Katherine M. Marshall
Krystal Nacel
Joseph Anthony Ordile
Nicole Michelle Rountree
Tom Truong
Joshua John Van Auken

Molecular Medicine

Alexa Morgan Bacha
Tiara Cummings
Britani Graver
Megan Elizabeth Neilon
Oneneoobari Lovette Nwogu
Navjot Kaur Sandhu
Meredith A. Singer

Pathologists’ Assistant

Madison Taylor Barker
London Ann Carpenter
Natalie J. Crippa
Niky DelGuercio
Mary Ann Erdman
Erica Frees
Mia Sachi Goldblatt

Medical and Healthcare Simulation

Gina E. Tranel

Biomedical Studies

Stuart M. Brand
Kande Leslyn Anne Duncan
Elizabeth Dale Henry
Carri Elizabeth Lupton
Jonae B. Savage-Hall

Forest Science

Kirsten Jane Bell
Kathleen M. Borrelli
Christine Elizabeth Buhalo
Anaïd Alexandra Carlo
Kelly M. Colflesh
Shekinah Cosby
Samantha Marie Foley

Master of Laboratory Animal Science

Kelly Louisa Hollar
Michael C. Irby
Hannah Frances Reilly
Eliza Siergiej
Lindsey L. Wilson

DIVISION OF PRE-MEDICAL AND PRE-HEALTH PROGRAMS

Attia Ahmad
Haizea Catherine Aurélie Alemany
Eunice IretiJesu Aworanti
Evan Loon Benza
Jose Antonio Collazo
Jade Diana Doolittle
Dana Renae Fiola
Sherelle Clarice Green
Lauren Leigh Haack
Mathuchena Bhavani Karthikeyan
Richard S. Madnick
Janae Kyanna Martin
Kirsten Alexis Moody
Alyssa Mai Nguyen
Rehana Victoria Persaud
Caroline Elizabeth Quindlen
Amir Khalid Richardson
Meghan Mackenzie Schilken
Myar Taha
Kearny Ken Tse
Michael Edward Vassolas
Tatyana Maureen Young
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interdisciplinary Health Sciences</th>
<th>Medical Science</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kayla A. Addai</td>
<td>Lorena Beatriz Pena</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Husein Olatoyosi Bakare-Korodo</td>
<td>Neil Charles Pillai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julia Louise Tamayo Barruga</td>
<td>Jehron Armani Pura-Bryant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donte Bennett</td>
<td>Gabriela F. Sarriera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obinna Didacus Bethrand-Okechuku</td>
<td>Steven Lee Sims</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelly Jean Bisceglia</td>
<td>Ramon Luis Arambulo Sison</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2021 Drexel Pathway to Medical School

- Aura Cristina Agudelo Rivera
- Wisdom Akingbemi
- Chioma Alaka
- Christianah O. Alli
- Fatima Salah Antashar
- Stephanie Augustin
- Ashanna Coralita Barclay
- Jordan Chase Barnhill
- Garvens Charles
- Kenechukwu Chimaobim Charles-Obi
- Marie-Lise Laurane Chrysostome
- Kayla Danielle Victoria Cooper
- Christiane Orlane Djiajeu De Tchappi
- Maryam Durosinmi
- Sascha Marguerite Enders
- Nana Amo Frimpong
- Bryan Kuetiam Gamwo
- Josette Graves
- Quincy Meckell Harrison
- Sanjeev Joseph Herr
- Odeosamamwen Aguraoritse Idahor
- Austin Manuel Iglesias
- Julianna Karina Kinsolving
- Micah Carl Jahvon May
- Joshua Thomas Neal
- Joolie Ngoc Nguyen
- Jessica Nkechi Nwabeke
- Samiza Bryoney Chantelle Palmer
- Willow Durand Pastard
- Leslie Yulissa Perez Cervantes
- Nathaniel Pineda
- Alexis Lee Price
- Maria Jose Rabanales-Fernandez
- Carlos Roble
- Odette Maria Rosales
- Paris Shaw
- Raven Lindsay Simmons
- Abby Elizabeth Sproch
- Jont’yana Jakeria Tigner
- Viliami Tillage
- Kamol Usmonov
- Jordann Faye Wilson
- Xavier French
- Dezurline Garcia
- Shweta Gupta
- Rahul Vasudeo Hadap
- Kyungwon Han
- Brianna Elaine Hector
- Cameron Richard Holmes
- Brionna Sharae Hough
- Bazilla Imran
- Victor Ip
- Rachelle Joseph
- Adelle Laniyan
- Tyler L. H. Law
- Yannisel Luna
- Kaitlyn Elaine Lutz
- Brandon A. Mamou
- Francis Marenga Mburu
- Delia McDade
- Elle McNeice
- Shahista Sahabuddin Mollah
- Megan Vu Nguyen
- Afrah Noor
- Jonathan A. Pasato
- Kinit D. Patel
- Lorena Beatriz Pena
- Neil Charles Pillai
- Jehron Armani Pura-Bryant
- Gabriela F. Sarriera
- Steven Lee Sims
- Ramon Luis Arambulo Sison
- Heather E. Slattery
- Seherzada Softic
- Tipsuda Sopho
- Abaykassa Tadesse
- Shayna Davi Zanker
- Zach Mathew Abraham
- Hanna Brubaker
- William Chen Dan
- Gabrielle Bernette Feher
- Anna Guo
- Danielle Dove Ireland
- Meha Nayan Patel
- Travis Hare Rushton
- Maura May Sheehan
- Mackenzie Julianna Sober
- Vanessa Lee Veltre
- Amba M. Viswanathan
- Gal Daskal
- Volodar M. Migovich
- Bryan T. Pham
- Malia Voytik

*** Completed Joint MD/MS Program
Doctor of Medicine Degrees
(The location of the physician’s clinical program is indicated.)

Theophilus Owofu Abah
George Washington University
Washington, DC
Anesthesiology

Mary Christine Abramezuk†
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Blake Omid Adnani
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Estefania J. Alba-Rodriguez * £
Cooper Medical School of Rowan University/Cooper University Hospital
Camden, NJ
Neurology

Stephanie Algenio-Anciro
David Grant Medical Center at Travis Air Force Base
Fairfield, CA
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Sheena J. Amin
University of Missouri-Kansas City
Kansas City, MO
Orthopaedic Surgery

Veronica Su Andre
Lankenau Medical Center
Wynnewood, PA
Internal Medicine

Nicolas Andrea
St. Luke’s University Hospital-Bethlehem Campus
Bethlehem, PA
Emergency Medicine

Cynthia Aline Araradian
Oregon Health & Science University
Portland, OR
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Diane Choun Houy Armenta *
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai Morningside and Mount Sinai West
New York, NY
Anesthesiology

Thomas Alexander Arns *
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Ashlee Mari Asada
Ohio State University Medical Center
Columbus, OH
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Benjamin Awad
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Gabrielle Rose Barbera »
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Sara Ann Barlow »
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Durham, NC
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Karyn Elizabeth Barrett » †
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Edward Anderson Bowman
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Andre Elias Bshara »
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Franklin Panuwat Burg
University of Michigan Hospital
Ann Arbor, MI
Surgery-Preliminary

† Humanities Scholar  | ££ Women’s Health Scholar-Health Equity Scholar  | & Medical Scholar-Biomedical Sciences  | && Medical Scholar-Business/Medical Informatics  | &&& Medical Scholar-Public Health
MD Degree Recipients

2021

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Kyle Maurice Hatcher
Mayo Clinic School of Graduate Medical Education
Jacksonville, FL
Radiology-Diagnostic

Katherine Frances Hawkins
WellSpan York Hospital
York, PA
Emergency Medicine
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Medical School/Program</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jillian Elizabeth Heckman * #</td>
<td>Johns Hopkins Hospital</td>
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<td>Laura Elizabeth Henderson »</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melissa Louisa Hoffman</td>
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<td>Lauren M. Holleran »</td>
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<td>Dominique Simone Jones</td>
<td>Thomas Jefferson University/ Alfred I. duPont</td>
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<td>Hospital for Children Philadelphia, PA Pediatrics</td>
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<td>Shreeja K. Kadakia</td>
<td>St. Luke’s University Hospital Easton, PA Neurology</td>
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<td>Jay M. Kadhiwala *</td>
<td>Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center</td>
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<td>Roxane Javadi *</td>
<td>St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children/Tower Health</td>
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<td>Mohit Jethi</td>
<td>University at Buffalo School of Medicine</td>
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<td>Nikita Jhawar</td>
<td>Mayo Clinic School of Graduate Medical Education</td>
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<td>Jacksonville, FL Internal Medicine</td>
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<td>Kevin Yu Jin</td>
<td>Mercy Catholic Medical Center</td>
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<td>Darby, PA Transitional</td>
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<tr>
<td>Won-Joon M. Koh</td>
<td>Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai Morningside</td>
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<td>and Mount Sinai West New York, NY Internal Medicine</td>
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<td>Jacqueline Nyarkoa Koomson</td>
<td>Crozer-Chester Medical Center</td>
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<td>Kristine Elizabeth Lagana *</td>
<td>University of Florida College of Medicine – Jackson</td>
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<td>Jacksonville, FL Orthopaedic Surgery</td>
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<td>Joseph Andrew Larwa »</td>
<td>Abington Hospital-Jefferson Health</td>
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<td>Abington, PA Internal Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jacob Alexander Latreille</td>
<td>Abington Hospital-Jefferson Health</td>
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<td>Katelyn Mary Latuska *</td>
<td>Vanderbilt University Medical Center</td>
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<td>Nashville, TN Emergency Medicine</td>
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<td>Luke Linwood Lawrence</td>
<td>MedStar Georgetown University Hospital</td>
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<td>Washington, DC Internal Medicine</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**MD Degree Recipients**

**Paul Taegyu Lee**  
Mercy Catholic Medical Center  
Darby, PA  
Medicine-Preliminary

**May M. Li**  
Abington Hospital-Jefferson Health  
Abington, PA  
Medicine-Preliminary

Montefiore Medical Center/Albert Einstein College of Medicine  
Bronx, NY  
Anesthesiology

**Yuan-Ping Li §**  
Thomas Jefferson University  
Philadelphia, PA  
Neurology

**Jackie D. Long**  
Information Withheld

**Kevin David Lopez**  
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Northwell at NS/LIJ  
Great Neck, NY  
Medicine-Preliminary

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**Chandni Lotwala * †**  
Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School  
New Brunswick, NJ  
Family Medicine

**Kathleen Rose Loughran**  
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**Tess Mary Lukowiak »**  
Lankenau Medical Center  
Wynnewood, PA  
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Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School  
Somerset, NJ  
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**Brian Mancenido**  
Zucker School of Medicine  
Northwell at Cohen Children’s Medical Center  
New Hyde Park, NY  
Pediatrics

**Nicholas Emilio Manini**  
Thomas Jefferson University/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children  
Philadelphia, PA  
Pediatrics

**Diana Martirosyan**  
Cooper Medical School of Rowan University/Cooper University Hospital  
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**Rhea Sarah Mathew ***  
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**John Wick McIlvain**  
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Northwell at NS/LIJ  
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Stony Brook, NY  
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**Tammy Hoi See Ng**  
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Oak Park, IL  
Family Medicine

**Shelby Susan Olender**  
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Medical Center
Baltimore, MD
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Stony Brook, NY
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Christiana Care Health System
Newark, DE
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Jennifer Wainwright  
University of Arizona  
College of Medicine  
Phoenix, AZ  
Family Medicine  

Charles Wang §  
Albert Einstein Medical Center  
Philadelphia, PA  
Medicine-Preliminary  

University of California  
Davis Medical Center  
Sacramento, CA  
Radiation Oncology  

Joshua H. Weinberg  
Ohio State University  
Medical Center  
Columbus, OH  
Neurological Surgery  

Taylor M. Wernert  
Rhode Island Hospital/  
Brown University  
Providence, RI  
Internal Medicine  

Matilda Joan Whitney » #  
Icahn School of Medicine at  
Mount Sinai/Mount Sinai  
New York, NY  
Internal Medicine  

James Williams  
University of Virginia  
Charlottesville, VA  
Surgery-Preliminary  
Ophthalmology  

Ryan Williams  
Penn State Milton S.  
Hershey Medical Center  
Hershey, PA  
Internal Medicine  

Winston Wu  
University of Virginia  
Charlottesville, VA  
Emergency Medicine  

Yen-RuH Andrew Wuu  
Zucker School of Medicine  
Northwell at NS/LIJ  
Great Neck, NY  
Medicine-Preliminary  

Zucker School of Medicine  
Northwell at NS/LIJ  
New Hyde Park, NY  
Radiation Oncology  

Rebecca Yao » †  
Mayo Clinic School of  
Graduate Medical Education  
Rochester, MN  
Internal Medicine  

Bettie A. Yeboah *  
University of Virginia  
Charlottesville, VA  
Pathology  

Emma V. Yellin  
Abington Hospital-  
Jefferson Health  
Abington, PA  
Medicine-Preliminary  

Rachel Yoo *  
Reading Hospital/  
Tower Health  
West Reading, PA  
General Surgery  

Chelsea Marie Young  
Baylor College of Medicine  
Houston, TX  
Pediatrics/Global Health  

Joyce Lu Zhang *  
Icahn School of Medicine at  
Mount Sinai/Mount Sinai  
New York, NY  
Internal Medicine  

Mohan Ashok Zopey  
Harbor-University of California  
Los Angeles Medical Center  
Torrance, CA  
Internal Medicine

DEGREE AWARDED POSTHUMOUSLY

Deylan C. Moore  
Vivek Subramani
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies Awards

THE AMEDEO BONDI, PHD ENDOWED GRADUATE AWARD
To a PhD graduating student for excellence in research performance during the training experience.
Hemalatha Muralidharan
Class of 2021

Doctor of Medicine Awards

THE 2021 UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE AWARD
From the Physicians Professional Advisory Committee of the U.S. Public Health Service in recognition of demonstrated commitment to public health and public health practice:
Wesley Laurence Goodman-Levy

THE DR. ELIAS ABRUTYN AWARD
For excellence in Infectious Diseases:
Michael Murray Caplan

THE PAULA BERNOCHI MEMORIAL AWARD
For excellence in the field of Emergency Medicine:
Katelyn Mary Latuska
For excellence in the field of Psychiatry:
Annie Chang

THE IAIN F.S. BLACK AWARD
For excellence in Pediatrics, presented by the Department of Pediatrics and the Medical Staff of St. Christopher's Hospital for Children:
Jillian Elisabeth Heckman

THE LUTHER W. BRADY, MD AWARD
For excellence in Radiation Oncology and Clinical Oncology:
Jenna Elyse Kocsis

THE RONALD P. CAPUTO AWARD
For outstanding clinical skills and humanitarianism in the care of medical patients:
Joyce Lu Zhang

THE HARRIS R. CLEARFIELD AWARD
For excellence in Gastroenterology:
Nicole Bernstein

THE MAURICE C. CLIFFORD, MD LEADERSHIP AWARD
For a graduating senior who has excelled academically and whose accomplishments exhibit outstanding leadership, integrity, excellence and volunteer service in activities devoted to human welfare:
Matthew Malcolm Pier

THE SELMA AND OSCAR CORN, MD MEMORIAL IN ORTHOPAEDICS HU ’43 AWARD
For excellence in Orthopaedic Surgery, proven scholarship and demonstrated leadership amongst peers:
Grace Elizabeth Hernandez

THE DREXEL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARD
For dedication and contribution to the community and University:
Richard Lee Graf

THE DREXEL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE SGA AWARD
For outstanding dedication and loyalty to the school and the student body:
Jenna Elyse Kocsis

THE ALAN EDELSOHN MEMORIAL PRIZE
For outstanding leadership and service to the student body and the College of Medicine:
Temitolaoluwa Olanrewaju Daramola

THE DIANA J. EGAN AWARD
For excellence in clinical Obstetrics & Gynecology:
Mariah Gabrielle Elly

THE HARRIS S. FOX AWARD
For the graduating senior who best demonstrates personal integrity, stability, responsibility and loyalty to the College of Medicine:
Iulianna Marie Cervino

THE WILLIAM GREGG AWARD
Graduation prize for Humanitarianism in Care of Pediatric Patients:
Grace Wen-Hua Quinn

THE LESTER J. GROVERMAN, MD MEMORIAL AWARD IN CARDIOLOGY
For the graduating senior with the most promise in the field of Cardiology:
Sara Ann Barlow

THE GEORGE D. LUMB, MD AWARD
For outstanding achievement in the Pathology course:
Bettie A. Yeboah

THE DANIEL MASON, MD HU’44 AWARD
For excellence in Cardiovascular clinical work:
Adam Christian Sundholm

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DR. NATHALIE MAY PHYLLIS MARCIANO JR. AWARD
For outstanding leadership and service to the student body and College of Medicine:
Temilolaoluwa Olanrewaju Daramola

THE OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS AWARD
For service to the medical school and to the student body:
Christopher Vieira Bastos
Richard Lee Graf
Jane Yi Tong

THE VIVEK SUBRAMANI MEMORIAL AWARD
For leadership, compassion, service and a commitment to fostering community within the College of Medicine:
Malak Shah

THE DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE SURGERY CLERKSHIP
Abington-Jefferson Health:
Kelly R. Donovan
Allegheny Health Network:
Samuel McGuire Brimmer
Crozer-Chester Medical Center:
Ariya Mobarak
CVA:
Janae Brant
Kaiser Sacramento Medical Center:
James Williams
Philadelphia Area:
Karyn Elizabeth Barrett
UPMC Pinnacle:
Michael A. DeMaio
WellSpan York Hospital:
Mariah Gabrielle Elly

THE PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS, PHILADELPHIA BRANCH AWARD
For performance and leadership in Family Medicine:
Joseph M. Tramontana

THE DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY AWARD
For excellence in the Surgery Pathway:
Andre Elias Bshara

THE RICHARD SHUMAN AWARD
For excellence in Pathology and Laboratory Medicine:
Trevor George Lee Teich

THE DANIEL M. TABAS AWARD
For outstanding scholarly achievement by a student pursuing a career in Primary Care:
Jessica P. Fenton

THE DR. LEE WINSTON SILVER AWARD
For excellence in Pediatrics:
Anisha L. Gopu

THE DR. MARY YANKOSKY AWARD
For excellence in Endocrinology:
Won-Joon M. Koh
For excellence in Radiologic Sciences:
Matthew Onimus
## Faculty Awards for Distinguished Clinical Teaching

### DEAN’S SPECIAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN CLINICAL TEACHING

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<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Faculty Name</th>
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<td>Allegheny Health Network</td>
<td>Matthew Hartman, MD</td>
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<td>Bayhealth Medical Center</td>
<td>Bhavin Dave, MD</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
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<td>Cancer Treatment Centers</td>
<td>Imran Shariff, MD</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crozer-Chester Medical Center</td>
<td>Douglas Lieberman, MD</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friends Hospital</td>
<td>Jonathan G. Shack, MD</td>
<td>Psychiatry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital</td>
<td>Loice A. Swisher, MD</td>
<td>Emergency Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nazareth Hospital</td>
<td>Lee A. Celio, MD</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Hospital–Tower Health</td>
<td>David A. Matson, DO</td>
<td>Anesthesiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children</td>
<td>Emily Spengler, MD</td>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
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<td>St. Francis Medical Center</td>
<td>Donald Christmas, MD</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>UPMC Pinnacle Hospital</td>
<td>Ravinder Dhatt, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virtua Health</td>
<td>Bhavika Patel, MD</td>
<td>Family Medicine</td>
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<td>WellSpan Chambersburg Hospital</td>
<td>Indranil Chakrabarti, MD</td>
<td>Psychiatry</td>
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<tr>
<td>WellSpan York Hospital</td>
<td>J. Patrick Ryan, MD</td>
<td>Surgery</td>
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</table>

### DEAN’S SPECIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CLINICAL TEACHING AT A FAMILY PRACTICE SITE

**Washington Health System**
A tradition that reaches back nearly a thousand years, Commencement symbolizes not so much the culmination of the years of effort on the part of both students and teachers, but rather the beginning—the commencement—of a productive social and professional life, and a life of continued learning.

The first university, the University of Bologna, was founded in Italy in 1162 and offered specialized education in the major professional fields of the medieval world: law, medicine, government and theology—areas that would dominate European and American higher education until the 20th century.

From Bologna, the concept of university education spread throughout Europe and later to the New World. The pageantry and symbolism of Commencement are typified by the cap and gown, which in their original forms were simply the everyday attire of the medieval scholar. The additions of the centuries have made them what they are today.

The academic costume has three basic parts: the cap, the gown and the hood. Three factors must be taken into consideration—the degree (bachelor, master, doctor); the branch of knowledge (nursing, medicine, etc.); and the university by which the degree is granted.

The bachelor's hood is three feet long, the master's four feet long, and the doctor's four feet long. The shape and size of the American hood mark the branch of learning. Many American universities, as well as British ones, now have gowns of characteristic color for doctoral graduates. For instance, a graduate of Harvard University may wear a crimson gown, a New York University graduate a violet gown, and a University of Pennsylvania graduate a gown of red and blue.

The shape and size of the American hood mark the degree of the wearer. The lining of the hood is indicative of the institution granting the degree and is usually the official color or colors of the school. If two colors are used, one is generally arranged as a chevron upon the other.

The bachelor's hood is three feet long, the master's three-and-a-half feet long, and the doctor's four feet long. Bachelor of Science and Master of Science candidates wear sun-gold hoods; Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts candidates, white hoods. Doctor of Philosophy candidates wear blue hoods. Doctor of Medicine candidates wear green hoods. Candidates with annotated degrees may wear hoods of other colors, such as apricot (Bachelor and Master of Science in Nursing), teal (Master of Physical Therapy), and blue with white trim (Master of Arts, Creative Arts in Therapy), to name a few.

Caps are traditionally black with a long tassel fastened to the mid-point. A doctor's cap may have a tassel of gold thread. The tassel is worn on the right side until a degree has been conferred; it is then worn on the left.

Commencement begins and ends with the academic procession, led by the chief marshal carrying the mace. The mace traces its origins to the Roman fasces, a bundle of rods bound together around an ax with the blade projecting, which was carried before magistrates as an emblem of authority. The ceremony officially begins with the placing of the mace before the graduates and ends when the chief marshal retrieves it and leads the recession. The color guard follows the marshal, with the candidates for degrees marching behind in reverse order of seniority—certificate, associate, and bachelor's first, master's next and doctoral third. The faculty follows, also proceeding in reverse order from assistant to full professor. The final division of the procession is the platform party, composed of academic deans, administrative officers, trustees, honorary degree recipients and the president.

Throughout their long and proud history, universities have retained and cherished strong ties to their ceremonial roots. The faculties and graduates have gloried in the rich imagery and colorful panoply associated with Commencement, one of the oldest continuing rituals in the Western world.

History and Traditions of the University Mace

The mace was a medieval weapon intended to prevail over an armored adversary. As long-range weapons evolved, the mace became a ceremonial symbol denoting authority and was carried before a nobleman for protection, if necessary, from personal attack. In academic processions, it has traditionally been carried by an academic officer of high standing. The selection of the officer to carry the mace may be governed by institutional tradition and may vary from ceremony to ceremony.

The Drexel University mace is carried in the Commencement procession to the stage, where it joins the maces of the College of Medicine's predecessor institutions. The Hahnemann mace was designed and carved by James Victor. The mace of the Medical College of Pennsylvania was designed by former dean Alton I. Sutnick, in conjunction with artist Richard Feldstein.
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* Lists complete as of May 2021 *

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