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As a courtesy to our graduates and guests, please  
silence all phones and electronic devices during  
the Commencement Ceremony.

Dear Graduates,

The decision to pursue a career in medicine, biomedicine or health sciences is a noble undertaking. The demands of these extraordinary times have underscored the vital role of health care professionals and research scientists who advance our understanding of medicine. So, in congratulating you on your graduation from Drexel University College of Medicine, I also want to thank you for dedicating your lives to medical practice and research.



Throughout the pandemic, physicians, nurses and allied health professionals have served on the front lines in a life-and-death battle that has swept the world. Meanwhile, behind the scenes, biomedical researchers have worked tirelessly to find vaccines to mitigate the pandemic’s spread. Here at Drexel, many of you braved dire circumstances to complete your medical training in hospitals that were overwhelmed by COVID patients. Others among you abruptly changed gears with your research or put your work on hold until a safe return to the lab could be ensured.

The pandemic also underscored inequities across racial, social and economic lines in our country and throughout the world. I am proud of the commitment you have demonstrated to breaking down the barriers marginalized people face, and I am confident you will continue moving forward as agents for positive social change.

The education and training you experienced at Drexel have prepared you to join the vanguard of exceptional professionals who are shaping the future of health care, allied health and biomedical research. You now join the ranks of distinguished College of Medicine alumni throughout the world.

Early in the pandemic, many communities made a memorable and moving point of saluting health care workers by clapping hands and beeping car horns during shift changes at hospitals and other medical and research facilities. Others posted signs that read “Heroes Work Here.” As you take the next steps in your careers, it is my pleasure to salute each Drexel University College of Medicine student by saying “Heroes Graduated Here.”

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

Sincerely,

*John Fry*  
John Fry  
President

***Brass Prelude***

Selected Works

*Symphony in C****Academic Procession***

Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1

*Edward Elgar**Symphony in C****National Anthem***

Star-Spangled Banner

*Francis Scott Key**Symphony in C****Opening Remarks***

Donna M. Russo, PhD, HU '89

*William Maul Measey Chair in Medical Education**Interim Vice Dean for Educational Affairs**Senior Associate Dean for Curriculum**Professor of Microbiology and Immunology****Remarks by the Dean***

Charles B. Cairns, MD

*Walter H. and Lenore Annenberg Dean, College of Medicine**Senior Vice President of Medical Affairs, Drexel University**Professor of Emergency Medicine****Welcome***

John Fry

*President, Drexel University****Greetings***

Stanley W. Silverman

*Vice Chair, Drexel University Board of Trustees****Recognition of Academic and Teaching Awards***

Charles B. Cairns

***Citation of Fifty-Year Graduates 1972-2022***

Charles B. Cairns

***Conferring of Posthumous Honorary Degree***

John Fry

Charles B. Cairns

***Doctor of Humane Letters***

Lynn H. Yeakel

*Director, Institute for Women's Health and Leadership**Betty A. Cohen Chair in Women's Health****Introduction of Speaker***

John Fry

***Commencement Address***

Sarah S. Long, MD

***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***

Anita Gaurnier-Hausser, PhD

*Director, Interdisciplinary Health Sciences Program**Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Biomedical**Sciences and Professional Studies*

Fred Krebs, PhD

*Director, Master of Science in Infectious Disease Program**Associate Professor of Microbiology and Immunology*

Paul McGonigle, PhD

*Director, Division of Interdisciplinary and Career-Oriented Programs**Director, Drug Discovery and Development Program**Professor of Pharmacology and Physiology*

Erin Vogelsong, MS

*Director, Master of Laboratory Animal Science Program**Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Biomedical**Sciences and Professional Studies****Administration of the Graduate Student Oath***

Elisabeth J. Van Bockstaele

***Conferring of the Doctor of Medicine Degrees***

John Fry

Charles B. Cairns

Donna M. Russo

Seema Baranwal, MD

*Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs**Associate Professor of Medicine*

Amy C. Fuchs, MD

*Associate Dean of Student Affairs for Career Advising**Associate Professor of Medicine****Investiture***

Amy S. Baranoski, MD '03, MSc

*Assistant Dean, Phase One Curriculum**Associate Professor of Medicine*

Diane B. Gottlieb, MD, MCP '88

*Director, Medical Student Mental Health**Associate Professor of Psychiatry*

Cheryl A. Hanau, MD

*Professor and Richard Shuman, MD, Chair of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine**Interim Associate Dean of Admissions*

James B. Reilly, MD, MS

*Associate Dean, Academic Affairs, Allegheny Programs**Associate Professor of Medicine*

*All degrees awarded at this Commencement  
carry an official conferral date of **May 13, 2022***

Todd I. Strohlic, VMD, PhD  
*Associate Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology*

Anh-Thu Vu, MD  
*Assistant Professor of Neurology*

### *Administration of the Physician's Pledge*

Nathalie S. May, MD  
*Associate Professor of Medicine*

### *Military Oath for MD Officers*

Ayman Bodair, MD '19  
*Captain, Medical Corps, United States Marine Corps*

### *Induction into the Alumni Association*

Edward Siegel, MD '12, MBA  
*President-Elect, Alumni Association*

### *Graduate Remarks*

Kara Melissa Jacobs, MD  
*Class of 2022*

### *Farewell*

Seema Baranwal

### *Recessional*

The Earle of Oxford's March  
*William Byrd/arr. Douglas Nelson*

Crown Imperial  
*William Walton/arr. Douglas Nelson*  
*Symphony in C*

### *Macebearer*

Dennis M. DePace, PhD  
*Associate Professor of Neurobiology and Anatomy*

### *Faculty Marshals*

Esther Chernak, MD, MPH  
*Associate Professor of Medicine*

Stacy Ellen, DO  
*Associate Professor of Pediatrics*

Dana C. Farabaugh, MD '03  
*Associate Dean for Clinical Education*  
*Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology*

Nicholas C. Kuzma, MD '10  
*Associate Professor of Pediatrics*

Karen Restifo, MD, JD  
*Regional Vice Dean, College of Medicine at Tower Health*  
*Professor of Clinical Emergency Medicine*

Michael M. White, PhD, MBA  
*Vice Chair for Education and Professor*  
*of Pharmacology and Physiology*

### *Student Marshals*

Alexander Becsey	Brendon Ngo
Javier "Alex" Chavez	Vanelle Nouboussi
Hannah Lee	Kaustav Patra
Chung Heng Liu	Alexandra Scanameo
Jasmine Lu	Marie Tan
Luke McCutcheon	Shane Tripp

### *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.



### *Citation of College of Medicine Fifty-Year Graduates, 1972-2022*

#### **Hahnemann Medical College** *Class of 1972*

George J. Amrom, MD  
George R. Andrews, MD  
Gregory M. Asnis, MD  
Phyllis B. Baer, MD  
Stephen D. Baer, MD  
Thomas E. Baker, MD \*  
Clayton Barclay Jr., MD  
Roy E. Berkowitz, MD \*  
Poni S. Bishop, MD  
Richard L. Bishop, MD  
Roger A. Bitar, MD  
Michael A. Bolognese, MD  
William F. Boucher Jr., MD  
Robert M. Bronstein, MD  
Robert J. Carpenter III, MD  
Joseph R. Carver, MD  
Herbert O. Cherry, MD  
Carl S. Citron, MD  
Lawrence P. Clinton, MD  
Leonard H. Cohen, MD  
Joseph P. Coladonato, MD  
Richard G. Coleman, MD  
Henry G. Conroe, MD  
Willard H. Cook, MD  
Joseph M. Corvasce, MD  
Edward H. Cottler, MD  
Kenneth M. Delafrange, MD \*  
Bruce Demchick, MD  
Marvin I. Dodek, MD  
Alan I. Domskey, MD \*  
Peter D. Eisenberg, MD  
Kenneth David Emkey, MD  
John G. Enders, MD  
Neil D. Fagen, MD  
Anne Cusack Fallahnejad, MD  
Carl R. Fischer, MD  
Howard F. Floch, MD  
James B. Gabroy, MD  
Allen Gaisin, MD \*  
Esther M. Gallagher, MD  
John A. Gastaldo, MD \*  
Thomas D. Gindhart, MD \*  
Judith A. Gouldin, MD  
Barry Paul Green, MD  
Virginia Ettinger Hall, MD  
Harry J. Hirsch, MD

Gary Edward Hirshberg, MD  
Joseph F. Humenik, MD  
Warren Israel, MD  
Robert J. Joynes, MD  
Louis C. Kandl, MD  
Theodore T. Katz, MD  
Helen H. Keith, MD  
David P. Kelsen, MD  
Howard O. Kerpen, MD  
David W. Kistler Jr., MD  
Neil E. Klein, MD  
Robert F. Lally Jr., MD  
Carl M. Levitsky, MD  
Stephen Jay Losben, MD \*  
Ronald A. Lutz, MD  
Michael J. Mandarino, MD  
Holly Elizabeth Mayerson, MD  
Michael J. McGirr, MD  
Edward McLaughlin, MD \*  
John D. Melbourne, MD  
Melvin P. Melnick, MD  
John V. Mendola, MD  
Gerald B. Miley, MD  
Franklin C. Milgrim, MD  
Karen K. Miura, MD  
James W. Morgan Jr., MD  
Anthony F. Moscato, MD  
Richard J. Murphy, MD  
Frederick B. Myers, MD  
Edward A. Nardell, MD  
Thomas I. Nary, MD  
Matthew E. Naythons, MD  
Dennis H. Novack, MD  
Robert F. Pendrak, MD  
Alan J. Pusnick, MD  
Alan M. Radoff, MD  
Leslie Mark Reiner, MD  
Carl A. Restivo Jr., MD  
Richard A. Reutter, MD  
Robert E. Rinaldi, MD  
Karl E. Robinson, MD  
Michael C. Robinson, MD  
John R. Rosenberg, MD  
Stanley A. Rubin, MD  
Michael R. Rudnick, MD  
Joel B. Sands, MD \*  
Barry J. Saul, MD  
Jay Schamberg II, MD

David J. Schraer, MD  
C. Richard Scipione, MD  
Eleanor M. Seiler, MD  
Harry O. Senekjian, MD  
Robert S. Seto, MD  
Eugene Rodman Shippen III, MD  
William Irving Sivitz, MD  
James P. Slovak, MD \*  
Daniel J. Smuro, MD  
Robert K. Spiegel, MD  
Martin A. Steinfeld, MD  
F. Bruce Tapper, MD \*  
Robert J. Teeears, MD  
Christopher W. Thomas, MD  
David G. Tinkelman, MD  
Gary Veith, MD  
Robert E. Wagner, MD  
Clifford J. Ward, MD  
Frank J. Weirman, MD  
Rhoda Sue Weisburg, MD  
Eugene A. Zenone, MD  
Francis J. Zonay, MD  
William M. Zurhellen, MD

#### **Medical College of Pennsylvania** *Class of 1972*

Trina Anglin, MD  
Anita Bahn, MD \*  
Eva M. Balash-Deutsch, MD  
Frances Ruth Batzer Baylson, MD  
Meredith Ann Bennet, MD  
Lee Anne Berry, MD \*  
Wilma Krause Brucker, MD  
Sheryl L. Buckley, MD  
Olivia Capers, MD \*  
K. Niki Cole, MD \*  
Carol A. Currier, MD  
Nancy Stiles Curry, MD  
Lynn Eleanor De Lisi, MD  
Cheryl Beth Diamond, MD  
Grace Doherty, MD \*  
Paula M. Duncan, MD \*  
Carol Durfee, MD  
Joan E. Enoch, MD  
Frances L. Esposito, MD  
Lois Lynn Estok, MD \*

Cherie Suzanne Evans, MD \*  
Martha B. Finn, MD  
Judith Lynne Folkema, MD \*  
Donna Della Freedman, MD  
Virginia Fuller, MD  
Ann Gerace, MD  
Judith M. Gilmore, MD  
Lani F. B. Graham, MD  
Linda Griska, MD  
Bobbi Ann Hamilton, MD \*  
Judith K. Hart, MD \*  
Vicki B. Hook, MD  
Helen Meeks Horstmann, MD  
Anne Mauks Koepke, MD  
Jolanta Kulpa-Gubernat, MD  
Barbara Ann Lambert, MD  
Joan Fluri Lundeen, MD \*  
Susan J. Maturlo, MD  
Donna Lee McCleary, MD  
Catherine F. McCoy, MD \*  
Rose M. Miketta, MD  
Rose Marie Mohr, MD  
Kathleen Musser, MD  
Paula Nadell, MD  
Joann Yaskin Nevyas, MD \*  
Linda A. Pape, MD  
Anne Louise Peters, MD  
Judith Lynn Ramsdell, MD \*  
Jay W. Ripka, MD \*  
Linda Palone Roberts, MD  
Victoria Jane Romeo, MD \*  
Louis F. Rose, DDS, MD  
Judith G. Rose, MD  
Barbara E. Rumberger, MD  
Alice M. Savage, MD  
Martin Schimmel, MD  
Mary Ann Skidmore, MD  
Hardy L. Sorkin, MD  
Barbara B. Specter, MD  
Marjorie Stanek, MD  
Virginia M. Stellmacher, MD \*  
Jane Reynolds Thayer, MD  
Jo Ann Ugenti, MD  
Patricia A. Wesley, MD  
Genevieve C. Winiarski, MD \*  
Meriel Lee Wu, MD  
Mary L. Yutzy, MD  
Phillipa L. Zylanoff, MD



DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS

## Lynn Yeakel, MSM

### *Champion for Women's Leadership and Gender Equity*



Lynn Yeakel was director of Drexel University College of Medicine's Institute for Women's Health and Leadership and held the Betty A. Cohen Chair in Women's Health. For 20 years, she was committed to the Institute's core mission of honoring the past, enriching the present and shaping the future. Her boundless energy and passion for women's equality issues resulted in her founding of Vision 2020, now VisionForward, a national initiative to achieve gender equity through women's leadership in all aspects of life, including business, government, voting representation and public service.

Ms. Yeakel was integral to the development of the Woman One Award and Scholarship Fund and the D. Walter Cohen Shared Leadership Scholarship for medical students from underrepresented communities. To date, the Institute has raised almost \$3 million in tuition support for medical students and recognized an exceptional leader each year through the Woman One Award. This year, Ms. Yeakel was unanimously

chosen by the selection committee to receive the 2022 Woman One Award, honoring her longtime leadership and contributions to the Philadelphia region and her role in founding the award and scholarship program almost two decades ago.

Prior to her work at Drexel, Ms. Yeakel was a founder of Women's Way, the first and largest women's fundraising coalition in the nation, and served as its CEO for more than a decade. In 1992, she ran for the U.S. Senate, drawing national attention in what was called the "Year of the Woman," winning the primary and nearly unseating the longtime incumbent. In 1994, she was appointed by President Clinton to be mid-Atlantic regional director for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Ms. Yeakel was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate and a former trustee of Randolph-Macon Woman's College who received a master's degree in management from the American College. She was active in leadership positions for local and national nonprofit organizations and received numerous honors and awards for leadership and humanitarian contributions, including the Pennsylvania Citizen Action Award, the Lucretia Mott Award, the Distinguished Daughters of Pennsylvania Award, the John Gardner Lifetime Achievement Award from Common Cause and the Integrity Award from the Philadelphia chapter of the Public Relations Society of America.

Ms. Yeakel's death in January 2022 does not dim her legacy as an unrelenting advocate for women's equality, which will continue to have influence at Drexel and beyond. The College of Medicine is proud to present her with the posthumous degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*.

## Sarah S. Long, MD

### *Renowned Authority on Pediatric Infectious Diseases*



Sarah S. Long, MD, is an internationally recognized expert on preventing and treating infectious diseases in children. After receiving her medical degree from the Sidney Kimmel Medical College (then Jefferson Medical College), she completed her pediatric residency and fellowship training in infectious diseases at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children and one year in research as a National Institutes of Health trainee at Temple University. She took her first job in 1975 as chief of infectious diseases at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children in Philadelphia, where she has spent her career.

She is the founding and current chief editor of the textbook "Principles and Practice of Pediatric Infectious Disease" (in its 6th edition) and an associate editor of *The Journal of Pediatrics*. She also was an associate editor of the "Red Book Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases" (the pediatrician's vaccine "bible") of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Dr. Long has received medical student Golden Apples, housestaff teaching awards, the Great Teacher Award at Temple University, the Distinguished Service and Distinguished Physician Awards from the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society, the Lifetime Contribution to Infectious Diseases Education Award from the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the Clinical Teaching Award from the Infectious Diseases Society of America. In 2015, she received the Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Foundation Award for Distinguished Teaching at Drexel and in 2019 was awarded the Drexel University College of Medicine Dean's Heritage Medal.

In 2021, Dr. Long delivered The Great Teacher's Lecture at the National Institutes of Health and was named the alumnus of the year of the Sidney Kimmel Medical College. She has been named more than 25 times as a Top Doctor by *Philadelphia* magazine. The Philadelphia Mural Arts Program included Dr. Long's portrait, among storied St. Christopher's Hospital for Children dignitaries Drs. W.E. Nelson and A.M. DiGeorge, on an edifice near the hospital to recognize her service to North Philadelphia's children and contributions to pediatrics.

Dr. Long's principal areas of investigation are vaccine-preventable diseases and management of common infectious diseases in children. She has influenced national policy as a member of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee. Currently, she is a member of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.

Despite national leadership and teaching roles, Dr. Long maintains an intensive schedule of clinical consultative care for children in North Philadelphia. Her most cherished moments are at the bedside of a child, where a parent, medical student, resident and fellow learn together.

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREES

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

**Avantika Ishwar Ahiya**"Lipid homeostasis and antimalarials in *Plasmodium falciparum*"

Advisor: Akhil B. Vaidya, PhD

MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY

**Beth Gayle Ashinsky §**

"Multiscale and Multimodal Structure-Function Analysis of Intervertebral Disc Degeneration and Regeneration"

Advisor: Lin Han, PhD

BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

**Sarah Anne Bennison**

"Characterization of ADNP Functions from Establishing Neuronal Morphology in Neonates to Functional Circuitry in Adulthood: Implications for ADNP Syndrome and Autism Spectrum Disorder"

Advisor: Kazuhito Toyooka, PhD

NEUROSCIENCE

**Jadwiga Nichole Bilchak Stroughair**

"Enhancing KCC2 Expression Restores Reflex Inhibition and Improves Locomotor Function after Spinal Cord Injury"

Advisor: Marie-Pascale Côté, PhD

NEUROSCIENCE

**Emily M. Black**

"Hypocretin Receptor 1 Modulations on Specific Neuronal Subtypes in the Ventral Tegmental Area Impact Mesolimbic Dopamine and Cocaine-Associated Behavior"

Advisor: Rodrigo España, PhD

NEUROSCIENCE

**Linda Ann Chamberlin §**

"Targeting Prefrontal Parvalbumin Cells to Rescue Cognitive Deficits in a Rodent Model for Schizophrenia"

Advisor: Wen-Jun Gao, MD, PhD

NEUROSCIENCE

**Lorela Ciraku**

"Role of OGT/CDK5/ACSS2 in Regulating Glioblastoma and Breast Cancer Brain Metastases Growth"

Advisor: Mauricio Reginato, PhD

MOLECULAR AND CELL BIOLOGY AND GENETICS

**Jennifer Rebecca Connors**

"The Impact of Aging on Antiviral Signaling and Immune Function"

Advisors: Elias El Haddad, PhD, and

Michele A. Kutzler, PhD

MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY

**Genevieve Rose Curtis**

"The Role of the Paraventricular Nucleus of the Thalamus and Pituitary Adenylate Cyclase-Activating Polypeptide in Binge-Type Eating"

Advisor: Jessica R. Barson, PhD

NEUROSCIENCE

**Swati Dass**"Investigation of *Plasmodium falciparum* Mitochondrial Ribosomes"

Advisors: Hangjun Ke, PhD, and

Akhil B. Vaidya, PhD

MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY

**Jaclyn Helen DeFinis**

"Spinal Dopaminergic Mechanisms that Modulate the Recovered Micturition Reflex After Spinal Cord Injury"

Advisor: Shaoping Hou, PhD

NEUROSCIENCE

**Anthony Charles DiNatale III**

"Newly Identified Mediators and Mechanisms Promoting Metastatic Prostate Cancer"

Advisor: Alessandro Fatatis, MD, PhD

PHARMACOLOGY AND PHYSIOLOGY

**Abdullah Muhammed Izmirly**

"Pre-Vaccination Microenvironment Impacts Dengue Vaccine Response"

Advisors: Elias El Haddad, PhD and

Michele A. Kutzler, PhD

MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY

**Zhucheng Lin**

"The Role of Serum-Derived Small Extracellular Vesicles in Pain"

Advisor: Seena Ajit, PhD

PHARMACOLOGY AND PHYSIOLOGY

**Megan E. Meuser**

"Pharmacological and Biological Inhibition of HIV-1 Entry"

Advisor: Simon Cocklin, PhD

BIOCHEMISTRY OF HEALTH AND DISEASE

**Hager Mohamed**

"Immunomodulation by Non-Thermal Plasma: Toward Immunotherapies for HIV-1 Infection and Leukemia"

Advisors: Vandana Miller, MD, and

Fred C. Krebs, PhD

MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY

**Emily Anne Nickoloff-Bybel**

"The Impact of Dopamine Receptor Signaling on Myeloid Cell Function: Implications for the Pathogenesis of NeuroHIV"

Advisor: Peter Gaskill, PhD

PHARMACOLOGY AND PHYSIOLOGY

**Margaret Helen O'Connor §**

"Innate and Adaptive Lymphocytes Instruct Immune Responses and Regulate Germinal Center Interactions in Humans"

Advisor: Elias El Haddad, PhD

MOLECULAR AND CELL BIOLOGY AND GENETICS

**Phillip Palmer**

“Bacterial Persistence and Biofilms:  
Implementing A.I. and CRISPR  
Technologies to Study Mechanisms  
of Chronic Bacterial Infection”

*Advisors: Garth Ehrlich, PhD, and  
Will Dampier, PhD*

MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY

**Ankita Patil**

“Static Crosslinking and Motor-Driven  
Sliding Regulate the Organization  
of Axonal Microtubules”

*Advisor: Peter Baas, PhD*

NEUROSCIENCE

**Danielle R. Piazza**

“Testing the Limits of Natural  
Transformation: Effects of Donor DNA  
Size and Genomic Structural Variation on  
Haemophilus influenzae Recombination”

*Advisors: Joshua Chang Mell, PhD, and  
Ming Xiao, PhD*

MOLECULAR AND CELL BIOLOGY  
AND GENETICS

**Manali Potnis**

“Role of Long Non-Coding RNA H19 in  
Somatic Cell Senescence and Aging”

*Advisor: Christian Sell, PhD*

MOLECULAR AND CELL BIOLOGY  
AND GENETICS

**Kristopher S. Raghavan**

“The Role of NetrinG1 in Stroma-Derived  
Extracellular Vesicle-Mediated Survival  
of Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma  
Under Nutrient-Deprivation”

*Advisor: Edna Cukierman, PhD*

MOLECULAR AND CELL BIOLOGY  
AND GENETICS

**Andrea Lynn Rosenkranz**

“Analysis of Hepatitis B Virus Pregenomic  
RNA Structure & Peptide Inhibitors  
of Hepatitis B X Protein Function”

*Advisor: Michael Bouchard, PhD*

MOLECULAR AND CELL BIOLOGY  
AND GENETICS

**Cassandra Spector**

“HIV-1 Quasispecies Heterogeneity  
Mediates Tat Function, Molecular  
Epistasis, and Neuropathogenesis”

*Advisor: Michael Nonnemacher, PhD*

MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY

**Cameron Terrissa Trueblood**

“Grafting Embryonic Neural Progenitor/  
Stem Cells to Improve Neuronal  
Regulation of Cardiovascular Function  
After Spinal Cord Injury “

*Advisor: Shaoping Hou, PhD*

NEUROSCIENCE



## MASTER'S DEGREES

(The graduate's thesis title and advisor are indicated if a thesis was required. All degrees are Master of Science unless otherwise indicated.)

### DIVISION OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

#### *Biochemistry of Health & Disease*

##### **Aicha Bendia**

"Development and  
Functionality of New Classes  
of Small Macrocyclic HIV-1  
Env Inactivators"

Advisor: Irwin Chaiken, PhD

##### **Rama N. Karadsheh**

"Redesign of an HIV-1  
Entry Inhibitor Core Region  
Influences Its Kinetic and  
Pharmacokinetic Properties"

Advisor: Srinivas Somarowethu,  
PhD

##### **Bridget Deegan Ryan**

"The Role of CHTF18 in Male  
Meiotic Cohesion"

Advisor: Karen Berkowitz, MD

##### **Ryan James Sharp**

"Regulation of NuRD Complex  
by O-GlcNAcylation in  
Breast Cancer"

Advisor: Mauricio Reginato,  
PhD

#### *Biotechnology*

##### **Dominic Cohen**

#### *Cancer Biology*

##### **Samuel Robert Evans**

"Knockdown and  
Overexpression of the Long  
Non-coding RNA lncTCF7 in  
Glioblastoma Cell Lines"

Advisor: Srinivas Somarowethu,  
PhD

##### **Dalal H. Gh. A. Hassan**

##### **Aditi Hemant Shimpi**

"The Effect of the Hepatitis B  
Virus HBx Interacting Protein,  
HBXIP, on HBV Replication"

Advisor: Michael Bouchard,  
PhD

#### *Microbiology and Immunology*

##### **Erik P. Carter**

##### **Olivia Cipollini**

"Investigating Microglial  
Innate Immune Responses to  
Amyloid-beta Protein Ab(1-42)  
and Murine Betacoronavirus  
(MHV-A59)"

Advisor: Sonia Navas-Martin,  
PhD

##### **Lilly Marie McQueen**

"Cobamide and Bacterial  
Profiling of Winogradsky  
Columns Supplemented with  
Environmental Contaminants"

Advisor: Joris Beld, PhD

##### **Neeta Vijay Shadija**

"Characterisation of Vacuolar  
Type ATPase in the Malaria  
Parasite Plasmodium  
falciparum"

Advisor: Hangjun Ke, PhD

##### **Omobukola Solebo**

"The Biochemical Functionality  
and Cellular Importance of  
the Vacuolar H<sup>+</sup> Translocating  
Pyrophosphatase 1, PfVP1, in  
Plasmodium falciparum"

Advisor: Hangjun Ke, PhD

##### **Julia Sutter**

#### *Molecular and Cell Biology and Genetics*

##### **Maram Yasir Balkhair**

**Diehl Remedio De Souza**  
"Assessment of Genes in  
Defective Integrated HIV-1  
Provirus Within the PBMC  
Compartment of Individuals  
with NeuroHIV"

Advisor: Michael  
Nonnemacher, PhD

##### **Rongrong Li**

"Cell-Based Readouts of  
Copper-Modulated CK2  
Kinase Activity"

Advisor: Todd Strohlic,  
VMD, PhD

##### **Jessie M. Nagle**

"The Role of Maf1 in Age-  
Associated Phenotypes"

Advisor: Eishi Noguchi, PhD

##### **Sarah Stewart Nicolson**

"Exploring Copper-Mediated  
Regulation of CK2 Activity  
in *D. melanogaster*"

Advisor: Todd Strohlic,  
VMD, PhD

##### **Julia Elisabeth Oleksak**

"Role of CADM1 in Reducing  
Viability of Melanoma  
Circulating Tumor Cells"

Advisor: Edward  
Hartsough, PhD

##### **Matthew M. Ritts**

##### **Lisa Marie Stukenborg**

"Enhancing Bone Marrow-  
Derived Mesenchymal Stem  
Cell Therapeutic Potential  
Through mTOR Inhibition"

Advisor: Christian Sell, PhD

##### **Sydney Sam Wilson**

#### *Neuroscience*

##### **Brody Allen Carpenter**

##### **Abby Lynn Keith**

##### **Pryscilla Santos Acevedo**

##### **Mariah Jade Wulf**

### DIVISION OF INTERDISCIPLINARY AND CAREER-ORIENTED PROGRAMS

#### *Biomedicine and Business*

##### **Sonia Adamidis**

##### **Nyanna Ferreira Armezindo**

##### **Patrick Bousquet**

##### **Kristie James**

##### **Buyanjargal Enkhbold Jargalsaikhan**

##### **Ethan Stuart Kentzel**

##### **Timothy John Papp**

##### **Linda Nalyn Rush**

##### **Maurice Bemya Tsiotsoua**

#### *Biomedicine and Law*

##### **Lauren A. Cesanek**

##### **Lauren Dempsey**

##### **Amber Hilbish**

##### **Deana Sanford**

##### **Valerie Todd**

#### *Clinical Research for Health Professionals*

##### **Danielle Irit Aronowitz**

##### **Luis Alejandro Diaz Quintero**

##### **Ashley Miranda Gefen**

##### **Angelo Peter Karavolos**

##### **Vanessa Jayne Young**

*Clinical Research  
Organization  
and Management*

Kiomi C. Addo  
Sohail Ahmed  
Omolola Akinsola  
Hemangi Bandekar  
Victoria E. Barlow  
Timothy Barz  
Fatoumata Bayo  
Kelly Black  
Carine Almeida Castro  
Cabilla  
Kristina Alyce Chapman  
Chelsea A. Cira  
Grace Crawford  
Aciress Duhart  
Melisa Efe  
Alphonse A. Ekole  
Hannah Marie Englin  
Sumra Zakira Farooq  
Nida Firdous  
Kevin Gardner, Jr.  
Alexa Gerchman  
Jessica Grider  
Kristine L. Gross  
Diamond Ciara Guilford  
Jasmine Rhonda Hanks  
Lien Heinzen  
Crystal Bender James  
Karamjit Kaur  
Victoria Lindy Klein  
Maria Lemma  
Elisabete Sampaio Lino  
Kevin Bryan Uy Lo  
Hobson Lopes  
Denise J. Lopez  
Samantha Anita Lucas  
Janet Leigh Lung  
Nadia Emily Maknoun

Sibi Rajan Mathew  
Erin Kahl Mendelsohn  
Natasha Moore  
Nivedita Nandurkar  
Soraya Nossoughi  
Steven Owen Michael  
Powell  
Christopher J. Quaglia  
Kristina Randjelovic  
Nicole Rodriguez  
Meggan Mae Schmidt  
Bonnie S. Shenaer  
Serena Denise Silva  
Kyle James Skelton  
Jennifer Leigh Travaglione  
Denise Wilson

*Drug Discovery  
and Development*

Esther Rebecca Brill  
Lindsey Durborow Crowley  
Jenna-Marie C. Dix  
Eunice Jean Durham  
Kelsey Rose Egbert  
Aaron M. Eklund  
Kevin Alexander Garcia  
Susan Johansson  
Esther Kruk  
Ashley Land  
Violeta Lavayen  
Vinod Laxminarayan  
Serena Lee  
Jinal Patel  
Sejal Patel  
Maria Claudia Popovici  
Stephanie Price  
Kendra Yvonne Rucker  
Liliana Sanoja Suarez  
Samantha Marie Stine  
Ashley T. Villa

*Forensic Science*

Jaleela Marie Harp  
Lotus Pilborough  
Yen Thi Ngoc Tran

*Histotechnology*

Matthew M. Caudillo

*Immunology*

Carson Maria Castillo  
Susan Emily Hartzell  
Heather Megan Paul  
Joseph C. Portale  
Josie Jean Roberts  
Augustin Ruiz  
Jennifer Lynn Smith

*Infectious Disease*

Jessica Marie Boros  
Mark Del Pilar  
John G. DiStefano  
Ashley Marie Huber  
Rachel Marie Kennedy  
Jenique Klinkerth  
Edward Ratkoczy  
Rachel E. Reviello  
Breanna Lynn Rivera  
Kelsey Schilperoort  
Mitchell Stanley Snowman  
Elizabeth Storm  
Ashley R. Szyper

*Master of Laboratory  
Animal Science*

Linda Nelson Brovarney  
Emma Rose Crooker  
Melissa Ann DiPierro  
Monika Cay Farmer  
Thomas John Green  
Alyssa Nicole Hartz

Abigail Rose Kidder  
Megan Anne Kopera  
Nicholas Noah Laganelli  
Mollie S. Madigan  
Pawel Damian Puszczo  
Laura Elizabeth Shulder  
Tiffany Elaine Smith  
Yarimar Torres Rosado  
Sarah E. Woodman

*Medical and Healthcare  
Simulation*

Sergio Elias Bustamante  
Bejarano  
Melissa Cercone  
Sarah Detlefs  
Andrea Dawn Maurer  
Tita Furigay Viray

*Molecular Medicine*

Kristina Carroll  
Michael Chaffier  
EvaMarie Ann Chambers  
Kayla Maria Forte  
Heather Habig  
Dharan Harikrishnan  
Courtney Elaine Macon  
Sean Maxwell Miller  
Taylor M. Perkins  
Chinedum Augustina  
Ukandu

*Pathologists' Assistant*

Emily Amato  
Eric Stephen Bradley  
Kacie Rose Fraser  
Sarah Ellen Lock  
Yayoi Marumo  
Taylor Marvin  
Laura McCracken  
Jennifer L. Miller  
Lauren Emily Nerotto

Amanda Young Nguyen  
Rhianna Leigh Seferian  
Meredith Ann Starczewski

**DIVISION OF PRE-MEDICAL  
AND PRE-HEALTH PROGRAMS**

*Biomedical Studies*

Matthew Paul Armstrong  
Aileen Christina Bianchi  
Kayla Elizabeth Byrnes  
Jack Laurence Crowley  
Anthony Joseph Esposito  
Maggie Feng  
Janeth Garcia  
Vivian Hong  
Taylor Ann Laudadio  
Yveeka Marcellus  
Kevin Vu-Kha Nguyen  
Sumyia Razzak  
Victoria Sabrina Rodriguez  
Kennedy Sanders  
Samuel Song  
Helena Anne Zatawski

*Drexel Pathway to  
Medical School*

Oluwafemi Adegbayi  
Theophilus Ahene-Akwa  
Rodaina Ahmed  
Anderson Josue Amador  
Corea  
Ferdinand Chisom  
Anumba  
Arveen Saeideh Asghar  
Rachael Avidor  
Chelsea Brianna Bailey  
Hanna Blanche Kristin  
Matoy Banta  
Ana Maria Barrero Barrera  
Inthuja Baskaran

Jazmin Nicole Belton  
Hadiya Benn  
Tala Bouzeid  
Coral Marina Caceres  
Michelle Ashley Davis  
Arnelle Downing  
Amged Hassan Eidelsafy  
Talmadge Everett Gaither  
Tasha Garayo  
Subirah Hendrickson  
Kiona Monee' Hines  
Azuri Hughes  
Nhu Tuyet Le  
Lumnie Lika  
Aida Martinez Salazar  
Bryce Alain Millington  
Kimberly G. Mitchell  
Christine Erina Nagadya  
Ngan Phuong Nguyen  
Ifeoluwa Obayan  
Olufemi Ojumu  
Onyinye Ekene Okudoh  
Chinelo Olivia Onyiah  
Sabrina Marie Ortiz  
Alanis Daniela Perez  
Benitez  
Cindy Rossander  
Presendieu  
Karina Isabelle Purkart  
Samantha Naa Amerley  
Quaye  
Agustina Quiroga Carrizo  
Oscar Ramos, Jr.  
Ashly Cibeles Reyes  
Johanna Gabriela Rivas  
Jennifer M. Romeo  
Allyssa S. Thomas  
Kavey Vidal  
Jeffrey Wang  
Ming Zhang

*Intensive Medical Sciences*

Gregory Alfaro  
Sandy Awad  
Russell William Bauer  
Patrice Elaine Clemenza  
Hannah Rose Ervey  
Samuel Kou  
Joshua Damdae Lee  
Emma Lipschutz  
Ifra Waqar Malik  
James Maxwell Ricketts  
Tyson A. Stoker

*Interdisciplinary Health  
Sciences*

Daniel Amofa Adade  
Morgann Monae Adams  
Octavia A. Allen  
Ayshah A. Asmat  
Abell G. Asres  
Shelana Kathleen Baptiste  
Alize Katherine Berrios  
Elia Bregman  
Joanna Ashwini  
Canagarajah  
Ivonne Cruz  
Katterin Mariela De La  
Cruz  
Fatoumata Diaby  
Princess Akua Doku  
Danielle Amanda Downer  
Joshua S. Gabri  
MiKayla Rose Galloway  
Pooja Gunnala  
Tierra A. Hammond  
Govindi Harricharran  
Kyla Anise Hodges  
Isaiah Delane-Vir Hoffman  
Rumman Ezazul Hoque  
Daniella Chinedu Ibiam  
Reem Ahmad Khatib  
Olivia Annette Lane  
Taylor Elan Melville

Lillian May Mireles  
Amber Morrill  
Ivy Akinyi Ochieng  
Olamide Angel Olagunju  
Mustapha  
Joy Nneamaka  
Onwuzuligbo  
JaneFrances Ukamaka  
Onyekonwu  
David Osorio  
Krupa Patel  
Shreya Vijaykumar Patel  
Jeffton Pierre  
Sadhana Srinagasai  
Ponnaluri  
Devonte Robert Sadler  
Daisy Michelle Salazar  
Ismahan Nagi Salim  
Kayla Nicole Sampson  
Carlitos James Serrano  
Khushali S. Shah  
Shuvanon Shahid  
Iqra Jamal Siddiqui  
Lexy Devika Singh  
Tara Johnore Fatima Stith  
Alexandra Maya Stone  
Rafa Tasneem  
Ugoeze M. Uhegwu  
Victoria Uyo  
Fatmata Jebbeh Vandi  
Shengnan Jennifer Wang  
Briana Nicole Washington  
Kaitlyn Elizabeth Williams

*Medical Science*

Alyssa N. Calder ++  
Asli Durak  
Crystal Ashlyn Joseph ++  
Bhavya Malav Kanuga ++  
Alfredo Eduardo Munoz ++  
Cameron James Pauly  
Swetha Vontela ++

(++ Completed Joint  
MD/MS Program)

## DOCTOR OF MEDICINE DEGREES

*(The location of the physician's clinical program is indicated.)***Lisa Ann Abraham**

University of Maryland  
Medical Center  
Baltimore, MD  
Internal Medicine

**Oluwakemi M. Adesina**

Yale New Haven Hospital  
New Haven, CT  
Anesthesiology

**Mahamud Abdulgani Ahmed**

University of Michigan  
Hospital  
Ann Arbor, MI  
Interventional Radiology  
-Integrated

**Devi Alaparthi**

State University of New  
York Health Science  
Center at Brooklyn  
Brooklyn, NY  
Internal Medicine

**Daniel Glen Albrecht**

Baystate Franklin  
Medical Center  
Greenfield, MA  
Family Medicine

**Denysia Monique Allen \***

Children's Hospital  
of Philadelphia  
Philadelphia, PA  
Medicine-Pediatrics

**Kelly Allen**

St. Luke's University  
Hospital - Bethlehem  
Bethlehem, PA  
Emergency Medicine

**Troy Joseph Anlage**

Strong Memorial Hospital of  
the University of Rochester  
Rochester, NY  
Internal Medicine

**Prachi Anshu ∞**

University of California  
Davis Medical Center  
Sacramento, CA  
Anesthesiology

**Beth Gayle Ashinsky » §**

New York-Presbyterian  
Hospital-Columbia  
University Medical Center  
New York, NY  
Orthopaedic Surgery/  
Research COR 6 yr

**Joseph Assali**

Christiana Care Health System  
Newark, DE  
Medicine-Pediatrics

**Malavikalakshmi M. Attur**

New York University Grossman  
School of Medicine  
New York, NY  
Internal Medicine

**George Saro Avetian**

Virginia Commonwealth  
University Health System  
Richmond, VA  
Internal Medicine

**Ahsun Aziz Bajwa**

Thomas Jefferson University  
Philadelphia, PA  
Anesthesiology

**Dylan Wyatt Baker**

University of Florida College  
of Medicine – Jacksonville  
Jacksonville, FL  
Surgery-Preliminary

**Saba Bakhtiari**

Crozer-Chester Medical Center  
Upland, PA  
Obstetrics-Gynecology

**Maksim V. Bakrenov #**

Montefiore Medical  
Center/Albert Einstein  
College of Medicine  
Bronx, NY  
Medicine-Preliminary  
Neurology

**Konstantinos Chris Balis**

Cooper Medical School of  
Rowan University/Cooper  
University Hospital  
Camden, NJ  
Anesthesiology

**Devin Justine Barnaby »**

Cincinnati Children's  
Hospital Medical Center  
Cincinnati, OH  
Pediatrics

**Eliza Jane Barnes**

Cooper Medical School of  
Rowan University/Cooper  
University Hospital  
Camden, NJ  
Family Medicine

**Andrew Barr**

University of Arizona  
College of Medicine  
Tucson, AZ  
Internal Medicine

**Carrie-Anne Barry**

The Medical University  
of South Carolina  
Charleston, SC  
Neurology

**Abhijith Reddy Bathini »**

Mayo Clinic School of  
Graduate Medical Education  
Phoenix, AZ  
Neurological Surgery

**Collin Flannery Battista**

Albert Einstein Medical Center  
Philadelphia, PA  
Medicine-Preliminary

New York University Grossman  
School of Medicine  
New York, NY  
Anesthesiology

**Shannara Elaine Bauer**

Allegheny General Hospital  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Surgery-Preliminary

**Nicholas Levis Benjamin**

University of Pittsburgh  
Medical Center  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Child Neurology

**Alex Rose Berman » #**

Emory University School  
of Medicine  
Atlanta, GA  
Internal Medicine

**Lakhram Bhisham »**

New York University Grossman  
School of Medicine  
New York, NY  
Medicine-Preliminary  
Anesthesiology

**Kwasi Oti Boateng**

Texas Tech University Health  
Sciences Center El Paso  
El Paso, TX  
Family Medicine

**Kevin Carmo Bom**

Temple University Hospital  
Philadelphia, PA  
Neurology

**Eileen Suzanne Borczon #**

University of Pittsburgh  
Medical Center  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Psychiatry

**Nigel James Bowe »**

Henry Ford Hospital  
Detroit, MI  
Emergency Medicine

**Katherine Jean Boyd »**

University of Pittsburgh  
Medical Center  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Internal Medicine/  
Global Health

**Madeleine K. Bruce »**

Rhode Island Hospital/  
Brown University  
Providence, RI  
Plastic Surgery - Integrated

**Rostyslav Bukachevskyy**

Penn State Health Milton S.  
Hershey Medical Center  
Hershey, PA  
Anesthesiology

**Morgane Nina Bulpin » #**

Beth Israel Deaconess  
Medical Center  
Boston, MA  
Internal Medicine

**Alyssa Nicole Calder » ••**

Virginia Commonwealth  
University Health System  
Richmond, VA  
Otolaryngology

**Patrick Thomas Campbell**

University of Utah Health  
Salt Lake City, UT  
Internal Medicine

**Ann Marie Carnevale \***

Fort Belvoir Community  
Hospital  
Fort Belvoir, VA  
Family Medicine

**Joel Esteban Castillo » ••**

New York-Presbyterian  
Hospital-Columbia  
University Medical Center  
New York, NY  
Family Medicine

**Brenda Michelle Castlemain**

Baylor University  
Medical Center  
Dallas, TX  
Radiology-Diagnostic

**Benjamin Joseph Caviston**

Augusta University/Medical  
College of Georgia  
Augusta, GA  
Emergency Medicine

**Elizabeth Elena Centurion**

Chestnut Hill Hospital/  
Tower Health  
Philadelphia, PA  
Family Medicine

**Linda Ann Chamberlin §**

Icahn School of Medicine  
at Mount Sinai  
Morningside-West  
New York, NY  
Psychiatry

**Lisa Chang »**

Cedars-Sinai Medical Center  
Los Angeles, CA  
Internal Medicine

**Jake Rielly Coddling**

Baylor Scott & White  
Medical Center  
Temple, TX  
Emergency Medicine

**Benjamin Steeves Cote »**

New York-Presbyterian  
Hospital-Weill Cornell  
Medical Center  
New York, NY  
Anesthesiology

**Widly Coulanges**

Information Withheld

**Lesya Alexandra Cravens**

Reading Hospital/  
Tower Health  
West Reading, PA  
Neurology

**Liliana Carolina Cruz**

Western Pennsylvania Hospital  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Obstetrics-Gynecology

**Coby James**

**Cunningham » ••**  
Allegheny General Hospital  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Neurological Surgery

**Nikita Dahake ∞**

Temple University Hospital  
Philadelphia, PA  
Internal Medicine

**Shraddha R.**

**Damaraju » •• #**  
Massachusetts General  
Hospital  
Boston, MA  
Medicine-Primary

**Brian Richard D'Amore » ••**

Massachusetts General  
Hospital  
Boston, MA  
Interventional Radiology  
-Integrated

**Navya Dandu \***

University of Illinois College  
of Medicine at Chicago  
Chicago, IL  
Orthopaedic Surgery

**Rachael Margaret D'Auria »**

Abington Memorial Hospital  
Abington, PA  
Obstetrics-Gynecology

**Margot Debrabandere »**

Stamford Hospital/ Columbia  
University College of  
Physicians and Surgeons  
Stamford, CT  
Obstetrics-Gynecology

**Audrey Lina Del Re**

Thomas Jefferson University  
Philadelphia, PA  
Neurology

**Milap Hetal Desai \***

Wellspring York Hospital  
York, PA  
Emergency Medicine

**Maroun Diab**

New York University Long  
Island School of Medicine  
Mineola, NY  
Internal Medicine

**Connor Christian Diaz »**

University of South Florida  
Morsani College of Medicine  
Tampa, FL  
Orthopaedic Surgery

**Aubrey DiBello »**

Icahn School of Medicine  
at Mount Sinai  
New York, NY  
Urology

**Martha Anne Dillon**

University of Connecticut  
School of Medicine  
Farmington, CT  
Medicine-Primary

**Andrew Louis DiMatteo » •**

Tripler Army Medical Center  
Honolulu, HI  
Otolaryngology

**Alex Edward Dobzanski ♦**

Allegheny Health Network  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Urology

**Ailaura Catherine Donahoe**

University of Pittsburgh  
Medical Center  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Internal Medicine

**Allison Grace Donahue »**

University of California San  
Diego Medical Center  
San Diego, CA  
Emergency Medicine

**Adam George Dykie »**

Lankenau Medical Center  
Wynnewood, PA  
Medicine-Preliminary  
Strong Memorial Hospital of  
the University of Rochester  
Rochester, NY  
Radiology-Diagnostic

**Benjamin Ronald Dylik**

Yale New Haven  
Children's Hospital  
New Haven, CT  
Pediatrics

**John Abbanob Ebeid**

Temple University Hospital  
Philadelphia, PA  
Internal Medicine

**Patrick Martin Einhorn**

Campbell University  
Fayetteville, NC  
Transitional Year  
University of North  
Carolina Hospitals  
Chapel Hill, NC  
Anesthesiology

**Marysol Encarnacion**

University of California  
San Francisco  
San Francisco, CA  
Psychiatry

**John William Eschrich**

Vanderbilt University  
Medical Center  
Nashville, TN  
Pediatrics



**Margil Fahit**

Maimonides Medical Center  
Brooklyn, NY  
Emergency Medicine

**Maureen Catherine**

**Farrell † ∞**

University of North  
Carolina Hospitals  
Chapel Hill, NC  
Pediatrics/Physician Scientist

**Leah Rachel Fendrick**

Lankenau Medical Center  
Wynnewood, PA  
Obstetrics-Gynecology

**Jake Lawrence Figaniak**

Thomas Jefferson University  
Philadelphia, PA  
Emergency Medicine

**Oren Fishman †**

Bryn Mawr Hospital  
Bryn Mawr, PA  
Family Medicine

**Ethan John Fitzgerald \* »**

Allegheny General Hospital  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Neurological Surgery

**Christina Elizabeth  
Fleckenstein »**

Wake Forest Baptist  
Medical Center  
Winston-Salem, NC  
Obstetrics-Gynecology

**Chiara Alyssa Flores**

Indiana University  
School of Medicine  
Indianapolis, IN  
Neurological Surgery

**Anna Ruth Fuchs »**

St Luke's University Hospital  
Bethlehem, PA  
Obstetrics-Gynecology

**Marc N. Gadda**

University of Texas  
Southwestern Medical School  
Dallas, TX  
Orthopaedic Surgery

**Tyler Robert Galvelis**

St. Christopher's Hospital for  
Children/Tower Health  
Philadelphia, PA  
Pediatrics

**Allen Y. Ganjei »**

Coney Island Hospital  
Brooklyn, NY  
Transitional Year  
State University of New  
York Health Science  
Center at Brooklyn  
Brooklyn, NY  
Ophthalmology

**Erica Elizabeth Gleason**

Temple University Hospital  
Philadelphia, PA  
Psychiatry

**Robert Andrew Goldberg »**

St. Christopher's Hospital for  
Children/Tower Health  
Philadelphia, PA  
Child Neurology

**Zachary Seth Goodman**

Dartmouth-Hitchcock  
Medical Center  
Lebanon, NH  
Psychiatry

**Savannah Rose Gorisek »**

EmStar Washington  
Hospital Center  
Washington, DC  
Medicine-Preliminary  
Northwestern University  
Feinberg School of Medicine  
Chicago, IL  
Radiology-Diagnostic

**Jesse Daniel Gruber**

Emory University School  
of Medicine  
Atlanta, GA  
Internal Medicine

**Shaobo Guan**

New York-Presbyterian/  
Columbia University  
Medical Center  
New York, NY  
Neurology

**Anuranita Gupta »**

Beth Israel Deaconess  
Medical Center  
Boston, MA  
Internal Medicine

**Jayesh Gupta ♦**

Temple University Hospital  
Philadelphia, PA  
Surgery-Preliminary

**Douglas Harnett-Robinson**

Zucker School of  
Medicine - Northwell at  
Plainview Hospital  
Plainview, NY  
Family Medicine

**Vincent Michael Hayes**

Mercy Catholic Medical Center  
Darby, PA  
Medicine-Preliminary  
Thomas Jefferson University  
Philadelphia, PA  
Radiology-Diagnostic

**Marc Andrew Hem Lee † \* #**

Beth Israel Deaconess  
Medical Center  
Boston, MA  
Psychiatry

**Leila Elise Hilal \* #**

Lancaster General Hospital  
Lancaster, PA  
Family Medicine

**Olivia Elise Hilal \***

Lancaster General Hospital  
Lancaster, PA  
Family Medicine

**Abhishek Anil Hinduja**

University of Maryland  
Medical Center  
Baltimore, MD  
Neurology

**Suzanne Ho**

University of Maryland  
Medical Center  
Baltimore, MD  
Family Medicine

**Samantha Christine  
Hoegle**

University of Pittsburgh  
Medical Center - Harrisburg  
Harrisburg, PA  
Emergency Medicine

**Blake Carter Horton**

Washington Hospital  
Washington, PA  
Family Medicine

**Schuyler Patrick Hultman**

Albert Einstein Medical Center  
Philadelphia, PA  
Medicine-Preliminary

**Anthony John Iacoviello »**

Beth Israel Deaconess  
Medical Center  
Boston, MA  
Internal Medicine

**Ella Careen Ishaaya**

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

**Kara Melissa Jacobs**

Lehigh Valley Hospital  
Allentown, PA  
Psychiatry

**Meera Jain**

University of Virginia  
Charlottesville, VA  
Internal Medicine

**Crystal Ashlyn Joseph † ••**

St Luke's University  
Hospital - Bethlehem  
Bethlehem, PA  
Transitional Year  
Beth Israel Deaconess  
Medical Center  
Boston, MA  
Anesthesiology

**Marcus Antonius Junus**

Swedish Medical Center  
Seattle, WA  
Family Medicine

**William Lawrence Justice \* »**

Thomas Jefferson University  
Philadelphia, PA  
Orthopaedic Surgery

**Gurmukh Singh Kainth**

Tulane University School  
of Medicine  
New Orleans, LA  
Internal Medicine

**Syed Zane Kaleem \***

Penn State Health Milton S.  
Hershey Medical Center  
Hershey, PA  
Psychiatry

**Bhavya Malav Kanuga ••**

Capital Health Regional  
Medical Center  
Pennington, NJ  
Transitional Year  
Zucker School of  
Medicine-Northwell  
at Staten Island University  
Staten Island, NY  
Radiology-Diagnostic

**Ashima Rajkumar Katakwar**

Loma Linda University  
Loma Linda, CA  
Emergency Medicine

**Kyle Joseph Kettler**

Cleveland Clinic Foundation  
Lakewood, OH  
Family Medicine

**Ishani Vijay Khatiwala ∞**

Icahn School of Medicine  
at Mount Sinai/  
Elmhurst Hospital  
Elmhurst, NY  
Medicine-Preliminary  
Icahn School of Medicine  
at Mount Sinai  
New York, NY  
Neurology

**Saranya S. Khurana » •**

Massachusetts General  
Hospital  
Boston, MA  
Psychiatry

**Meaghan Louise Kiernan**

Crozer-Chester Medical Center  
Upland, PA  
Obstetrics-Gynecology

**Janet Seh Jin Kim**

Vanderbilt University  
Medical Center  
Nashville, TN  
Anesthesiology

**Tracey Shin Kim #**

Santa Clara Valley  
Medical Center  
San Jose, CA  
Internal Medicine

**Hunter King**

Los Robles Health System  
Thousand Oaks, CA  
Neurology

**Kyle James Knickelbein**

University of Pittsburgh  
Medical Center  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Pathology

**Benjamin D. Koa »**

Thomas Jefferson University  
Philadelphia, PA  
Anesthesiology

**Sravva Koduri ♦**

Lankenau Medical Center  
Wynnewood, PA  
Medicine-Preliminary  
New York University Grossman  
School of Medicine  
New York, NY  
Radiation Oncology

**Alexander Louis Koerner**

Campbell University  
Fayetteville, NC  
Emergency Medicine

**Saira Milind Kothari**

University of Central Florida/  
HCA Healthcare  
Kissimmee, FL  
Obstetrics-Gynecology/  
Kissimmee

**Seth Porter Krivchenia**

St. Luke's University  
Hospital - Bethlehem  
Bethlehem, PA  
Emergency Medicine

**Tess Ellen Krowicki**

Temple University Hospital  
Philadelphia, PA  
Psychiatry

**Samantha Lynne Kruger »**

Stanford University  
Medical Center  
Stanford, CA  
Obstetrics-Gynecology

**Rachael Anne Kubeldis**

University of Pittsburgh  
Medical Center  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Neurology

**John Pierce Kundrick •**

University of Pittsburgh  
Medical Center  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Internal Medicine

**Eric Michael LaBouff ••**

Reading Hospital/  
Tower Health  
West Reading, PA  
Physical Medicine &  
Rehabilitation

**Lauren Kristine Lewis †**

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

**Kathryn Marie Lindstrom**

Ascension St. Vincent Hospital  
Indianapolis, IN  
Obstetrics-Gynecology

**Emma Olivia Link**

Loyola University  
Medical Center  
Maywood, IL  
Internal Medicine

**Matthew Isaac Lipow**

Westchester Medical Center  
Valhalla, NY  
Psychiatry

**Catherine Ye Liu**

University of Southern  
California  
Los Angeles, CA  
Anesthesiology

**Joshua Thor**

**Morton Lucas † »**  
Medical University of  
South Carolina  
Charleston, SC  
Neurological Surgery

**Steven Ronald Maceyko**

Thomas Jefferson University  
Philadelphia, PA  
Emergency Medicine

**Valli Lakshmi Mani**

Zucker School of Medicine  
Northwell at NS/LIJ  
Great Neck, NY  
Internal Medicine

**Emily Laura Mapelli » #**

Hospital of the University  
of Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia, PA  
Anesthesiology

**Melissa Curnick Margolis \* ♦♦♦**

Icahn School of Medicine  
at Mount Sinai  
New York, NY  
Medicine-Primary

**Bianca Sofia Marquez \***

Albert Einstein Medical Center  
Philadelphia, PA  
Surgery-Preliminary

**Marissa Ann Matto »**

University of Massachusetts  
Chan Medical  
School - Baystate  
Springfield, MA  
General Surgery

**Caya Mariet McFalls ♦**

Johns Hopkins Hospital  
Baltimore, MD  
Internal Medicine

**Brian Scott McIntyre**

Thomas Jefferson University  
Philadelphia, PA  
Anesthesiology

**Ian Devoe McLaren**

Albert Einstein Medical Center  
Philadelphia, PA  
Internal Medicine

**Charmie V. Mehta » ∞**

University of Maryland  
Medical Center  
Baltimore, MD  
Emergency Medicine

**Sidney Marie Mejia**

Louisiana State University  
School of Medicine  
New Orleans, LA  
Internal Medicine

**Mohamed Miraoui**

State University of New  
York Health Science  
Center at Brooklyn  
Brooklyn, NY  
Emergency Medicine

**Kush Suresh Mody**

Rutgers New Jersey  
Medical School  
Newark, NJ  
Orthopaedic Surgery

**Vivek Mohan**

State University of New  
York Health Science  
Center at Brooklyn  
Brooklyn, NY  
Medicine-Preliminary

**Waneeza Mughees \* » #**

Abington Memorial Hospital  
Abington, PA  
Obstetrics-Gynecology

**Alfredo Eduardo Munoz ••**

Detroit Medical Center/  
Wayne State University  
Detroit, MI  
Surgery-Preliminary

**Tess Sarah Hsu Munoz**

University of North  
Carolina Hospitals  
Chapel Hill, NC  
Emergency Medicine

**Catherine Emily Murray**

Penn State Health Milton S.  
Hershey Medical Center  
Hershey, PA  
Pediatrics

**Alex Jordan Nadelman**

Rush University  
Medical Center  
Chicago, IL  
Surgery-Preliminary

**Nathan Tan Navarro \***

Loyola Medicine  
MacNeal Hospital  
Berwyn, IL  
Family Medicine

**Yolaine Nkamga**

Morehouse School of Medicine  
Atlanta, GA  
Surgery-Preliminary

**Glad Chinyere Nwaozo**

Baylor College of Medicine  
Houston, TX  
Emergency Medicine

**Christiana Obeng » ∞**

Abington Memorial Hospital  
Abington, PA  
Obstetrics-Gynecology

**Margaret Helen O'Connor » \$**

Duke University  
Medical Center  
Durham, NC  
General Surgery

**Uchenna Kelenna Okoji**

MedStar Union  
Memorial Hospital  
Baltimore, MD  
Medicine-Preliminary  
Montefiore Medical  
Center/Albert Einstein  
College of Medicine  
Bronx, NY  
Dermatology

**Ndidiamaka Akudo Okoroza**

Strong Memorial Hospital of  
the University of Rochester  
Rochester, NY  
Medicine-Pediatrics

**Adrian Bright Oppong**

Lankenau Medical Center  
Wynnewood, PA  
Medicine-Preliminary  
Thomas Jefferson University  
Philadelphia, PA  
Physical Medicine &  
Rehabilitation

**David Orozco »**

University of Pittsburgh  
Medical Center  
Mercy Hospital  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Surgery-Preliminary

**Anna Katherine Owen**

Forbes Hospital  
Monroeville, PA  
Family Medicine

**Shaleen Rajen Oza**

Thomas Jefferson University/  
Alfred I. duPont  
Hospital for Children  
Philadelphia, PA  
Pediatrics

**Kingsley Chidera Ozongwu**

Allegheny General Hospital  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Internal Medicine

**William Zachery Paden**

Lehigh Valley Hospital  
Allentown, PA  
Transitional Year  
University of Utah Health  
Salt Lake City, UT  
Radiology-Diagnostic

**Aakash N. Padodara**

University of Miami Miller  
School of Medicine  
Fort Lauderdale, FL  
Internal Medicine

**Tyler Michael Palombo**

Allegheny General Hospital  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Internal Medicine

**June Pan**

Kaiser Permanente Fontana  
Medical Center  
Fontana, CA  
Family Medicine

**Eleni Papanikolaou**

Cooper Medical School of  
Rowan University/Cooper  
University Hospital  
Camden, NJ  
Anesthesiology

**Christopher Stanley Para**

Advocate Illinois Masonic  
Medical Center  
Oak Lawn, IL  
Medicine-Preliminary/ACMC

**Sachin Parikh \***

Morristown Medical Center  
Morristown, NJ  
Emergency Medicine

**Jin Young Park**

Mercy Catholic Medical Center  
Darby, PA  
General Surgery

**Nidhi H. Patel**

University of Massachusetts  
Chan Medical School  
Worcester, MA  
Medicine-Preliminary  
Neurology

**Pujan R. Patel**

Wright State University  
Boonshoft School  
of Medicine  
Dayton, OH  
Internal Medicine

**Shrey Pradip Patel**

Zucker School of Medicine  
Northwell at Cohen  
Children's Medical Center  
New Hyde Park, NY  
Pediatrics

**Shreya M. Patel**

Thomas Jefferson University  
Philadelphia, PA  
Psychiatry

**Christian James Peoples**

University of Southern  
California  
Los Angeles, CA  
Internal Medicine

**Maria Luiza Taylor  
Perez-Brogan**

Family Health Centers  
at NYU Langone  
Brooklyn, NY  
Internal Medicine

**Emily Suzanne Perkinson**

Boston University  
Medical Center  
Boston, MA  
Internal Medicine

**Nicholas Donald Poole**

Dartmouth-Hitchcock  
Medical Center  
Lebanon, NH  
Emergency Medicine

**Javaun Nathaniel Porter \***

Icahn School of Medicine at  
Mount Sinai Morningside  
and Mount Sinai West  
New York, NY  
Anesthesiology

**Mukund Jayant Prabakar**

California Pacific  
Medical Center  
San Francisco, CA  
Psychiatry

**Valeryia Pratasava \*\***

New York University Grossman  
School of Medicine  
New York, NY  
Medicine-Preliminary  
Anesthesiology

**Athul Rajesh**

Lankenau Medical Center  
Wynnewood, PA  
Internal Medicine

**Sheila Monic Ramos**

Temple University Hospital  
Philadelphia, PA  
Family Medicine

**Anisha Rukhmini Reddy \***

University of Pittsburgh  
Medical Center  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Internal Medicine/  
Women's Health

**Michael Ryan Reid**

St. Luke's University  
Hospital-Anderson  
Easton, PA  
Emergency Medicine

**Bryan David Rettner »**

Morristown Medical Center  
Morristown, NJ  
General Surgery

**Gordon Alexander  
Ridgeway**

Lankenau Medical Center  
Wynnewood, PA  
Medicine-Preliminary  
Albert Einstein Medical Center  
Philadelphia, PA  
Physical Medicine &  
Rehabilitation

**Daniel Michael Roth**

Riverside University  
Health System  
Moreno Valley, CA  
Emergency Medicine

**Austin Michael Ruediger**

Capital Health Regional  
Medical Center  
Pennington, NJ  
Transitional Year  
Rutgers Robert Wood  
Johnson Medical School  
New Brunswick, NJ  
Radiology-Diagnostic

**Nicholas Ridgley Salter**

Medical University of  
South Carolina  
Charleston, SC  
Family Medicine

**Kyle Perry Santerian**

Temple University Hospital  
Philadelphia, PA  
Internal Medicine

**Varsha Sarma**

Zucker School of Medicine  
Northwell at Cohen  
Children's Medical Center  
New Hyde Park, NY  
Pediatrics

**Claire Elise Schafer »**

University of Pittsburgh  
Medical Center  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Pediatrics

**Bruce William Schmidt**

University of Maryland  
Medical Center  
Baltimore, MD  
Anesthesiology

**Joseph Lewis Schmitz**

Inspira Health Network  
Vineland, NJ  
Emergency Medicine

**Kendyl Marcella Schreiber #**

Case Western Reserve  
University/University  
Hospitals Cleveland  
Medical Center  
Cleveland, OH  
Pediatrics

**Ridgley Jeremiah Schultz**

New York Presbyterian  
Brooklyn Methodist Hospital  
Brooklyn, NY  
Emergency Medicine

**Sara Jane Settle » #**

University of Michigan  
Hospital  
Ann Arbor, MI  
Medicine-Pediatrics

**Rachel Janelle Shaffer**

University of Virginia  
Charlottesville, VA  
Neurology

**Neev Shah**

Boston University  
Medical Center  
Boston, MA  
Family Medicine

**Enoch Graham Shissler**

St. Mary's Medical Center  
Grand Junction, CO  
Family Medicine

**Amanpreet Shawna Singh \***

University of Connecticut  
School of Medicine  
Hartford, CT  
Pediatrics

**Emily Ann Smith**

Christiana Care Health System  
Wilmington, DE  
Psychiatry

**Jeffrey Thomas Student**

Temple University Hospital  
Philadelphia, PA  
Internal Medicine

**Aditi Suresh**

Albert Einstein Medical Center  
Philadelphia, PA  
Emergency Medicine

**Aishwarya Suresh »**

Loma Linda University  
Loma Linda, CA  
Otolaryngology

**Kelly Claire Szymanski**

Lankenau Medical Center  
Wynnewood, PA  
Internal Medicine

**Shana Domonique Talbot »**

Women and Infants  
Hospital of Rhode Island/  
Brown University  
Providence, RI  
Obstetrics-Gynecology

**Kaitlyn Elizabeth  
Thomesen \***

Walter Reed National  
Military Medical Center  
Bethesda, MD  
Internal Medicine

**Matthew James Thoonkuzhy**

Loyola University  
Medical Center  
Maywood, IL  
Surgery-Preliminary

**Nicholas Scott Thorneloe »**

San Antonio Uniformed  
Services Health  
Education Consortium  
San Antonio, TX  
Internal Medicine

**Tyler Daniel Timmins**

Temple University Hospital  
Philadelphia, PA  
Internal Medicine

### Caroline Whalen Tipton

MedStar Georgetown  
University Hospital/  
Washington Hospital Center  
Washington, DC  
Ophthalmology

### Theodric Williamson Todd

University of Pittsburgh  
Medical Center St. Margaret  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Family Medicine

### Jason M. Tom

Cedars-Sinai Medical Center  
Los Angeles, CA  
Medicine-Preliminary  
Neurology

### Kyle Corsini Trabocco

University of Pittsburgh  
Medical Center  
Altoona Hospital  
Altoona, PA  
Transitional Year

### Danielle Thoai-Thanh Tran \*

University of California  
Davis Medical Center  
Sacramento, CA  
Internal Medicine

### Sarah Emilie Trocke

Rutgers Robert Wood  
Johnson Medical School  
New Brunswick, NJ  
Pediatrics

### Safiye S. Unlu \*

University of Pittsburgh  
Medical Center  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Obstetrics-Gynecology

### Lily Ravel Van Tongeren

Cooper Medical School of  
Rowan University/Cooper  
University Hospital  
Camden, NJ  
Family Medicine

### Hemanth Manju Venkatesh

Orlando Health  
Orlando, FL  
General Surgery

### Swetha Vontela ♦ » ♦♦

University of Pittsburgh  
Medical Center  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Internal Medicine

### Anish H. Vora »

Boston University  
Medical Center  
Boston, MA  
Internal Medicine

### Luke Arakel Wakeen ♦

University of Massachusetts  
Chan Medical School  
Worcester, MA  
Internal Medicine

### Sierra Rose Wallace •

Boston University  
Medical Center  
Boston, MA  
Internal Medicine

### Elizabeth Kish Walton \*

Cincinnati Children's  
Hospital Medical Center  
Cincinnati, OH  
Pediatrics

### Abigail Elizabeth Mudd Watson †

University of Vermont  
Medical Center  
Burlington, VT  
Pediatrics

### Nancy Wang Wei

Icahn School of Medicine  
at Mount Sinai  
Morningside-West  
New York, NY  
Medicine-Preliminary  
Icahn School of Medicine  
at Mount Sinai

New York, NY  
Dermatology

### David Weinstein \* »

Lankenau Medical Center  
Wynnewood, PA  
Medicine-Preliminary  
Temple University Hospital  
Philadelphia, PA  
Interventional Radiology-  
Integrated

### James William White

St. Luke's University  
Hospital-Bethlehem  
Bethlehem, PA  
Emergency Medicine

### Tharaka Ruwani Wijesinghe

Icahn School of Medicine  
at Mount Sinai  
Morningside-West  
New York, NY  
Internal Medicine

### Tucker Schofield Wilkinson

University of Virginia  
Charlottesville, VA  
Internal Medicine

### Karen Xiao

State University of New  
York Health Science  
Center at Brooklyn  
Brooklyn, NY  
Emergency Medicine

### Dia Yang \*

New York-Presbyterian  
Hospital-Columbia  
University Medical Center  
New York, NY  
Neurology

### Kevin Yang

University of Southern  
California  
Los Angeles, CA  
Anesthesiology

### Heather Anne Yeakel

St. Luke's University  
Hospital-Anderson  
Easton, PA  
Otolaryngology

### Athan George Zavras

Allegheny General Hospital  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Orthopaedic Surgery



## 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.

**Dana Lengel, PhD '21**

**Michelle Swift, PhD '21**

## Doctor of Medicine Awards

### THE 2022 UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE AWARD

From the Physician Professional Advisory Committee of the U.S. Public Health Service in recognition of demonstrated commitment to public health and public health practice:

**Shraddha R. Damaraju**

### THE DR. ELIAS ABRUTYN AWARD

For excellence in Infectious Diseases:

**Troy Joseph Anlage**

### THE PAULA BERNOCCHI MEMORIAL AWARD

For excellence in the field of Emergency Medicine:

**Allison Grace Donahue**

For excellence in the field of Psychiatry:

**Saranya S. Khurana**

### 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:

**Denysia Monique Allen**

### THE LUTHER W. BRADY, MD AWARD

For excellence in Radiation Oncology and Clinical Oncology:

**Sravya Koduri**

### THE RONALD P. CAPUTO AWARD

For outstanding clinical skills and humanitarianism in the care of medical patients:

**Shraddha R. Damaraju**

### THE ELSIE REID CARRINGTON AWARD

For a graduating senior who has demonstrated a high level of accomplishment and who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and service to the student body:

**Sara Jane Settle**

### THE HARRIS R. CLEARFIELD AWARD

For excellence in Gastroenterology:

**Lisa Chang**

### 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:

**Shraddha R. Damaraju**

### THE SELMA AND OSCAR CORN, MD MEMORIAL IN ORTHOPAEDICS HU '43 AWARD

For excellence in Orthopaedic Surgery, proven scholarship and demonstrated leadership amongst peers:

**William Lawrence Justice**

### THE DREXEL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARD

For dedication and contribution to the community and University:

**Kyle Corsini Trabocco**

### THE DREXEL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE SGA AWARD

For outstanding dedication and loyalty to the school and the student body:

**Waneeza Mughees**

### THE ALAN EDELSON MEMORIAL PRIZE

For outstanding leadership and service to the student body and the College of Medicine:

**Christina Elizabeth  
Fleckenstein**

### THE DIANA J. EGAN AWARD

For excellence in clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology:

**Leah Rachel Fendrick**

### THE SOCIETY FOR ACADEMIC EMERGENCY MEDICINE AWARD

For excellence in Emergency Medicine:

**Nigel James Bowe**

### THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY, COMMUNITY AND PREVENTIVE MEDICINE AWARD

For excellence in Family Medicine:

**Leila Elise Hilal**

For excellence in Community and Preventive Medicine:

**Joel Esteban Castillo**

### THE EVA FERNANDEZ FOX AWARD

For the graduating senior who best demonstrates personal integrity, stability, responsibility and loyalty to the College of Medicine:

**Caya Mariet McFalls**

### THE WILLIAM GREGG AWARD

Graduation prize for humanitarianism in the care of Pediatric patients:

**Sara Jane Settle**

### THE LESTER J. GROVERMAN, MD MEMORIAL AWARD

For outstanding clinical and academic performance in Hematology and Oncology:

**Patrick Thomas Campbell**

### THE DR. MARY ELLEN HARTMAN AWARD

For a student underrepresented in medicine who has demonstrated outstanding social consciousness and leadership with peers and the community:

**William Lawrence Justice**

### THE BEATRICE STERLING HOLLANDER, MD, WMC '41 MEMORIAL AWARD

To the student in the graduating class who shows promise of leadership, high character and dedication to service:

**Waneeza Mughees**

### THE RITA G. JACOBS AWARD

For excellence and compassion in Anesthesiology and pain management:

**Valeryia Pratasava**

### THE ROBERT F. JOHNSTON MEMORIAL AWARD

For excellence in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine:

**Kyle Perry Santerian**

### THE JOSEPH A. LANGBORD MEMORIAL PRIZE

For a graduating senior who best exemplifies the qualities of humanitarianism in the practice of medicine:

**Ohwakemi M. Adesina**

### THE WILLIAM LIKOFF, MD MEMORIAL AWARD IN CARDIOLOGY

For the graduating senior with the most promise in the field of Cardiology:

**Gurmukh Singh Kainth**

### THE DANIEL MASON, MD HU '44 AWARD

For excellence in Cardiovascular clinical work:

**Emily Suzanne Perkinson**

### DR. NATHALIE MAY PHYLLIS MARCIANO JR. AWARD

For outstanding leadership  
and service to the student body  
and College of Medicine:

***Oluwakemi M. Adesina***

### THE DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE AWARD

For excellence in Renal  
and Electrolyte studies:

***Morgane Nina Bulpin***

### THE DEYLAN C. MOORE MEMORIAL AWARD

For leadership, humanism  
and service to the student  
body and the community:

***Ann Marie Carnevale***

### THE ALMA D. MORANI, MD WMC '31 AWARD IN GROSS ANATOMY

For excellence in Anatomy  
during the senior year:

***Widly Coulanges***

***Milap Hetal Desai***

***Leila Elise Hilal***

***Olivia Elise Hilal***

### THE DEPARTMENT OF NEUROLOGY AWARD

For excellence in Neurology:

***Carrie-Anne Barry***

***Lesya Alexandra Cravens***

### THE DEPARTMENT OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY AWARD

For overall academic excellence  
in Obstetrics and Gynecology:

***Saira Milind Kothari***

For academic excellence in the  
Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Clinical Clerkship:

***Margot Debrabandere***

For leadership in the field of  
Obstetrics and Gynecology:

***Kathryn Marie Lindstrom***

### THE OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS AWARD

For service to the medical school  
and to the student body:

***Denysia Monique Allen***

***Anthony John Iacoviello***

### THE AXEL K. OLSEN, MD NEUROSURGERY AWARD

For excellence in Neurosurgery:

***Abhijith Reddy Bathini***

***Joshua Thor Morton Lucas***

***Alfredo Eduardo Munoz***

### THE ALEXANDER PEARCE, MD AWARD

For excellence in Surgery:

***Abhijith Reddy Bathini***

### THE RONALD S. PENNOCK, MD AWARD

For excellence in Internal  
Medicine and Cardiology:

***Caya Mariet McFalls***

### THE PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS, PHILADELPHIA BRANCH AWARD

For performance and leadership  
in Family Medicine:

***Olivia Elise Hilal***

### THE DR. LEE WINSTON SILVER AWARD

For excellence in Pediatrics:

***Elizabeth Kish Walton***

### THE VIVEK SUBRAMANI MEMORIAL AWARD

For leadership, compassion,  
service and a commitment to  
fostering community within  
the College of Medicine.

***Milap Hetal Desai***

### THE DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE SURGERY CLERKSHIP

Abington-Jefferson Health:

***Elizabeth Kish Walton***

Allegheny Health Network:

***Hemanth Manju Venkatesh***

Crozer-Chester Medical Center:

***Abhijith Reddy Bathini***

Kaiser Permanente Bay Area:

***Samantha Lynne Kruger***

Philadelphia Area:

***Benjamin Steeves Cote***

Reading Hospital/Tower Health:

***Aishwarya Suresh***

UPMC Pinnacle:

***Devin Justine Barnaby***

WellSpan York Hospital:

***Vincent Michael Hayes***

### THE DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY AWARD

For excellence in the  
Surgery Pathway:

***Margaret Helen O'Connor***

### THE CHARLES SWARTZ AWARD

For academic and clinical  
excellence in Medicine:

***Ella Careen Ishaaya***

### THE DANIEL M. TABAS AWARD

For outstanding scholarly  
achievement by a student  
pursuing a career in  
Primary Care:

***Neev Shah***

### THE THOMAS J. VISCHER AWARD

For clinical excellence  
in Medicine:

***Alex Rose Berman***

***John Abbanob Ebeid***

***Meera Jain***

### THE ARTHUR AND BERTHA WEISMAN AWARD

For excellence in  
Child Psychiatry:

***Emily Ann Smith***

### THE RANDALL WEISS AWARD

For excellence in Psychiatry:

***Linda Ann Chamberlin***

***Erica Elizabeth Gleason***

### THE WOMAN ONE SCHOLAR AWARD

For exemplary performance  
as a Woman One Scholar:

***Elizabeth Elena Centurion***

### THE WOMEN'S HEALTH EDUCATION AWARD

In recognition of outstanding  
leadership and community  
commitment in the field  
of Women's Health:

Academic Achievement:

***Nikita Dahake***

Leadership:

***Leila Elise Hilal***

Community Commitment:

***Charmie V. Mehta***

### THE WU FAMILY PRIZE

For excellence in Physical  
Medicine and Rehabilitation:

***Adrian Bright Oppong***

### THE DR. MARY YANKOSKY AWARD

For excellence in Endocrinology:

***Jeffrey Thomas Student***

For excellence in  
Radiologic Sciences:

***Savannah Rose Gorisek***

## Faculty Awards *for* Distinguished Clinical Teaching

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

Allegheny Health Network

**Andrew J. Klobuka, MD**  
Department of Radiology

Reading Hospital – Tower Health

**Susmita Paladugu, MD**  
Department of Medicine

Coatesville Veterans Affairs Medical Center

**David Kaicher, MD**  
Department of Psychiatry

St. Christopher's Hospital for Children

**Erica Poletto, MD**  
Department of Radiology

Crozer-Chester Medical Center

**Ashley N. Henderson, MD, MBA**  
Department of Pediatrics

St. Francis Medical Center

**Adam C. Kaplan, MD, FACP**  
Department of Medicine

Friends Hospital

**Pamela London, DO**  
Department of Psychiatry

UPMC Harrisburg

**Saketram Komanduri, MD**  
Department of Medicine

Holy Redeemer Hospital

**Lauren R. Maher, MD, FACOG**  
Department of Obstetrics  
and Gynecology

Virtua Health – Mount Holly Hospital

**Michelle L. Salvatore, MD, FACOG**  
Department of Obstetrics  
and Gynecology

Kaiser Permanente - Bay Area

**Jeffrey Andal, MD**  
Department of Medicine

WellSpan York Hospital

**Lorraine Cummings, MD**  
Department Obstetrics  
and Gynecology

Mercy Health System

**Mohammad Alauddin, MRCP(UK),  
MD, FACP**  
Department of Medicine

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

**UPMC Harrisburg: Fisher Road Family Practice**

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, the branch of knowledge and the university by which the degree is granted.

The bachelor's gown is black, has long sleeves, and is worn closed. The master's gown is black but has short sleeves and a crescent cut at the sleeve end. Some are open at the wrist; others have a slit in the upper part of the sleeve. The doctor's gown is often black, preferably silk, with full, round sleeves that are barred in either black velvet or velvet of the color used in the hood to designate 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.

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*Lists complete as of May 2022*

Produced by the Office of University Communications