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Dear Graduates,

On this joyous occasion, I join my Drexel colleagues in honoring you for your hard work and outstanding achievements at Drexel University College of Medicine. You now join the ranks of accomplished Drexel physicians, scientists and professionals serving humanity at the forefront of medical practice, biomedical research and the development of lifesaving diagnostics, treatments and vaccines.



As you embark on your careers, I want to recognize your tremendous contributions to our research enterprise, ranging from securing prestigious fellowships and NIH grants to publication of articles in the most respected peer-reviewed medical and scientific journals.

I also want to thank you for advancing the University’s mission of civic engagement. From your work in Health Outreach Project clinics to mentoring Philadelphia high school students, you made a difference in the lives of the communities we serve.

Finally, I want to commend you for prevailing over one unprecedented challenge after another over the past several years. By staying the course, you are now better prepared to meet any unexpected challenge. And you leave the College of Medicine stronger than you found it.

As you join a Drexel alumni family that spans the globe, I warmly encourage you to remain closely connected to your alma mater. You will have limitless opportunities to bolster the College of Medicine’s academic strength and impact, just as your Drexel faculty and peers will continue to enrich your life. I also hope you will serve as proud ambassadors for the college you have helped to shape and sustain.

The world needs every one of you to excel in medicine and biomedical research. In wishing you fulfilling careers and meaningful lives, I know you will rise to every challenge and come through for humanity’s sake. Congratulations.

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

Kristen Victoria Ampig, MD
Class of 2023

Opening Remarks

Donna M. Russo, PhD, HU '89
William Maul Measey Chair of Medical Education
Interim Vice Dean of Educational Affairs
Senior Associate Dean for Curriculum
Professor of Microbiology and Immunology

Remarks by the Dean

Charles B. Cairns, MD
Walter H. and Leonore Annenberg Dean, College of Medicine
Senior Vice President for Medical Affairs, Drexel University
Professor of Medicine and 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 1973-2023

Charles B. Cairns

Conferring of Honorary Degree

John Fry
Charles B. Cairns

Doctor of Science

John H. Glick, MD

Commencement Address

John H. Glick

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,
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies
Professor of Neurobiology and Anatomy

Investiture

Anita Gaurmier-Hausser, PhD

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

Paul McGonigle, PhD

Co-director, Division of Interdisciplinary and Career-Oriented Programs
Director, Drug Discovery and Development Program, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies
Professor of Pharmacology and Physiology

Shae Padrick, PhD

Assistant Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Erin Vogel song, 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

Stacy Ellen, DO

Assistant Dean for Student Affairs
Associate Professor of Pediatrics

Investiture

Janet Cruz, MD

Assistant Professor of Family, Community and Preventive Medicine

Haviva Goldman, PhD

Professor of Neurobiology and Anatomy

Mary Ann Kuzma, MD

Professor of Medicine

Kirsten Larson, PhD

Professor of Microbiology and Immunology

Leon McCrea II, MD, MPH

*Senior Associate Dean of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
Director, Drexel Pathway to Medical School Program,
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Professional Studies
Associate Professor of Family, Community and Preventive Medicine*

Steven Rosenzweig, MD

*Director, Office of Community Engagement
Professor of Emergency Medicine*

Administration of the Physician's Pledge

Dennis H. Novack, MD

*Associate Dean of Medical Education
Professor of Medicine*

Military Oath for MD Officers

Ayman S. Bodair, MD '19

*Captain, Medical Corps, United States Army
Internal Medicine Resident, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center*

Induction into the Alumni Association

Edward Siegel, MD '12, MBA

President, Alumni Association

Graduate Remarks

Kyle Raymond Brunner, MD

Class of 2023

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

Daniel V. Schidlow, MD

*Dean Emeritus
Professor of Pediatrics, Medicine, and Pharmacology and Physiology*

Faculty Marshals

Annette B. Gadegbeku, MD

*Associate Dean of Community Health
Faculty Director, Healing Hurt People
Associate Professor of Family, Community and Preventive Medicine
Division Chief, Community Health*

Vanessa Pirrone, PhD

*Associate Dean of Admissions
Associate Professor of Microbiology and Immunology*

Mary Lynn Sealey, MD

*Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine
Regional Assistant Dean of Clinical Education*

Seema Sidhu, MD

*Regional Associate Dean, Kaiser Permanente Bay Area
Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology*

Emily A. Spengler, MD

Assistant Professor of Pediatrics

Mark B. Woodland, MS, MD

Professor and Interim Academic Chair of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Student Marshals

Alex Barna

Maryam Durosinmi

Michelle Ehiriodo

Tomas Fencel

Jack Grossweiler

Jacob Kuzy

Margish Ramani

Marie Tan

Allyssa Thomas

Shane Tripp

Simone Udeh

*All degrees awarded at this Commencement
carry an official conferral date of **May 12, 2023**.*

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.

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Citation of College of Medicine Fifty-Year Graduates, 1973-2023

Hahnemann Medical College

Class of 1973

Kenneth E. Anselmi, MD
Stanley R. Askin, MD
Steven Binnick, MD
Joseph G. Birnbaum, MD
Donald A. Block, MD
Rodney E. Bowers, MD
Roger L. Brotman, MD
W. Gerald Brown, MD
Bernard A. Brownstein, MD
Robert E. Burr, MD
Michael D. Busky, MD *
John D. Campbell, MD
Frank Capobianco Jr., MD
Leroy H. Carhart, MD
Robert L. Ceci, MD
Richard C. Chandler, MD
Ronald A. Codario, MD
Florian M. Cortese, MD
Barry Cutler, MD
Judith A. D'Amico, MD
Louis U. D'Amico, MD
George C. Davis, MD
Anthony J. Ditullio, MD
Ronald G. Donelson, MD
Alexander B. Douglass, MD
C. Ronald Duncan, MD
Leon J. Dura, MD
Nicholas N. Dzebolo, MD
Bruce A. Eidelson, MD *
Emanuel Elfenbein, MD
Raymond G. Endreny, MD *
James W. Erdahl, MD
Charles W. Everhart Jr., MD
Samuel S. Fager, MD
Michael J. Feinberg, MD *
Bernard M. Feldman, MD
Mark Fisher, MD
David Bruce Fittingoff, MD
Heshmat Foroohar, MD
Anthony H. Funaro, MD
Robert L. Goodman, MD
Wayne L. Greene, MD
Joseph M. Hagan, MD
Stuart R. Hameroff, MD
Gordon John Harper, MD *
Judith A. Hartner, MD
Daniel O. Hensell, MD
Edward R. Hess, MD
Deborah G. Hirtz, MD
Jack B. Huse, MD
James R. Jageman, MD
Elizabeth H. Jewett, MD
Mark D. Jewett, MD
Robert T. Johnston, MD
Alan S. Jones, MD
Frederick S. Kanter, MD
Richard H. Kaplan, MD, PC *
Leonard P. Krajewski, MD
Glenn J. Lau, MD *
Andrew S. Levin, MD
Gilbert R. Lipshutz, MD *
David J. Luschini, MD
David M. Malish, MD *
William Mannella Jr., MD
Earl C. Marmar, MD *
Jane Nobel Maxwell, MD
Robert C. McQueen, MD
Alan J. Meltzer, MD
Daniel T. Mihalyi, MD *
Alan Norman Miller, MD
Eric K. Milliner, MD
Patricia A. Nahormek, MD
James J. Nelson, MD
Joel W. Parliment, MD
Thomas M. Penders, MD
Pamela E. Prete, MD *
Richard R. Ratner, MD
Joseph H. Reichman, MD
Lawrence R. Ricci, MD
Craig A. Ross, MD
Glenn S. Schroyer, MD
Stuart B. Shikora, MD
Alan James Sholomskas, MD
John S. Sierocki, MD, FACP
Alan J. Spees, MD
Eunice F. Stanfield, MD *
Julie B. Stauffer, MD
Ronald R. Straub, MD *
Victor Tacconelli Jr., MD
Rodger Philip Thorne, MD
Paul A. Toselli, MD
Paul J. Troup, MD
William M. Uffner, MD
Gerard V. Vernose, MD

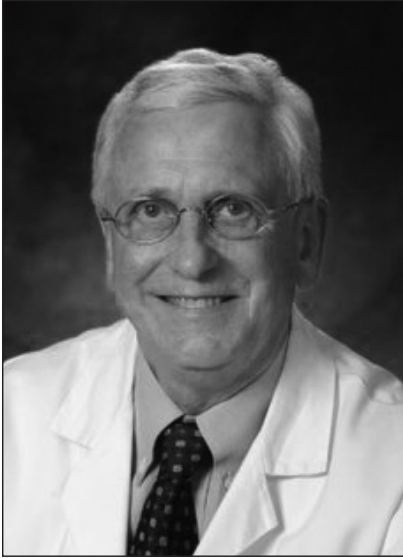
Paul Charlton Waibel, MD
Alan G. Wasserman, MD
Daniel H. Waterman, MD
Melvin E. Watson, MD
Erwin J. Weber, MD
Roger D. Weiner, MD
Kenneth J. Weiss, MD
Kurt M. Wendelyn, MD
Arnold R. Wigle, MD
David I. Wollner, MD
George W. Wood II, MD
Daniel Lewis Wright, MD
David P. Zajano, MD
Mark Zibelman, MD

Medical College of Pennsylvania

Class of 1973

Sandra M. Abda, MD
Endla Katlin Anday, MD
Andrew S. Brenner, MD
Elaine M. Bunick, MD
Lawrence H. Byrd, MD
Noel Cawley, MD
Rebecca Conrad, MD
Jeffrey Cooper, MD *
Jennifer Davis, MD
Rochelle Miriam Eissenstat, MD
Edward C. Fetherolf, MD
Stanley Bruce Fiel, MD
Diane Ross Field, MD
Bettie Joanne Freel, MD
Gertrude Jane Frishmuth, MD
Lloyd R. Garren, MD
Mary L. Garren, MD
Bruce Neil Garrett, MD
Darlene J. Goldstein, MD
Roseann F. Gorey, MD *
Barbara Jean Gretsches, MD *
Andrea Hanaway, MD
Mary A. Hartshorn, MD
Christine Lynn Hashimoto, MD
Barry H. Hendler, MD, DDS
Diane Barbara House, MD
Elise Anne Jacques, MD
Susan K. Jonas, MD
Barbara Lucille Kennedy, MD *
Stella Suk-Yee Kwong, MD
Marilyn La Savage, MD
Louisa J. Lance, MD *
Cheryl Lea Leddy, MD
Susan Levy, MD
Donald Harvey Lieberman, MD
Joanne Luoto, MD *
Barbara Costin Maisel, MD *
Dawn G. Malcolm, MD *
Mary Lou Marsh, MD
Joan F. McGlinn, MD
Jean Marie Meholchick, MD
Susan W. Miller, MD
Susan Marilyn Mirow, MD
Patricia E. Moore, MD
Helen Louise Morrison, MD
Kathleen J. Motil, MD
Glenn E. Moyer, MD
Ingrid E. Muhle, MD
Margaret Mullins, MD *
Mary H. Murphy, MD
Elizabeth F. Nelson, MD
Mary Ellen O'Reilly, MD
Linda Pack, MD
Diane P. Palladino, MD
Anthony J. Palmaccio Jr., MD
Mary Louise Parlier, MD
Carolyn M. Polansky, MD
Alan Nathan Hirsh Rademan, MD
Deborah Elizabeth Ritter, MD
Barbara A. Schlager, MD
Isabella K. Sharpe, MD *
Lewis Stephen Snitzer, MD
Renee Solow, MD *
Maxine Spool, MD
Barry S. Titton, MD
Kathleen Elinor Toomey, MD, JD *
Mary Ann Transue, MD *
Maria Danuta Urban, MD
Joan C. Waller, MD
Norma Lee Wenger, MD
Warren Werbitt, MD
Emily M. White, MD *
Irma Zelig, MD

DOCTOR OF SCIENCE

John H. Glick, MD*Pioneering Cancer Researcher, Clinician, Medical Educator
and Institutional Leader*

John H. Glick, MD, emeritus professor of medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, joined the Penn faculty in 1974 after completing fellowships at the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and Stanford University. Over the course of a distinguished career spent entirely at Penn, he touched the lives of countless patients and served as a guiding force through a transformational era of cancer care.

Dr. Glick's compassion and clinical insight drove the development of integrated cancer care at Penn Medicine. His clinical acumen and focus on keeping patients' lives and their needs at the heart of every treatment goal had broad impact, leading to the establishment of the Penn Medicine Academy of Master Clinicians to promote and perpetuate clinical excellence in all specialties across the institution.

As its longest-serving director, Dr. Glick made the Abramson Cancer Center a national model for a comprehensive center. The generosity of

Leonard and Madlyn Abramson, whom Dr. Glick met when Madlyn was his patient, facilitated an unprecedented expansion of cancer research and faculty recruitment at Penn; in the span of less than a decade, a total of 90 new faculty were recruited.

Dr. Glick became a driving force in philanthropy at Penn Medicine, culminating in his role as vice president and associate dean for resource development. Since 1985, he helped to raise more than \$600 million for Penn Medicine and the Abramson Cancer Center.

Dr. Glick's research has mapped standards of care for breast cancer and lymphomas. He pioneered the integration of adjuvant chemotherapy and definitive breast radiotherapy for early-stage breast cancer and chaired the pivotal 1985 NCI Consensus Conference on Adjuvant Chemotherapy for Breast Cancer, which changed the standard of practice. He subsequently chaired consecutive St. Galen International Consensus Panels for Treatment of Primary Breast Cancer.

In 2000, Dr. Glick was the senior author of a landmark clinical study published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* on the role of bone marrow transplant for advanced breast cancer, which transformed the standard of practice. He also conducted groundbreaking Phase III randomized trials in Hodgkin's and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. His research, which was continuously funded by NIH from 1974 to 2006, has appeared in 165 peer-reviewed publications and 28 chapters and books.

In addition to his impactful research and institutional leadership, Dr. Glick was an outstanding teacher and role model, having trained and mentored several generations of medical students, residents and fellows, three of whom became directors of NCI-designated cancer centers.

For his vast contributions to the improvement of cancer care and patients' quality of life, Drexel is proud to confer upon Dr. John H. Glick the degree of Doctor of Science, *honoris causa*.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREES

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

Matthew R. Bell

"Identifying Immune Correlates of Protection Against *Clostridioides difficile* Infection and the Development of an Optimized *C. difficile* Toxin DNA Vaccine for the Elderly"

Advisor: Michele A. Kutzler, PhD

MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY

Andrey Petrovich Borisyuk

"Impacts of Epidural Spatial Stimulation Effects on Recovery in Combined Bionic and Biological SCI Therapies"

Advisor: Simon Giszter, PhD

NEUROSCIENCE

Kathleen G. Bryant

"A History of Low-Dose Ethanol Alters Behavioral Strategy Selection and Ventral Hippocampus Function"

Advisor: Jacqueline Barker, PhD

NEUROSCIENCE

Alexa C. Cannon

"Investigation of Novel Therapeutic Targets in RAC1-Mutant Melanoma"

Advisor: Jonathan Chernoff, MD, PhD

MOLECULAR AND CELL BIOLOGY AND GENETICS

Philip Joseph Clark

"Targeting Hypocretin Receptor 1 to Normalize Nucleus Accumbens Dopamine Transmission and Block Incubation of Cocaine Seeking"

Advisor: Rodrigo España, PhD

NEUROSCIENCE

Silvia Dominic Fernandes

"Grafting Embryonic Neural Progenitor Cells to Improve Sympathetic Regulation of Cardiac Function After Spinal Cord Injury"

Advisor: Shaoping Hou, PhD

NEUROSCIENCE

Tara A. Fortino

"Spinal Interneuron Transplantation to Repair Injured Cervical Spinal Cord"

Advisor: Michael Lane, PhD

MOLECULAR AND CELL BIOLOGY AND GENETICS

Rebecca Anne Holton

"CHTF18 Safeguards the Quantity and Quality of the Ovarian Reserve and Mediates Meiotic Cohesion"

Advisor: Karen M. Berkowitz, MD

MOLECULAR AND CELL BIOLOGY AND GENETICS

Shawn Joshi §

"Cognitive Workload Assessment During Complex Coordinated Motor Tasks in Real-World Environments With Both Healthy and Clinical Populations"

Advisor: Hasan Ayaz, PhD

BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

Ian Michael Lamb

"Investigating the *Plasmodium falciparum* Mitochondrial Proteome for Functional Analysis of Conserved Essential Proteins"

Advisor: Akhil Vaidya, PhD

MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY

Jared Luchetta

“Investigating How the Chemokine CXCL12 Impacts Neuronal Network Function and Structural Plasticity: The Modulatory Role of Inhibitory Neurons”

Advisor: Olimpia Meucci, MD, PhD

PHARMACOLOGY AND PHYSIOLOGY

Nancy R. Mack

“Sex-Specific Regulation and Neural Representations of Social Behavior in a Corticothalamic Circuit”

Advisor: Wen-Jun Gao, MD, PhD

NEUROSCIENCE

Dillon Chase Malloy

“Transcutaneous Spinal Cord Stimulation Augments Motor Excitability and Restores Spinal Inhibition and Chloride Homeostasis After Spinal Cord Injury”

Advisor: Marie-Pascale Côté, PhD

NEUROSCIENCE

Taylor A. McCorkle

“Cholinergic Mechanisms of Cognitive Dysfunction Following Repeated Mild TBI in Adolescent Male and Female Rats”

Advisor: Ramesh Raghupathi, PhD

NEUROSCIENCE

Micaela O'Reilly

“Role of NF-κB in Sympathetic Hyperreflexia After Spinal Cord Injury”

Advisor: Veronica J. Tom, PhD

NEUROSCIENCE

Richa Pande

“Role of Macrophage Derived Small Extracellular Vesicles in Regulation of T Cell Mediated Resolution of Inflammatory Pain”

Advisor: Seena Ajit, PhD

MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY

Jonathan Snyder

“Pancreatic Islet GRK2 Regulates Insulin Secretion and Glycemic Control by Regulating Metabolism and GPCR Sensitivity in Type 2 Diabetes Model”

Advisor: Priscila Sato, PhD

PHARMACOLOGY AND PHYSIOLOGY

Kayla Merced Socarras

“Tick Microbiome and Borrelia Pan-genome Characterization: Towards the Development of a Two-Tiered Diagnostic for Lyme Borreliosis”

Advisor: Garth D. Ehrlich, PhD

MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY

Meagan Tomasso

“Cdc42EP3-Bound Septin Filaments Promote Actin Filament Assembly”

Advisor: Shae Padrick, PhD

BIOCHEMISTRY

Allison Alizabeth Yankey

“A Novel Interaction Between Long Non-coding RNA lncTCF7 and SND1 Modulates the Gene Regulation Activity of the SWI/SNF Complex”

Advisor: Srinivas Somarowethu, PhD

MOLECULAR AND CELL BIOLOGY AND GENETICS

Philip Langdon Yates §

“A Cellular Approach to Understanding and Treating Gulf War Illness”

Advisor: Peter W. Baas, 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 PROGRAMS

Biochemistry of Health and Disease

Eric David Brinckman
"Septin Filament Assembly Conditions and Fluorescent Assay Development"
Advisor: Shae Padrick, PhD

Biotechnology

Rishi Ramesh Kothari
Harsh Manodara
Dhara A. Patel

Cancer Biology

Justin Do
"Modifying the Epigenome to Facilitate Transdifferentiation of Adult Human Fibroblasts"
Advisor: Christian Sell, PhD

Jennifer Lynch
"CX3CR1 Regulation and Signaling During Phenotypic Plasticity of Prostate Cancer Cells"
Advisor: Alessandro Fatatis, MD, PhD

Pritika Hamish Shahani
"LncRNA FAM99A Has Tumor-Suppressor Activity in Hepatocytes"
Advisor: Michael Bouchard, PhD

Microbiology and Immunology

Lilly Marie McQueen
"Cobamide Distribution in Winogradsky Columns Supplemented With Halogenated Environmental Contaminants"
Advisor: Joris Beld, PhD

Dominic J. Sales

William Stump
"Redesign and Evaluation of a *Plasmodium falciparum* Circumsporozoite Protein-Based Malaria Vaccine"
Advisor: James M. Burns Jr., PhD

Ukamushu A. U. Undieh
"Dysfunction of the Gut Microbiome-Brain Axis in Neurodegenerative Disease: Role of Indole and Its Metabolites"
Advisor: Sandhya Kortagere, PhD

Evangeline Morgan Williams

Molecular and Cell Biology and Genetics

Zahra Sadruddin Charania
David Joyner
"Improved HIV-specific T Cell Immunity Following Adenosine-Deaminase-1 Co-delivery in Preclinical Models of Vaccination"
Advisor: Elias El Haddad, PhD

Kelvin L. Koser
"Utilizing Accessory Gene Content to Predict the Clinical Isolation Source of *Haemophilus influenzae*"
Advisor: Joshua Chang Mell, PhD

Skandha Ramakrishnan

Gabrielle Nichole Tramonte
"Functional Investigation of *Haemophilus influenzae* Genes of Unknown Function Implicated in Pathogenesis"
Advisors: Joshua Chang Mell, PhD, and Garth Ehrlich, PhD

Nakoa K. Webber

Neuroscience

Xinyi Chen
Sophie Rose Cohen
Jazana Monique Goolsby
Meghan Hemdal
Revathi Kaduru
Joya Maser
Anurag Singh
Quinn Stewart
Jason Wheeler
Nichole Alexandra Yakas

Pharmacology and Physiology

Mohammed Sani Alhassan
"The Evaluation of CD137 as a Costimulatory Receptor in Multiple Myeloma Therapy"
Advisor: Alessandro Fatatis, MD, PhD

Celina N. Guzman
"Evaluation of Functional Performance of KLK2 Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) T Cell Designs"
Advisor: Alessandro Fatatis, MD, PhD

Geena K. John
Deepa Reddy

DIVISION OF INTERDISCIPLINARY AND CAREER-ORIENTED PROGRAMS

Biomedicine and Business

Myrka J. Maradiaga Bonilla
Riya Patel
Hilary Schultz
Mitchell Snowman
Danielle Walawender

Biomedicine and Law

April Janee Hicks
Erin Patrick McGettigan
Muhammad Hunzala Mirza
Shahnza Shahid

Clinical Research for Health Professionals

Debora Jean Geary
Dhimitri Arian Nikolla

Clinical Research Organization and Management

Caroline Adefunmilola Adesida
Sunday Akoji
Nancy Amador
Amy Anthony
Malcolm David Baldwin Sr.
Colleen Barbardo
Jessica Beaulieu
Jennifer Bender Lopez
Kate Patricia Blankenship
Alexandria Leah Boyce
Eileen Carey
Nicole R. Cobb
Brianna Jeannine Coderre

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Andrea Lynn DiFiglia | <i>Drug Discovery and Development</i> | <i>Immunology</i> | Brandye N. Davis |
| Samantha E. Dorofy | | | Nathalie Johanna Dilone |
| Stacy D. Eckstein | Erick Avila | Benjamin Abert | Amberlee Dugosh Hicks |
| Marion Jane Fielding | Rohail Bhatti | Ruhani Agrawal | Taylor Hunsucker |
| Lisa Garland | Elizabeth Ann Colgan | Gabrielle Angelieca Bhakta | Leslie Kay Jenkins |
| Trishia Maree Gillmore | Ama Konadu Day | Paul Demetropoulos | Alexa Kravitz |
| Christopher Vincent Goebel II | Chloe Dennerlein | Trisha Krstinovski | Aubrey Anne Leso |
| Amelia Claire Goldstein | Caitlyn Durgin | Marta Kryschuk | Alexandra Napolitano |
| Taylor Ann Harrison | Kayla M. Fisher | Courtney Lepping | Morgan Ashlee Simms |
| Alexia R. Hunt | Emily Maria Gielda | Cara M. Lord | Andrea Ivelisse Torres |
| Sharon Denise Ivory-Shuler | Peter James Gramp | Amanda Jose Mendoza Martinez | Krista Wolffer |
| Charles Michael Johnson | Rohan Gupta | Tanner Dylan Pearson | <i>Molecular Medicine</i> |
| Rebecca Marie Johnson | Melonie Arizona Houchins | Josie Jean Roberts | |
| Jessica Claire Kearney | Jeness Jose | <i>Infectious Disease</i> | Stephen A. Borish |
| Aishwarya Kumar | Jessica Teodoro Legaspi | | Brittany Earleas Bryant |
| Loredie Lugos | Desmond Jeremiah Lewis | Brandon Shane Bingham | Kailey Paige Caroland |
| Angel N. Patel | Kristina Tacey Lisina | Valeria Bornacelli Pabon | Kristina Carroll |
| Amanda Margaret Petrellis | Gabrielle Sharon Lord | Christina M. Brunecz | Leon Lu Chea |
| Ana Polanco | Jillian Bernice McGonigle | Alina M. Crow | Caleb Andrew Clements |
| Milagros Quisumbing | Laura Merja | Nicole Eileen DeFrancesco | Shelby Allison Foster |
| Edwin Ramos | Pia Muyot | Denise A. Freeman-Twiggs | Lorena Godinez |
| Megan Marks Redfern | Rosalind Pan | Divya Giare | Ana Maria Herrera Huertas |
| Fradline Regilus | Ria Patel | Houston M. Hataway | Ramsha Kamran |
| Carol Rosario | Victoria Jade Perre | Chloe N. Insler | Zachary Brian Nawrocki |
| Ashley Denise Sawaf | Katherine Elizabeth Powers | Vidhi V. Kathiria | Vanessa Ann Slusher |
| Christopher Robert Schell | Katie A. Richetti | Unzila Mumtaz | <i>Pathologists' Assistant</i> |
| Marcelo Eduardo Sepúlveda Maldonado | James Robinson | Yagna Patel | |
| Jennifer C. Starkweather | Atif Asad Siddiqui | Tyler Christopher Plachta | Kuulei Diane Gaffney |
| Vanessa Tam | Suhani Mahesh Suthar | Edward A. Ratkoczy | Natalie A. Gundling |
| Kristen Updike | <i>Histotechnology</i> | Angela L. Roussell | Lydia Hanicak |
| Marjorie Ann Walsh | | Justine Samanen | Mable Je |
| Nicole L. Wilson | Reenad Abdulrahman Alraddadi | Jane van der Schaaf | Monet Kumazawa |
| Kathryn Zabell | Eileen Lynn Dalessandro | Colleen Williams | Megan Kwan |
| | Janeth Jennifer Rojas | <i>Master of Laboratory Animal Science</i> | Elsa Lake |
| | Genevieve M. Wilson | | Anthoula Makris |
| | | Stephanie L. Achilles | Madison Marie Manz |
| | | Leanna Berrios | Rachel Rosa Olk |
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Jenyth Sullivan *»∞∞

Jefferson Abington Hospital
Abington, Pa.
Obstetrics-Gynecology

Michael Leo Sun

Sidney Kimmel Medical
College at Thomas Jefferson
University/Nemours
Children's Health
Wilmington, Del.
Pediatrics

Annu Reeba Suresh †

MedStar Georgetown
University Hospital
Washington, D.C.
Internal Medicine

David Taft »#

Mercy Catholic Medical Center
Darby, Pa.
Medicine-Preliminary
Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio
Radiology-Diagnostic

Ravi K. Tata

Cooper Medical School of
Rowan University/Cooper
University Hospital
Camden, N.J.
Emergency Medicine

Andrew Hany Tawfik

BronxCare Health System
Bronx, N.Y.
Transitional Year
Ophthalmology

Padmavathi Tipparaju

Albany Medical Center
Albany, N.Y.
Emergency Medicine

Quynh T. Tran »

University of Maryland
Medical Center
Baltimore, Md.
Emergency Medicine

Sebastien Trott

Rhode Island Hospital/
Brown University
Providence, R.I.
Emergency Medicine

Jacqueline Truong

University of California
San Francisco
San Francisco, Calif.
Family Medicine

Ugo K. Uguru *

New York University Grossman
School of Medicine
New York, N.Y.
Internal Medicine

Jessica Anne

Vadaketh » ∞ ∞
Hospital of the University
of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pa.
Internal Medicine

Anuj Vaid

Alameda Health System
– Highland Hospital
Oakland, Calif.
Internal Medicine

Katherine Frances Vallès »

Albert Einstein Medical Center
Philadelphia, Pa.
Orthopedic Surgery

Sonia Varandani ••

St. Luke's Hospital – Anderson
Easton, Pa.
Neurology

Alayna Katherine Vaughan

MedStar Union
Memorial Hospital
Baltimore, Md.
Orthopedic Surgery

Sanjana Venkat »#

McGraw Medical Center of
Northwestern University
Chicago, Ill.
Pediatrics

Nicole D. Vieira *

University of Rochester/
Strong Memorial Hospital
Rochester, N.Y.
Pediatrics

Divya Viswanathan

Rutgers New Jersey
Medical School
Newark, N.J.
Internal Medicine

Robert Volodarsky

New York-Presbyterian
Hospital Columbia
University Medical Center
New York, N.Y.
Family Medicine

Dylan Ambrose Wadell

Memorial Healthcare System
Pembroke Pines, Fla.
General Surgery

Jonathan Marcus Wainblat

George Washington University
Washington, D.C.
Anesthesiology

Nadirah Waites ∞

Temple University Hospital
Philadelphia, Pa.
Family Medicine

Joseph Waller ♦

Information Withheld

Jessica Baijie White ♦♦♦

University of Nevada Reno
School of Medicine
Reno, Nev.
Family Medicine

Cory Wilson

Rutgers Robert Wood
Johnson Medical School
New Brunswick, N.J.
Surgery-Preliminary

Tyler Martin Wilson

Los Robles Health System
Thousand Oaks, Calif.
General Surgery

Olivia K. Winkeler

Icahn School of Medicine at
Mount Sinai South Nassau
Oceanside, N.Y.
Obstetrics-Gynecology

Gunnar Wolfe

Riverside University
Health System
Moreno Valley, Calif.
General Surgery

Raquel L.B. Wolfe

Riverside University
Health System
Moreno Valley, Calif.
Surgery-Preliminary

Terry Xia

University at Buffalo
School of Medicine
Buffalo, N.Y.
Neurological Surgery

Janine Yunfan Yang »

Kaiser Permanente Santa
Clara Medical Center
Santa Clara, Calif.
Internal Medicine

Philip Langdon Yates §

University of Maryland
Medical Center
Baltimore, Md.
Neurology

Eric You

Rutgers Robert Wood
Johnson Medical School
New Brunswick, N.J.
Surgery-Preliminary

Matthew Young

Phoenixville Hospital/
Tower Health
Phoenixville, Pa.
Psychiatry

Hasan Zaidi »

Rutgers Robert Wood
Johnson Medical School
New Brunswick, N.J.
Internal Medicine

Jessica A. Zavadak *

Carolinas Medical Center
Charlotte, N.C.
Emergency Medicine

Christopher Q. Zhang ♦

Lehigh Valley Hospital
Allentown, Pa.
Transitional Year

Zucker School of Medicine-
Hofstra/Northwell at NS/LLJ
Great Neck, N.Y.
Physical Medicine and
Rehabilitation

Shu Zhao ∞ ∞

Crozer-Chester Medical Center
Upland, Pa.
Transitional Year

Kitty Zheng

Zucker School of Medicine-
Hofstra/Northwell at
Staten Island University
Staten Island, N.Y.
Obstetrics-Gynecology

Alice Yue Zhu

Information Withheld

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:

Kathleen G. Bryant, PhD

Doctor of Medicine Awards

THE 2023 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:

Alexandra Renée Portugués

THE DR. ELIAS ABRUTYN AWARD

For excellence in Infectious Diseases:

Sapana R. Gupta

THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NEUROLOGY MEDICAL STUDENT PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE

For graduating medical students who have promising career potential in Neurology as seen by their institution's faculty and residents:

Philip Langdon Yates

THE PAULA BERNOCCHI MEMORIAL AWARD

For excellence in the field of Emergency Medicine:

Quynh T. Tran

For excellence in the field of Psychiatry:

Annette N. Kim

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:

Jenelle Renee Corey

THE RONALD P. CAPUTO AWARD

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

Priyanka Mari Nadar

THE HARRIS R. CLEARFIELD AWARD

For excellence in Gastroenterology:

Keerthi Dasari Reddy

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:

Alexandra Renée Portugués

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

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

Alexander Kevin Hahn

THE DREXEL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARD

For dedication and contribution to the community and University:

Kyle Raymond Brunner

THE DREXEL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE SGA AWARD

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

Diana Kinney

THE ALAN EDELSON MEMORIAL PRIZE

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

William Ryan

THE DIANA J. EGAN AWARD

For excellence in clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology:

Alexandra Renée Portugués

THE SOCIETY FOR ACADEMIC EMERGENCY MEDICINE AWARD

For excellence in Emergency Medicine:

Sarah Elizabeth Emslie

THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY, COMMUNITY AND PREVENTIVE MEDICINE AWARD

For excellence in Family Medicine:

Jessica Baijie White

For excellence in Community and Preventive Medicine:

Richard J. Alfera III

THE EVA FERNANDEZ FOX AWARD

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

Heidi Lauren Maupin

THE WILLIAM GREGG AWARD

Graduation prize for Humanitarianism in Care of Pediatric Patients:

Ashley Elyse Lindsay

THE LESTER J. GROVERMAN, MD MEMORIAL AWARD

For outstanding clinical and academic performance in Hematology and Oncology:

Jessica M. Reyer

THE DR. MARY ELLEN HARTMAN AWARD

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

Faduma Warsame Hassan

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:

Diana Kinney

THE RITA G. JACOBS AWARD

For excellence and compassion in Anesthesiology and Pain Management:

Adrian John Jones

THE NORMAN JOHANSON AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY

For a student who demonstrates an excellence in Orthopedic Surgery and a commitment to providing equitable orthopedic care to all patients with musculoskeletal conditions:

Emma Elizabeth Johnson

THE ROBERT F. JOHNSTON MEMORIAL AWARD

For excellence in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine:

John Hanna

THE JOSEPH A. LANGBORD MEMORIAL PRIZE

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

Sneha Kamarajugadda

THE WILLIAM LIKOFF, MD MEMORIAL AWARD IN CARDIOLOGY

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

Hasan Zaidi

THE DANIEL MASON, MD HU '44 AWARD

For excellence in Cardiovascular clinical work:

Yulei Cao

THE MAY FAMILY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CLINICAL ROTATIONS

For a student underrepresented in medicine who has excelled in clinical rotations and demonstrated a dedication to leadership and service to the College of Medicine:

Megan Abrafi Boateng

THE DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE AWARD

For excellence in Renal and Electrolyte studies:

Nathaniel Goss

THE DEYLAN C. MOORE MEMORIAL AWARD

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

Ashlyn Victoria Byers

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

For excellence in Anatomy during the senior year:

Jordan Manning

Alena Patricia Nixon

Dylan Ambrose Wadell

THE DEPARTMENT OF NEUROLOGY AWARD

For excellence in Neurology:

Pooja M. Menon

Yash Anil Patel

THE DEPARTMENT OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY AWARD

For overall academic excellence in Obstetrics and Gynecology:

Sneha Kamarajugadda

For academic excellence in the Obstetrics and Gynecology Clinical Clerkship:

Anna Kathryn Roble

For leadership in the field of Obstetrics and Gynecology:

Ashlyn Victoria Byers

THE OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS AWARD

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

Kyle Raymond Brunner

Alexander Rau Eaton

Matthew N. Eiman

Jacqueline Truong

THE AXEL K. OLSEN, MD NEUROSURGERY AWARD

For excellence in Neurosurgery:

Katherine Christine Locke

Gersham Joseph Rainone

Terry Xia

THE ALEXANDER PEARCE, MD AWARD

For excellence in Surgery:

Noah D. Robey

THE RONALD S. PENNOCK, MD AWARD

For excellence in Internal Medicine and Cardiology:

Paige Elizabeth Coughlin

THE PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS, PHILADELPHIA BRANCH AWARD

For performance and leadership in Family Practice:

Nicholas Cha

THE ELISE 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:

Rebekah L. Madrid

THE DR. LEE WINSTON SILVER AWARD

For excellence in Pediatrics:

Jacob Craig Edelman

THE VIVEK SUBRAMANI MEMORIAL AWARD

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

Aderinsola Aina Aderonmu

THE DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE SURGERY CLERKSHIP

Allegheny Health Network:

Anna Kathryn Roble

Crozer-Chester Medical Center:

Paul Reilly

Kaiser Permanente Bay Area:

Katherine Christine Locke

Philadelphia Area:

David Taft

Reading Hospital/Tower Health:

Sanjana Venkat

UPMC Pinnacle:

Pooja M. Menon

WellSpan York Hospital:

Terry Xia

THE DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY AWARD

For excellence in the Surgery Pathway:

Philip Joseph Seger

THE CHARLES SWARTZ AWARD

For academic and clinical excellence in Medicine:

Thomas Lucido

THE DANIEL M. TABAS AWARD

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

Robert Volodarsky

THE THOMAS J. VISCHER AWARD

For clinical excellence in Medicine:

Aishwary Desai

Aliya S. Hutman-Zahler

Jessica Anne Vadaketh

THE ARTHUR AND BERTHA WEISMAN AWARD

For excellence in Child Psychiatry:

Bethany Martin Kehne

THE RANDALL WEISS AWARD

For excellence in Psychiatry:

Faduma Warsame Hassan

Alice Yue Zhu

THE WOMEN'S HEALTH EDUCATION AWARD

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

Academic Achievement:

Kristen Victoria Ampig

Leadership:

til kus

Community Commitment:

Faduma Warsame Hassan

THE WU FAMILY PRIZE

For excellence in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation:

Christopher Q. Zhang

THE DR. MARY YANKOSKY AWARD

For excellence in Endocrinology:

Annu Reebe Suresh

For excellence in Radiologic Sciences:

Niteesha Betini

Faculty Awards *for* Distinguished Clinical Teaching

DEAN'S SPECIAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN CLINICAL TEACHING

Allegheny Health Network
Jody Leonardo, MD
Department of Neurosurgery

St. Christopher's Hospital for Children
David Cooperberg, MD
Department of Pediatrics

Crozer-Chester Medical Center
Justin Chura, MD
**Department of Obstetrics
and Gynecology**

St. Luke's University Health Network
Gerson De Freitas, MD
Department of Medicine

Friends Hospital
Hai Tsao, MD
Department of Psychiatry

UPMC Harrisburg
Carlos Cream, MD
Department of Medicine

Kaiser Permanente – Bay Area
Joy Garg, MD
Department of Surgery

Virtua Health
Robert E. Post, MD, MS
Department of Family Medicine

Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital
Gregory Casey, DO
Department of Emergency Medicine

WellSpan York Hospital
Alina Popa, MD
Department of Medicine

Reading Hospital – Tower Health
Caitlyn R. Moss, MD
Department of Medicine

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 3 feet long, the master's 3 ½ feet long, and the doctor's 4 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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D. Howard Pierce '71

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William T. Schleyer '73, HD '06

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Ray Westphal '59, HD '02

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Lists complete as of May 2023

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