

THE COMMENCEMENT PROCESSION

The Deans of the Faculty of Medicine

The Investiture Marshals

The Chairs of the Academic Departments

The Emeritus Professors

The Medical School Faculty and Hospital Administration

The Candidates for the Degree Doctor of Medicine



Significance of the Colors of the Academic Regalia

The color of the velvet edging of the hood and gown indicates the degree; in the lining of the hood are the college colors of the institution that confers the degree.

The hood and gown of the doctor of medicine degree have a green velvet edging; doctor of divinity and doctor of theology, scarlet; doctor of laws degree, purple; doctor of philosophy degree, dark blue; doctor of education degree, light blue; doctor of science degree, golden yellow; doctor of literature, white; doctor of dentistry, lilac; and doctor of veterinary medicine, gray.



PROGRAM

Processional

Opening Remarks *Steven Zweig, M.D.*
Dean

Welcome *Mun Choi, Ph.D.*
President

Robin R. Wenneker, M.B.A.
Member, Board of Curators
President, Mizzou Alumni Association

Richard Barohn, M.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs

Graduate Welcome *Aaron William Warning*
Class of 2021

Commencement Address *Elizabeth Malm-Buatsi, M.D.*
Assistant Professor,
Department of Surgery, Division of Urology
University of Missouri School of Medicine

Administration of the Declaration of Geneva *Steven Zweig, M.D.*

Declaration of Geneva (back cover): Adopted by the General Assembly of the World Medical Association, Geneva, Switzerland, September 1948, and amended by the 68th WMA General Assembly, Chicago, United States, October 2017. A response to atrocities committed by doctors in Nazi Germany, the oath requires physicians to not use "medical knowledge contrary to the laws of humanity." The oath was adopted by the World Medical Association only three months before the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

**Presentation of Candidates for the Degree
Doctor of Medicine**

Kevin Kane, M.D., M.S.P.H
Associate Dean for
Curriculum and Evaluation

Laine Young-Walker, M.D.
Associate Dean for
Student Programs

Investiture Marshals

Nathan Beucke, M.D.
Associate Professor,
Clinical Child Health

Raghav Govindarajan, M.D.
Associate Professor,
Clinical Neurology

Michael Hosokawa, Ed.D.
Senior Associate Dean for Education

Conferring of Degrees

and Presentation of Diplomas *Mun Choi, Ph.D.*

Announcements of Honors and Awards *Steven Zweig, M.D.*

Closing *Joshua G. Griner, M.D.*
Ramya Swaminathan Ramadas, M.D.
Class of 2021

Recessional

**CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE
DOCTOR OF MEDICINE**

HUMZA AHMED St. Louis, Missouri
B.S., Saint Louis University
Graduate Program: *Internal Medicine*
University of Nebraska Medical Center
Omaha, Nebraska

RYAN AKIN Sedalia, Missouri
B.S., Baker University
Graduate Program: *Otolaryngology*
University Hospital - MU Health Care
Columbia, Missouri

TORI D. APPLGREN Nevada, Missouri
B.S., University of Missouri - Columbia
Graduate Program: *Family Medicine*
University Hospital - MU Health Care
Columbia, Missouri

JACOB BAILEY St. Louis, Missouri
B.S., Brigham Young University
Graduate Program: *Urology*
University of New Mexico School of Medicine
Albuquerque, New Mexico

CHARLES BAUMANN Hannibal, Missouri
B.S., University of Missouri - Columbia
Graduate Program: *Orthopaedic Surgery*
University of North Carolina Hospitals
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

CATHARINE ELLEN BERNAL Livermore, California
B.S., University of California - Davis
M.S., Georgetown University
Graduate Program: *General Surgery-Preliminary*
Florida Atlantic University College of Medicine
Boca Raton, Florida

ANTHONY BITAR Aleppo, Syria
B.S., Missouri University of Science and Technology
Graduate Program: *Orthopaedic Surgery*
University of Minnesota Medical School
Minneapolis, Minnesota

BRIAN BLANKENSHIP Reeds Spring, Missouri
B.S., Missouri State University
Graduate Program: *Neurology*
University Hospital - MU Health Care
Columbia, Missouri

MICHAEL BOHNERT Festus, Missouri
B.S., Missouri State University
Graduate Program: *Transitional*
Mountain AHEC - North Carolina
Asheville, North Carolina
Dermatology
University Hospital - MU Health Care
Columbia, Missouri

KI'ARA KE'ONTE RAINER BRANHAM Memphis, Tennessee
B.S., Middle Tennessee State University
M.S., Mississippi College
Graduate Program: *Obstetrics and Gynecology*
Meharry/Metro General Hospital
Nashville, Tennessee

DANIEL BRISTOW Walnut Grove, Missouri
B.S., B.S., University of Missouri - Columbia
Graduate Program: *Obstetrics and Gynecology*
Overland Park Regional Medical Center
Overland Park, Kansas

VISH BYSANI San Antonio, Texas
B.F.A., Tulane University

MAGGIE CAMPBELL Kirksville, Missouri
B.A., Truman State University

TYLER CASEY Blue Springs, Missouri
B.S., Rockhurst University

CLARENCE CHU Yorba Linda, California
B.A., Washington University in St. Louis
Graduate Program: *Internal Medicine*
Kaiser Permanente
Oakland, California

ANDREW CLARK St. Louis, Missouri
B.A., Saint Louis University
Graduate Program: *Surgery-Preliminary*
University Hospital - MU Health Care
Columbia, Missouri

JORDAN CRUZ Springville, Utah
B.S., Utah Valley University
Graduate Program: *Anesthesiology*
University Hospital - MU Health Care
Columbia, Missouri

MICHELLE D'ALESSANDRO St. Louis, Missouri
B.A., Washington University in St. Louis
Graduate Program: *Internal Medicine*
Barnes-Jewish Hospital
St. Louis, Missouri

JAMES PERCY DANIELS San Bernardino, California
B.A., University of California - Riverside
Graduate Program: *General Surgery*
New York University Long Island School of Medicine
New York, New York

SANKET JAYESH DESAI St. Peters, Missouri
B.A., B.A., University of Missouri - Kansas City
Graduate Program: *Internal Medicine-Preliminary*
 University Hospital - MU Health Care
 Columbia, Missouri
 Anesthesiology
 University of Chicago Medical Center
 Chicago, Illinois

RAHUL DEY Woodbridge, Connecticut
B.A., M.S., Washington University in St. Louis
Graduate Program: *Internal Medicine-Preliminary*
 Amita St. Joseph Hospital
 Chicago, Illinois

BRITTNEY DANIELLE DIONEDA St. Louis, Missouri
B.S., Skidmore College
Graduate Program: *Pediatrics*
 Yale-New Haven Hospital
 New Haven, Connecticut

JESSICA DORAN Sacramento, California
B.S., William Woods University
Graduate Program: *Pediatrics*
 University Hospital - MU Health Care
 Columbia, Missouri

SAMANTHA DYROFF St. Louis, Missouri
B.S., University of Alabama
Graduate Program: *Internal Medicine-Preliminary*
 University Hospital - MU Health Care
 Columbia, Missouri
 Diagnostic Radiology
 University of Utah Health
 Salt Lake City, Utah

BRADLEY WILLIAM EMMERICH Madison, Wisconsin
B.S., University of Wisconsin - Madison
Graduate Program: *Emergency Medicine*
 Spectrum Health/Michigan State University
 Grand Rapids, Michigan

- MIRANDA EUBANK** Louisville, Kentucky
 B.S., University of Missouri - Columbia
 Graduate Program: *Urology*
 University of Florida College of Medicine
 Gainesville, Florida
- KEVIN FELTZ** Chesterfield, Missouri
 B.S., M.S., Saint Louis University
- MICHAEL P. FLOM** St. Louis, Missouri
 B.A., Vanderbilt University
 Graduate Program: *Psychiatry*
 University Hospital - MU Health Care
 Columbia, Missouri
- CANDACE FOGLIATTI** Chicago, Illinois
 B.S., University of Missouri - Columbia
 Graduate Program: *Family Medicine*
 University of South Florida Morsani College of Medicine
 Tampa, Florida
- LESLIE FOGWE** Mbengwi, Cameroon
 B.Sc., Delaware State University
 Graduate Program: *General Surgery*
 University of Louisville School of Medicine
 Louisville, Kentucky
- NICOLE JEAN FORMHALS** Joliet, Illinois
 B.A., B.S., University of Missouri - Columbia
 Graduate Program: *Family Medicine*
 University Hospital - MU Health Care
 Columbia, Missouri
- LAUREN MOLEY (FRIEDMAN)** St. Louis, Missouri
 B.S., University of Miami
 Graduate Program: *Psychiatry*
 University Hospital - MU Health Care
 Columbia, Missouri

MARIA KATHLEEN GENTRY ENDERS Lee's Summit, Missouri
B.S., B.A., University of Missouri - Kansas City
Graduate Program: *Emergency Medicine*
University of Kansas School of Medicine
Kansas City, Kansas

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B.S.E., Saint Louis University
Graduate Program: *Transitional*
Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center
Spokane, Washington
Dermatology
University Hospital - MU Health Care
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ERIC GRISHAM Washington, Missouri
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University of Missouri - Kansas City Programs
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B.S., University of Missouri - Columbia
Graduate Program: *Family Medicine*
Ascension St. John Hospital
Detroit, Michigan

- ALLISON HALL** Salem, Missouri
 B.S., Missouri State University
 Graduate Program: *Obstetrics and Gynecology*
 Western Pennsylvania Hospital
 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- DAVID HANNIBAL** St. Louis, Missouri
 B.S., Saint Louis University
 Graduate Program: *Internal Medicine*
 Saint Louis University School of Medicine
 St. Louis, Missouri
- SHELBY MICHAEL HARRIS** Sparta, Missouri
 B.S., B.S., Missouri State University
- JACOB HARTWIG** St. Louis, Missouri
 B.S., University of Missouri - Columbia
 Graduate Program: *Orthopaedic Surgery*
 University Hospital - MU Health Care
 Columbia, Missouri
- MAREN LARK HELLER** St. Louis, Missouri
 B.S., B.S., Tulane University
 Graduate Program: *Child Neurology*
 Northwestern University McGaw/Lurie Children's Hospital
 Chicago, Illinois
- JEFFERY HOLLOWAY** Sedalia, Missouri
 B.S., Tulane University
 B.S. Saint Louis University
 Graduate Program: *Emergency Medicine*
 University of South Florida - Oak Hill
 Brooksville, Florida
- KIRSTIE HOLTERMANN** Labadie, Missouri
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 Graduate Program: *Anesthesiology*
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B.S., University of Missouri - Columbia
Graduate Program: *Neurology*
Mayo Clinic School of Graduate Medical Education
Rochester, Minnesota

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B.S., Truman State University
Graduate Program: *Anatomic and Clinical Pathology*
Medical University of South Carolina
Charleston, South Carolina

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University Hospital - MU Health Care
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Graduate Program: *Obstetrics and Gynecology*
Baylor University Medical Center
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B.S., University of Central Florida
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Graduate Program: *Psychiatry*
University Hospital - MU Health Care
Columbia, Missouri

- EZEKIEL JAMES KAPUSCIAK** Defiance, Missouri
 B.S., University of Miami
 Graduate Program: *Diagnostic Radiology*
 Aventura Hospital
 Aventura, Florida
- SARAH Z. KHAN** Jefferson City, Missouri
 B.S., University of Notre Dame
 Graduate Program: *Pediatrics*
 University of Rochester Strong Memorial Hospital
 Rochester, New York
- JOSHUA T. KING** Poplar Bluff, Missouri
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 Graduate Program: *Ophthalmology*
 University Hospital - MU Health Care
 Columbia, Missouri
- DANIELLE KINSEY** Bentonville, Arkansas
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 Graduate Program: *General Surgery*
 University of Missouri - Kansas City Programs
 Kansas City, Missouri
- KELSEY RAE KNOBBE** St. Louis, Missouri
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 Graduate Program: *Obstetrics and Gynecology*
 Baptist Memorial Medical Education
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 Graduate Program: *Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*
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Graduate Program: *Psychiatry*
Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services
Grand Rapids, Michigan

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Graduate Program: *Urology*
Baylor College of Medicine
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Graduate Program: *Emergency Medicine*
Madigan Army Medical Center
Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington

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Graduate Program: *Internal Medicine*
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University of Texas Southwestern Medical School
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Brown University Rhode Island Hospital
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Graduate Program: *Emergency Medicine*
Tower Health/Reading Hospital
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Graduate Program: *Obstetrics and Gynecology*
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M.S., University of Missouri - St. Louis
Graduate Program: *Transitional Year*
 Mercy Hospital
 St. Louis, Missouri
 Diagnostic Radiology
 Emory University School of Medicine
 Atlanta, Georgia

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 University Hospital - MU Health Care
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 University of Michigan Hospitals
 Ann Arbor, Michigan

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 University of Michigan Hospitals
 Ann Arbor, Michigan

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University Hospital - MU Health Care
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Graduate Program: *Emergency Medicine*
University Hospital - MU Health Care
Columbia, Missouri

CHAKRAPANI PATHIKONDA Anantapur, India
B.Tech., National Institute of Technology
M.S., Texas A&M University
Graduate Program: *Internal Medicine*
Baylor Scott & White Medical Center
Round Rock, Texas

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Graduate Program: *Emergency Medicine*
Barnes-Jewish Hospital
St. Louis, Missouri

SAVANNAH POUNDS Columbia, Missouri
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Graduate Program: *Family Medicine*
Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton
Oceanside, California

PRIYANKA PRABHU St. Louis, Missouri
B.S., Truman State University
Graduate Program: *Psychiatry*
University Hospital - MU Health Care
Columbia, Missouri

BILAL QUADRI St. Louis, Missouri
B.S., University of Miami
Graduate Program: *Family Medicine*
University Hospital - MU Health Care
Columbia, Missouri

JOHN W. RAINS Seattle, Washington
B.S., Brigham Young University - Idaho
Graduate Program: *Emergency Medicine*
Christiana Care
Newark, Delaware

RAMYA SWAMINATHAN RAMADAS Los Angeles, California
B.A., B.A., University of California - Berkeley
M.P.H., Washington University in St. Louis
Graduate Program: *Pediatrics*
Children's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts

ERIK RAMOS Jefferson City, Missouri
B.H.S., University of Missouri - Columbia
Graduate Program: *Internal Medicine*
University Hospital - MU Health Care
Columbia, Missouri

CATHERINE M. RODRIGUEZ Denver, Colorado
B.S., Vanderbilt University
Graduate Program: *Pediatrics*
University of Colorado School of Medicine
Aurora, Colorado

NATALIE E. RODRIGUEZ Kansas City, Missouri
B.S., University of Missouri - Kansas City
Graduate Program: *Pediatrics*
University of California San Diego Medical Center
San Diego, California

- MONTE L. ROPER** Payette, Idaho
 B.S., Missouri State University
 Graduate Program: *General Surgery*
 HCA Healthcare Kansas City
 Overland Park, Kansas
- ADAM HARRIS ROSENFELD** St. Louis, Missouri
 B.S., University of Missouri - Columbia
 Graduate Program: *Transitional*
 MacNeal Hospital
 Berwyn, Illinois
 Dermatology
 George Washington University
 Washington, D.C.
- TAYLOR R. ROSS** Nixa, Missouri
 B.S., Missouri State University
 M.P.H., University of Missouri - Columbia
 Graduate Program: *Family Medicine*
 University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health
 Madison, Wisconsin
- JOSEPH MICHAEL RUND** St. Louis, Missouri
 B.S., University of Missouri - St. Louis
 Graduate Program: *Orthopaedic Surgery*
 University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics
 Iowa City, Iowa
- JACOB W. SANDERS** Diosd, Hungary
 B.S., University of Missouri - Columbia
 Graduate Program: *Family Medicine*
 David Grant Medical Center, Travis Air Force Base
 Fairfield, California
- BLAKE D. SARRAZIN** Ozark, Missouri
 B.S., University of Missouri - Columbia
 Graduate Program: *Transitional*
 Gundersen Lutheran Medical Foundation
 La Crosse, Wisconsin
 Diagnostic Radiology
 University of Kansas School of Medicine
 Kansas City, Kansas

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Graduate Program: *Internal Medicine/Pediatrics*
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Columbia, Missouri

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B.S., University of Missouri - Columbia
Graduate Program: *Emergency Medicine*
University Hospital - MU Health Care
Columbia, Missouri

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B.S., University of Missouri - Columbia
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 Diagnostic Radiology
University Hospital - MU Health Care
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LUCY DOYLE SHEAHAN St. Louis, Missouri
B.S., Tulane University
Graduate Program: *Plastic Surgery*
University of California San Diego Medical Center
San Diego, California

CORD W. SHEEHY Sikeston, Missouri
B.S., Southeast Missouri State University
Graduate Program: *Pediatrics*
University of Arkansas College of Medicine
Little Rock, Arkansas

DANIEL Y. SHYU Columbia, Missouri
B.S., Purdue University
Graduate Program: *Internal Medicine*
University of Minnesota Medical School
Minneapolis, Minnesota

- SHIVANGI SINGH** St. Louis, Missouri
 B.S., Emory University
 Graduate Program: *Neurology*
 New York-Presbyterian Hospital
 Columbia University Medical Center
 New York, New York
- NICK SMITH** Kansas City, Missouri
 B.S., University of Missouri - Columbia
 Graduate Program: *Internal Medicine*
 Mayo Clinic School of Graduate Medical Education
 Rochester, Minnesota
- JAMES T. STANNARD** Birmingham, Alabama
 B.A., B.S., Ph.D., University of Missouri - Columbia
 Graduate Program: *Orthopaedic Surgery*
 University Hospital - MU Health Care
 Columbia, Missouri
- JOHN P. TAAFFE** Chesterfield, Missouri
 B.A., B.S., University of Missouri - Columbia
 Graduate Program: *Vascular Surgery*
 Cleveland Clinic Foundation
 Cleveland, Ohio
- JASON TEGETHOFF** Wildwood, Missouri
 B.A., University of Missouri - Columbia
 Graduate Program: *Orthopaedic Surgery*
 Northwestern McGaw/NMH/VA-IL
 Chicago, Illinois
- DANIEL THOMPSON JR.** St. Louis, Missouri
 B.S., University of Notre Dame
 Graduate Program: *Psychiatry*
 University of Virginia
 Charlottesville, Virginia

CHRISTOPHER TIPTON Bowling Green, Missouri
B.S., University of Missouri - Columbia
M.Sc., University of Missouri - St. Louis
Graduate Program: *Anesthesiology*
 Mayo Clinic School of Graduate Medical Education
 Rochester, Minnesota

ALANA VOGT St. Louis, Missouri
B.A., Belmont University
Graduate Program: *Pediatrics*
 San Antonio Military Medical Center
 San Antonio, Texas

MICHAEL J. TURCO St. Louis, Missouri
B.A., Rhodes College

AUDREY ANNE WAGNER Columbia, Missouri
B.S., University of Missouri - Columbia
Graduate Program: *Family Medicine*
 Florida State University College of Medicine
 Fort Myers, Florida

CHANCE WALKER Kansas City, Missouri
B.S., Missouri University of Science and Technology
Graduate Program: *Anatomic and Clinical Pathology*
 University of Utah Health
 Salt Lake City, Utah

KRISTEN WARNCKE St. Peters, Missouri
B.S., Westminster College
Graduate Program: *Obstetrics and Gynecology*
 University of Texas Southwestern Medical School
 Dallas, Texas

AARON WILLIAM WARNING Bethalto, Illinois
B.S., University of Missouri - Columbia
Graduate Program: *Internal Medicine-Preliminary*
 Ophthalmology
 Ohio State University Medical Center
 Columbus, Ohio

RACHEL ELIZABETH WATSON Pleasant Hill, Missouri
B.S., University of Arkansas
Graduate Program: *Obstetrics and Gynecology*
University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics
Iowa City, Iowa

JOHN WELLINGTON WELSH St. Louis, Missouri
B.A., Yale University
Graduate Program: *Anesthesiology*
Virginia Mason Medical Center
Seattle, Washington

HANNAH MARKOVA St. Louis, Missouri
B.S., University of Cincinnati
Graduate Program: *Internal Medicine*
Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis
St. Louis, Missouri

CHRISTOPHER YANG Bedford, New Hampshire
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Graduate Program: *Emergency Medicine*
University Hospital - MU Health Care
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Graduate Program: *Anatomic and Clinical Pathology*
University of California Los Angeles Medical Center
Los Angeles, California

BRADFORD P. ZITSCH Columbia, Missouri
B.S., University of Nebraska
Graduate Program: *Orthopaedic Surgery*
University of Nebraska Medical Center
Omaha, Nebraska

COMMENCEMENT HONORS AND AWARDS

Dean's Award for Outstanding Achievement in Academic and Clinical Proficiency	<i>Nicolin S. Oserowsky</i>
Holt Leadership Award	<i>Joshua M. Griner</i> <i>Ramya S. Ramadas</i>
The Student Leadership Award	<i>Ramya S. Ramadas</i>

HONORS AND SPECIAL AWARDS

Summa Cum Laude	<i>Nicolin S. Oserowsky</i> <i>Rachel E. Watson</i>
Magna Cum Laude	<i>Michael B. Bohnert</i> <i>Jacob W. Hartwig</i> <i>Mary J. Murphy</i> <i>Aaron W. Warning</i>
Cum Laude	<i>Maria K. Gentry Enders</i> <i>Lucy D. Sheahan</i>

ALPHA OMEGA ALPHA HONOR SOCIETY

Brian Blankenship
Michael Bohnert
Andrew Clark
Maria Gentry Enders
David Hannibal
Jacob Hartwig
Michael Johnson
Joshua King
Katherine Lowery
Joey Mancuso
Alexander Oserowsky
Nicolin Oserowsky
Genevieve Pentecost
Adam Rosenfeld
Blake Sarrazin
Lucy Sheahan
Shivangi Singh
Jason Tegethoff
Aaron Warning
Rachel Watson
Hannah Wille

GOLD HUMANISM HONOR SOCIETY

Jacob Bailey
Catharine Bernal
Margaret Campbell
Michelle D'Alessandro
Brittney Dioneda
Joshua Griner
Maren Heller
Sara Hooshmand
Danielle Kinsey
Jasraj Marjara
Elizabeth Modde
Nicolin Oserowsky
Ebony Page-Phillips
Ramya Ramadas
Natalie Rodriguez
Austin Sanders
Ashley Schaeffer
Daniel Shyu
Shivangi Singh

MU BOARD OF CURATORS

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Greg E. Hoebrock Vice Chair

Julia G. Brncic
Todd P. Graves
David L. Steelman
Michael A. Williams

Maurice B. Graham
Jeffrey L. Layman
Robin R. Wenneker

OFFICERS OF ADMINISTRATION

Mun Y. Choi, Ph.D. President

Latha Ramchand, Ph.D. Provost & Executive Vice Chancellor

Richard Barohn, M.D. Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs

Steven Zweig, M.D., M.S.P.H. Hugh E. and Sarah D. Stephenson Dean

William Fay, M.D. Senior Associate Dean for Research

Michael Hosokawa, Ed.D. Senior Associate Dean for Education

Debra Koivunen, M.D. Senior Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education

Stevan Whitt, M.D. Senior Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs
Chief Clinical Officer, MU Health Care

Victor Arnold Chief Financial Officer
 Senior Associate Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs Finance
 Executive Director, University Physicians

David Haustein, M.D., M.B.A. Associate Dean for Springfield Clinical Campus

Kevin Kane, M.D., M.S.P.H. Associate Dean for Curriculum and Evaluation

Pam Mulholland Chief Administration and Operations Officer

Kathleen Quinn, Ph.D. Associate Dean for Rural Health

Laine Young-Walker, M.D. Associate Dean for Student Programs

Frederick Fraunfelder, M.D., M.B.A. Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs

Laura Henderson Kelley, M.D., M.P.H. Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion

Letter From the Dean

Congratulations, members of the MU School of Medicine Class of 2021.

The COVID pandemic has affected us in so many ways. Family members and colleagues have been separated. Rituals have been disrupted. Important sacred and celebratory events have been cancelled. Many people have become ill and some have died. People have lost their jobs. Our community, in so many ways, has been challenged and changed.

We have also risen to the occasion. Our health care experts have created a process for us to care for patients in a safe and effective manner. Leaders are advising both state and regional partners. Our health care providers continue to selflessly deliver outstanding care. We have recreated our curriculum using distance learning. We will sustain and thrive in the future.

You have been part of the innovations and new relationships that will emerge from this circumstance. It will be a year in our history that will never be forgotten, and one that will affect everything we do from now on.

One thing we do know is that your role as physicians has never been more important. In whatever specialty area you chose, you will be affected by this and future novel viral infections. You will also care for patients with so many other problems – ones that have not gone away during the pandemic. No matter what - always think of what you can do to promote health and relieve suffering, in whatever way you can.

Over 40 years ago, when I started my residency, I was scared. It was a feeling of not knowing very much – but also recognizing that soon people would be calling me doctor! While you should be appropriately humble, it is going to be ok. You will have plenty of people to ask for help. In fact, you will find that a combination of humility and confidence will serve you well as a team member, colleague, and physician.

You have given your all to an educational experience with demonstrated value. You will take the knowledge, skills, and attitudes learned here and apply them in your next training environment and eventually your lifelong practice. Our students are well-prepared for residency training in all disciplines.

So now, a few tips for residency and beyond:

- Throw yourself into it. You won't learn if you're not engaged.
- Be your patients' doctor. Listen to them. Don't doctor only to a piece of your patients.
- Don't be afraid to ask for help. Ever.
- Sleep is always good. So is exercise.
- Do today's work today. Don't get behind in doing your patient notes or making that difficult phone call.
- Try not to take insults personally - not from patients, bosses, or colleagues. Let them go.
- Don't pile up on others: nurses, other docs, patients who don't do what you think they should do. We are all imperfect and we are all still learning. Especially, treat your family with the love they deserve.
- Be who you are. You got here because of a vision of yourself as a physician. Be that interested, conscientious, respectful, empathic, caring, and capable doctor that you aspire to be.

Your education here will endure; you are now part of a long legacy of MU School of Medicine graduates. But your contribution will be unique – and we eagerly await seeing how you impact the lives of your patients and the future of medicine. We have a great privilege to practice medicine, and with that goes a great responsibility. Cherish this moment, reflect on and celebrate what you have accomplished – and go forward proudly but with humility as you fulfill your role as a physician.

Best wishes always,



Steven Zweig, MD, MSPH
Hugh E. and Sarah D. Stephenson Dean
University of Missouri School of Medicine

University of Missouri School of Medicine

MISSION STATEMENT FOR EDUCATION

Our mission is to educate physicians to provide effective patient–centered care for the people of Missouri and beyond.

FOUNDATION VALUES FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION

1. The health of our patients is our first priority. The highest quality health care is the environment for the highest quality education of future physicians.
2. Respect for one’s self, for others and for the truth is a hallmark of our community. The most effective learning takes place in an environment of collaboration, respect, honesty and constructive feedback.
3. Respect is demonstrated by our commitment to act ethically, to welcome differences and to engage in an open exchange.
4. We hold ourselves responsible in our duty to our patients, colleagues and learners. We will not permit consideration of religion, nationality, race, sexual orientation, party politics or social standing to intervene.
5. The attitudes, values and behaviors of future physicians are shaped by the social and cultural milieu of the institution. All our interactions will model the professionalism expected of physicians.
6. Learning requires trust in the value of knowledge and the process of discovery. We strive to achieve the most effective learning environment by engaging in activities designed to promote critical thinking, problem solving and analysis.
7. We aspire to an excellence that is achieved through diligent effort, both individual and collective. Pursuing excellence means being satisfied with no less than the highest goals we can envision.

Adapted from the University of Missouri “Statement of Values” and the Declaration of Geneva

