THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
DOWNSTATE HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY

Class of 2023

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2023

THE AMPHITHEATER AT CONEY ISLAND BROOKLYN, NY
THE CLASS OF 2023 COMMENCEMENT

ELEVEN O’CLOCK
College of Nursing
School of Health Professions

THREE O’CLOCK
College of Medicine
School of Graduate Studies
School of Public Health
The Commencement Program
for Thursday, May 11th 11:00 a.m.

COLLEGE OF NURSING

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES
Dr. Lori A. Escallier

CONFERRING OF DEGREES
Dr. Wayne J. Riley

AWARDING OF DIPLOMAS
Dr. Wayne J. Riley
Dr. Lori A. Escallier

HOODING OF CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE DEGREE
Nataliya Shaforost, DNP, FNP-C, CDCES
Assistant Professor and Director, DNP Program

SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES
Dr. Allen N. Lewis, Jr.

CONFERRING OF DEGREES
Dr. Wayne J. Riley

AWARDING OF DIPLOMAS
Dr. Wayne J. Riley
Dr. Allen N. Lewis, Jr.

HOODING OF CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY DEGREE
Joanne Katz, Ph.D., DPT, PT
Associate Professor and Chair of Physical Therapy

CLOSING REMARKS AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE
Dr. Wayne J. Riley

RECESSIONAL
(Audience: Please rise and remain standing until the graduates have left the venue)

MUSIC CREDIT:
Marches:
Aida, Act II, Scene 2, “Triumphal March”
Giuseppe Verdi
Performed by the Budapest Scoring Symphonic Orchestra
Conducted by Peter Pejtsik
The Commencement Program
for Thursday, May 11th 3:00 p.m.

PROCESIONAL
(Audience, please rise for the Processional)

NATIONAL ANTHEM
Jonathan Amaro-Barron, Class of 2023
College of Medicine

OPENING REMARKS
FROM THE PRESIDENT
Wayne J. Riley, M.D., MPH, MBA, MACP
President
The State University of New York
Downstate Health Sciences University

GREETINGS FROM THE DEANS
F. Charles Brunicardi, M.D., FACS
Professor and Dean, College of Medicine

GREETINGS ON BEHALF OF THE GRADUATES
Ian B. Winthrop, Class of 2023
College of Medicine

PRESENTATION AND CONFERRING OF
HONORARY DEGREES
Dr. Wayne J. Riley
Pascal James Imperato, M.D., MPH&TM, MACP
Senior Vice President and Chief Academic Officer

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS
Doctor of Science
Emery Neal Brown, M.D., Ph.D

Doctor of Humane Letters
Nancy-Ann DeParle, J.D.

PRESENTATION OF THE PRESIDENT’S AWARD
Dr. Wayne J. Riley

PRESIDENT’S AWARD RECIPIENTS
Eva B. Cramer, Ph.D.
Distinguished Service Professor of Cell Biology and Vice President for Biotechnology and Scientific Affairs
The State University of New York
Downstate Health Sciences University

Mantosh J. Dewan, M.D.
President and Distinguished Service Professor of Psychiatry
The State University of New York
Upstate Medical University

INTRODUCTION OF THE
COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER
Dr. Wayne J. Riley

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER
Mantosh J. Dewan, M.D.

AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL
Rushon S. John, Class of 2023
School of Public Health
SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES
David Christini, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President for Research, and
Interim Dean, School of Graduate Studies

CONFERRING OF DEGREES
Dr. Wayne J. Riley

AWARDING OF DIPLOMAS
Dr. Wayne J. Riley
Dr. David Christini

HOODING OF CANDIDATES FOR THE
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE

Thesis Research Sponsors &
Laura A. Martello-Rooney, Ph.D.
Director of GI Research

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES
Kitaw Demissie, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor and Dean, School of Public Health

CONFERRING OF DEGREES
Dr. Wayne J. Riley

AWARDING OF DIPLOMAS
Dr. Wayne J. Riley
Dr. Kitaw Demissie

HOODING OF CANDIDATES FOR THE
DOCTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEGREE

Tracey E. Wilson, Ph.D.
Vice Dean for Faculty Affairs & Research and Distinguished
Service Professor

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES
Dr. F. Charles Brunicardi

CONFERRING OF DEGREES
Dr. Wayne J. Riley

AWARDING OF DIPLOMAS
Dr. Wayne J. Riley
Dr. F. Charles Brunicardi

HOODING OF CANDIDATES FOR THE
DOCTOR OF MEDICINE DEGREE

Isabel McFarlane, M.D., FACP
Clinical Assistant Professor and
Director, Third-Year Medicine Clerkship
Yaakov Anziska, M.D.
Associate Professor, Department of Neurology

CLOSING REMARKS AND ADMINISTRATION
OF THE HIPPOCRATIC OATH
Dr. Wayne J. Riley

RECESSIONAL
(Audience: Please rise and remain standing until the graduates
have left the venue)

MUSIC CREDIT:
Marches:
Aida, Act II, Scene 2, “Triumphal March”
Giuseppe Verdi
Performed by the Budapest Scoring Symphonic Orchestra
Conducted by Peter Pejtsik
Listed on the following pages are all degree candidates from The State University of New York – Downstate Health Sciences University, who, according to the Office of the Registrar, at the time of publication of this program, were eligible for the awarding of appropriate degrees and honors upon completion of prescribed work. This does not constitute the official list of those who will graduate or receive honors. Official determinations regarding graduation and honors will be made at the time of degree conferral upon submission of all final grades.

College of Nursing

Bachelor of Science

RN to BS
Aayat M. Albaali
Bertille Ameyo Dick
Lola Lynn Francis
Kareem Hussein
Abraham A. Malkokian
Mirela Milanovic
Jessica T. Ortega
Samantha Brooke Seldin
Shoshana Siegel
Ismeric C. St Hilaire
Patricia J. Swiderski
Lanasia Verneau
Alyssa Wheeler
Djemilatou Yankine

Accelerated BS
Mouaze Adam
Tasnia J. Ahmed
Afrdita Alibasic
Jaime Arbisfeld
Michelle L. Arriegasdo
Chaya Mushka Backman
Zainab A. Bakare
Saniye Bavbekova
Kayla Shannon Bedeau
Diana Benitez
Jennifer A. Bernert
Samantha Blady
Tina Brodnikova
Sarah Brody
Kendrea M. Cameron
Sharon Carabali
Veronica Viviana Carnero
Samantha Chee
Winnie Chen
Amayra Choudhury
Tara Leigh Clark
Charmin Conner
Maeve D. Connolly
Alyssa Cooper
Maya Angela David
Nina DeMeo
Bailey Deng
GiniKachukwu Chinasa Egonu
Janelle Amaebi Eradiri
Meira Feiner
James David Freire
Meira S. Gewirz
Desirée P. Gillespie
Stephany Giovinnazzo
Cindy Samantha Gorn
Viktor Grytskiv
Amanda Hariprasad
Hinar Hassan
Kristi Evelyn Helberg
Devin M. Hussey
Dayeong Hwang
Mateenah Ige
Tashmia B. Kashem
Jacklynn B. Katz
Laurel Katz-Bohen
Tatiana L. Keeby
Suraksha Khadka
Alina Khafizova
Charmaine P. Koskinen
Candis A. Lawrence
Elizabeth Lee
Wendy Lee Han
Tammy Lo
Cassandra Lopez
Chaya J. Manssouri
Christian Martinez
Dieneba Massaly
Michael J. McDade
Connor R. Mcgee
Kishauna A. McLean
John Culver McShane
Adalain Eleanor Meier
Fatmanur Mise
Seham Mubarez
Zachary T. Murphy
Arlene Navarrete
Kalina Nhieu
Freda Nokaly
Jennasia T. Otway
Michelle Padilla
Lindsay K. Plante
Patricia Pouso
Danielle Powell
Grace Powell
Victor M. Ramirez
Kelly Romero
Rebecca C. Rosado
Andrew J. Sapini
David Victor Schiffer
Bay R. Schook
Jennifer Zoe Shafran
Tasfia Islam Shawlin
Hannah B. Shinn
Kiruthyagini Sivanesathasan
Cierra Smalls
Lucrecia Souza
Thalia G. Stogianos
Dana Stratton
Marco J. Striuli
Diane N. Torsell
Sophia L. Tsang
Joselinne Y. Vallejo
Romasa I. Virk
Mackenzie J. Webb
Joseph Weinstein
Bracha Wieder
Chaim Wolff
Vinelle E. Woodley
Yuemei Wu
Winnie Yu
Chaya D. Zeitlin
MASTER OF SCIENCE

FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
Rachely Abrams
Esther Ahn
Briggitte Alcivar Chalen
Indrianna Sonette Appleby
Elaina Marisa Avit
Gerri Marisa Bazemore
Brandi Beere
Ana R. Bichashvili
Josephine Esi Boateng
Jacklyn Bromberg
Amber Leigh Dowd
Deborah N. Chapusette
Athena Chen
Zhou Chengcheng
Bianca Cornely
Joyita Das
Brittany Lauren Denniston
Blessing Ogechi Eze
Patricia P. Fidman
Stephanie A. Fiduk
Vivian Fu
Lucy E. Geyer
Michelle Glatt
Alexis A. Grant-Stuart
Faustyna Grzybowska
Adamu Tijani Hamza
Felicia N. Henderson
Phyllana K. Joseph
Russell W. Kadro
Abigail R. Kellner
Ivonna Klanac-Stern
Elonna Kravets
Sari F. Krumholz
Chun Fai Lam
Robert J. Lau
Temima Leiser
Katherine Leung
Lisa X. Li
Rita X. Li
Sadie Li
Shen Li
Amy Lin
Xi Lin
William Lin Gao

Bridgette J. Maynfeld
Omobola Debrah Osunleti
Brandon Pater
Dukins Petit-Homme
Nicholas Priola
Gabrielle Rabinovits
Mahfuja Rahaman
Raquel Amelia Ramsuchit
Irina Raskin
Katerina Rich
Melissa Robbins
Yenon Saiag
Yelena Savitskaya
Kathryn C. Scarfo
Fruma I. Simpson
Joann Smith
Amy Dawn Spurlin
Leighana M. Tam
Natalia Ten
Valerie V. Valerie
Alisha Mariyam Varkey
Chimere M. Wallace
Melanie F. Wallace
Michelle Weber
Karolina Wiercinska
Nico Ann Yohrlling

WOMEN’S HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER
Milci Abreu
Catalina F. Agosto
Jennifer Bandykova
Akhtara Banu
Meredith Barba
Jennifer R. Barocas
Theodora Berry
Gabrielle N. Boudreau
Alexa Cabrera
Janel E. Charles
Claude Vanessa Chedjou Lekane
Shirley Cheung
Keisha Cobena
Eileen Laura Corrado
Karina Cruz
Johanne Donney
Sabine Edjengoue
Brittany Fullerton
Baila Schlusselberg
Evelin E. Gonzalez
Amanda M. Grace
Iodelle Empezeni Greaves
Kathleen Herr
Nicodia T. Hutchinson-Wintje
Natalia Ionova
Jahnine Sackiya Johnson
Nicole A. Kaiden
Darabeth Kralnick
Katarzyna A. Lanziero
Fedene Lauriston-Janvier
Alyson M. Lee
Tenesha Lynisse Lewis
Latisha Michelle Lowery
Orle Malebranche
Gillian Marshall-Calder
Paulina Materna
Grecia J. Morán
Meredith Anne Murphy
Sherifat Oluoshola Musa
Jill Myerson
Jennifer O. Ofosu
Kimberly A. Okanome
Alexandra C. Parisi

NURSE MIDWIFERY*
Alexandra Aparicio
Susan Karina Campos
Jaclynn Shaolyynn Chen
Sasha A. Deshong
Alicia Anne Gagnon
Tracy Okee Kwon
Tyla S. Leach
Akilah S. Pascall
Arielle C. Sooknanan
Siobhan A. Whalen

*Students graduating from Nurse Midwifery receive both the Master of Science in Nurse Midwifery from the College of Nursing and the Advanced Certificate in Midwifery from the School of Health Professions.
WOMEN'S HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER CONT.
Latisha D. Philp
Tema N. Regist
Nathalie D. Registre
Brianna Annika Charmaine Richards
Dioris M. Romero
Nataly Romero
Marissa Anne Scialpi

Jasmille N. Serrano
Christina M. Somma
Sharon E. Thacheril
Delicia Thomas
Gabriella W. Thompson
Elzbieta J. Trybala
Bushra Wardak
Emily Yashuvayeva

NURSE EDUCATION
Hopey Estriana Ashman
Tasha Yvette Dean
Anna Gleba
Corinne Marie Goode
Sasha-Gaye S. Persaud
Deanna Nicole Silon
Eddie Wu
Wendy Yi Yun Zhao

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE
Nyrva Aime
Tatiana Alexis
Kathleen Alfonso
Samantha S. Bailey
Tina Maria Cole
Keva K. Collins
Meda Joy Corado
Susanna K. DeLeon
Yvette Andrea Dolly
Jean C. Donovan
Islima N. Duvivier
Edmarie A. Edwards
Dawn Fallon
Fenya Frenkel
Sheyla Fundora
Jeong-Hoon Ham
Amani Ashley Hambric
Marina Henney
Lauren A. Igbayo
Kesha Natasha James
Junhyung Nicolas Kim
Esther Kutsman
Marjorie E. Lamarque
Marieclaude Lareche Jeantry
Wendy E. Leiva
Kimberly A. Lindsay
Miriam Marciano
Jasmine Sofia Matos
Shelly Shamara Mc Lean
Donna Mendonca
Judith H. Nicholls
Maria Maury Olivier
Olayinka N. Olutosin
Lizette Otero
Losikey Paulino Moquete
Ashley Nicole Phillip
Madhavi Ramnath
Randall Garth Ryan
Areeba Saboor
Carline Sainvil
Askha Sherpa
Jamelia Small
Ardita Sopi
Oluwadamilola M. Taiwo-Oniga
Lauren Lucy Viggiano
Vanessa Wejuli

ADVANCED CERTIFICATE
FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
Joanna Ramnarine

NURSE EDUCATION
Michelle A. Uzhiyekachi
School of Health Professions

Bachelor of Science

Diagnostic Medical Imaging
Hiba Aslam
Roberto A. Berton
YiChing Chen
Eden T. Chin
Susanne M. Cortez
Tiffany De Cunha
Tasha Tiffany Fearing

Tzina R. Gimpel
Vanessa Charmaine Halfhide
Christina Jean-Baptiste
Erin I. Kemelman
Olena S. Khabarova
Chana Kirschchenbaum
Irina Kupershney
Nataliya Kuznetsova

Yushan Lin
Sierra Agustina Margies
Naomi M. Morris
Meihua Naeem
Danielle Samantha Narain
Aline Nicole Peralta
Kumchak Praponpoj
XiaoBing Zhang

Advanced Certificate of Midwifery
Alexandra Aparicio *
Susan Karina Campos *
Jaclynn Shaolynn Chen *
Sasha A. Deshong *
Alicia Anne Gagnon *
Tracy Okee Kwon *

Tyla S. Leach *
Akilah S. Pascall *
Arielle C. Sooknunan *
Monique Shanell Varcianna
Siobhan A. Whalen *

*Students graduating from Nurse Midwifery receive both the Master of Science in Nurse Midwifery from the College of Nursing and the Advanced Certificate in Midwifery from the School of Health Professions.

Master of Science

Medical Informatics
Beatrice Almonor
Chika Amasiani
Vasudeo Kevin Anrud
Vanessa DaRosa
Deboprio Dey
Maaz A. Farooq
Sabreena Hussain
Alhassan Jallow
Vanessa A. Laguerre
Michelle Leung
David Liu
Tishana A. Meggie
Mumuni B. Musah
Tasfin Noisik
Oladayo Bukola Olatubosun
PatriciaSieh
Evelyn Suatoni
Hermella Wondemneh
Kapik J. Wong

Su Yun Hong
Vanessa Lafontaine-Remedor
Jennifer Marie Lansiquot
Jonique La-Sean Nurse
Alondra J. Severino
Ellen Kathryn Sidles
Nichole Lynn Virag
Jeffrey Winsauer

Midwifery
Michelle R. Abdurakhmanova
Victoria G. Cagle
Tsun Yan Chow
Hannah E. Costanzo
Abigail Culliton
Sarah Davis
Julia A. Delzingaro
Katelyn Rose Devita
Hannah Feder
Esther Friedman
Hae Lim Go

Kristen Hoyt
Christina Nneka Igbohidi
Morgan Blake Kallenos
Victoria Kite
Ling Lee Kong
Elaine Kuang
Shulamis Y. Mammon
James Thomas Marasco
Natalie Monessa
Debra M. Mulcahy
Joanna I. Palm
Shuyi Pan
Amanda Lilly Puccio
Sabina Begum Rahman
Leah Rischall
Shira G. Safia
Jane E. Sato
Nobuko Suma
Colleen Symes
Cecilia E. Tillson
Rachel Tawil
Dorian C. Valentine
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT
Shelly Alkadaa
Nadia Alomari
Yael S. Berkowitz
Victoria A. Bourdeau
Chris A. Desrosin
Sara L. Deutsch
Sari Esses
Eliyahu Fakheri
Alexandra N. Greaves

Adina Hadi
Seham Helmi
Marissa J. Hill
Barry M. Hinds Jr.
Cindy Huang
Julie Jun
Eud-Tony P. Laborde
Monika A. Long
Morgan G. Manganello
Matti Miller
Louise C. Mozie

Hafiz Muhammad Aamir Rafiq
Cassandre Raphael
Jose Marcelino Rojas Jr.
Charisse Rosario
Jane Lisa Rupp
Nicholas A. Russo
Rachel D. Setareh
Saba H. Shahbain
Masood T. Usman
Lilit Vardina
Tsz Man Yeung

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH SCIENCES AND DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Shaliza A. Ally
Emilyn Brodsky
Azriel Moises Cocchini-Beck
Daniel Diner
Dhana Jasmin El Jammal
David C. Gardiner

Emily Wei-Qi Hu
Chih Heng Huang
Batya Komarovsky
Nicholas Emanuel Lazzaro
Jenny Kam-Yin Leung
Annamaria Lombardi

Johnnathan Martinez
Kevin D. Morel
Monica Popa
Leonard Michael Schrager
William E. Sun
Shupin Wang
School of Graduate Studies

Doctor of Philosophy

Natasha L. Bobrowski-Khoury
Neural & Behavioral Science
Modeling exposure to folate receptor alpha antibody during neural development to understand its clinical significance.
Landreth Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Neurology at Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School

Luna N. Buitrago-Soto
Neural & Behavioral Science
Determinants for Alzheimer’s disease: An exploration of metabolic and clinical risk factors.

Zhou Fang Chang
Molecular & Cellular Biology
Complement C3 regulated cell death in myocardial ischemia/reperfusion injury.

David Fredrick Havlicek
Neural & Behavioral Science
Moderate-to-severe closed head injury induces a chronic oligodendrocytic tauopathy. Neurosurgery Residency, The Ohio State University

Sangmi Sarah Park
Molecular & Cellular Biology
Type 1 diabetes and lung diseases: Investigating the effects of hyperglycemia in the lung.

Shwetha S. Phatarpekar
Neural & Behavioral Science
The Role of ribosomal RNA in Autism spectrum disorder (ASD).
Post-doctoral Fellow, Downstate Health Sciences University Institute for Genomic Health

Milena Rodriguez Alvarez
Neural & Behavioral Science
Physiological and clinical insights on autonomic modulation of the inflammatory reflex.
Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Rheumatology Division SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University

Marzia Spagnardi
Molecular & Cellular Biology
IL-1β pathway and Colon Cancer: relationship and therapeutic implications in novel colon cancer cell lines derived from African American patients.
Postdoctoral Fellow, New York University, Langone Medical Center
Listed on the following pages are all degree candidates from The State University of New York – Downstate Health Sciences University, who, according to the Office of the Registrar, at the time of publication of this program were eligible for the awarding of appropriate degrees and honors upon completion of prescribed work. This does not constitute the official list of those who will graduate or receive honors. Official determinations regarding graduation and honors will be made at the time of degree conferral upon submission of all final grades.

School of Public Health

Advanced Certificate in Public Health

Maisa Alam
Christopher A. Alvarez
Gary Asuni Bobb
Jason Cephas
Fiola Ilka Charles
Roudjessie Charles
Antonio Comisso
Josef A. Duncan
Ruth Kostik Grossman
Saeed Abdelhamid Hashem Hashem
Hagar Kandel
Samuel M. Liff
Chano Mal
Gemma M. Medard
Cynthia V. Saldana
Anthony M. Thompson
Cheyenne J. Van Dyke
Michelle R. Williams
Shayna Rachel Wrublik

Master of Public Health

Malika S. Abrams
Thess Acheampong
Louisa Adowaa Adaboh
Mubarak A. Akadri
Lizetta E Alexander
Taylor Elyse Allen
David G. Ammirato
Patricia E. Ansah
Blessing Chinecherem
Chimdinma Aroh
Navid Kian Ashrafi
Hassan Moussa M. Attar
Risa E. Bochner
Rebecca Bortz
Daphne L. Brown
Sandra Anne Bruening
Breanna Helen Caldwell-Williams
Juan Sebastian Carrero Munoz
Christina Charles
Yu-Ji Chen
Natalya Chernichenko
Christopher G. Chino-Marin
Kenneth Francis Chiu
Carl J. Chrispin
John Andrew Cristantiello
Prutha Rajen Desai
Jemima Desmangles
Tanveen Dhallu
David A. Diaz
Melissa Diaz
Amanda Sanna Eloma
Ting Fang
Oywunmi Fayomi
Humira Ferdush
Meagan Freeze
Mikayla Rose Fuchs
Sonia Gandhi
Lorena Geilen
Nicole Mona Golbari
Anaya Gonzales
Hector Luis Gonzalez
Marvin A. Gordon
Mardieurick Gustave
Diala M. Hamouche
Josselyn D. Hancock
Abdonnie R. Holder
Farjana Hussien
Rushon S. John
Talia Fay Jubas
Kundun Janaki Kamalakar
Salman Khan
Michelle M. King
Olalekan Kunle Lanipekun
Ishnand R. Madray
Francesca Marie Maglione
Vanessa Isabella Manzolillo
Julius G. Mark
Erica T. McLeod
Farjana N. Meah
Joshua A. Mensah
Sarah Muntaz
Christopher S. G. Murray
Arifa Naznin
Egbebalakhamen Osa
Alexmi A. Otanez Landron
Stephanie Ottey
Wilbert E. Pacheco
Jassiel Del Milagros Mena Paulino
Ashley Navil Padilla
Vishwanauth Persaud
Mosammat M. Perveren
Anne K. Piard
Emmanuela Pierre
Nicole Pierrette
Alexandra Nicolet Quintero
Natalie Anise Rader
Ashiq Rahman
Nicole Jean Rashford
Victor S.G. Reid II
Stephanie Roberts
Aaliyah A. Robinson
Dienta Rochani
Jenna Santiago
Ashley Lude Simon
Kim S. Son-Nelson
Elizabeth Soto
Kimberly M. Steger
Demetrius Tadros
Dylan Taylor
Nadine Whitney Taylor
Crystal Mary Thomas
Donalee Thomas

Gulzhan Tologonova
Okechukwu Ukekwe
Joanna Elaine Walch
Kadeen N.O. Waldron
Brendan Patrick Walsh

Hannah N. Walsh
Raniah A. Williams
Edward Yi
Josselyn Zavala

DOCTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Alecia Claudia James
Descriptive epidemiology and health-related correlates of adverse childhood experiences in New York City children: Findings from the 2019 NYC KIDS Survey.

Maryglad Komo
Association of dietary sodium intake and cardiovascular disease risk among US women: The SWAN study.

Bianca D. Rivera
An examination of the digital determinants of stroke prevention and rehabilitation in the U.S.
College of Medicine

Master of Science in Physiology

Nadia M. Drabo
Emmaly Diana Gutierrez
Gian Pierre Izquierdo
Essence Monet Nipper

Ijeoma Chidera Okoronkwo
Raquel T. Pinto
Rubia Shahbaz
Joseph M. Tovar

Rahat Uddin
Bryan David Viveros

Doctor of Medicine

Christina Ines Williams Agudelo
Interventional Radiology

Vivienne Hiuwai Au *
Otolaryngology

Kenny Chen *
Anesthesiology

Basim Ahmad
Family Medicine

Ron Baazov
Neurology

Shannon Xinting Chen

Maisha Ahmed
Neurology

Moshe Baitelman
Surgery-Preliminary

Isabella Sofia Chirico
Psychiatry

Saad Ahmed
Internal Medicine

Suriya Baskar
Internal Medicine

Claire Sunha Choi
Neurology

Kyrillos M. Akhnoukh

Mitchell Bayne
Psychiatry

Maryam Hafeez Choudhary
Obstetrics-Gynecology

Anumta Akram
Radiology-Diagnostic

Matthew Yusuf Becker
Anesthesiology

Sydul Hasan Choudhury
Medicine-Emergency Med

Sadia Alam
Internal Medicine

Colleen Antoinette Beckford ~
Peds-Primary/Social

Nafisa Chowdhury
Medicine-Preliminary

Tabrez Alam
General Surgery

Alexandra Belzie ~
Psychiatry

Gianna Cirrone*
Anesthesiology

George P. Albert
Neurology

Nicole Bogdan ~
Internal Medicine

Nicholas Cirrone
Anesthesiology

Jeremy Landers Althouse
Emergency Medicine

Weston Lee Buehring

Emily Ann Cowen*
Dermatology

Jonathan Ryan Amaro-Barron
Neurology

Joshua Rory Buksbaum
Orthopaedic Surgery

Kingsley Christopher Cruickshank ~
General Surgery

Brandon Amirian
Phys Medicine & Rehab

Stephanie Cardona
Medicine-Preliminary

Madeline Grace D’Agostino *
Internal Medicine

Katie Juhyung An
General Surgery

Giovanna Marcella Castillo
Obstetrics-Gynecology

Matthew Robert Dawley
Oral Surgery

Kevin Ethan Anderson
Emergency Medicine

Lon Yin Laureen Chan
Transitional Year

Vincent E. DeVito
Medicine-Preliminary

Noor F. Anvery ~
Dermatology

Kevin William Chao
Emergency Medicine

Tanveen Dhallu
Neurology

Jannat Ara
Anesthesiology

Sonya Gilda Rache Chemouni Bach
Obstetrics-Gynecology

Marco E. Diaz-Cordova ~
General Surgery

Esther Xiao Chen
Obstetrics-Gynecology

Michael Ryan Dieringer *
Ophthalmology
Giaynel Paulette Donatelli
Psychiatry
Benjamin Frederick Drukman
Phys Medicine & Rehab
Richie Gangacharan Dubey
Owen Washington Edwards ~
Joanna Eichler *
Internal Medicine
Alana Marie Engelbrecht *~
Pediatrics
Jose Rafael Erazo Paz
Pediatrics
Gabrielle M. Estevez-Inoa ~
Pediatrics
Hannah Esther Every
Internal Medicine
Dominick Farina
Emergency Medicine
Sohaib A. Fasih-Ahmad
Rafael A. Fernandez *
General Surgery
Anna Pavlovna Fomitchova
General Surgery
Shannon Kathryn Kelly Frank
Jacob M. Gaines
Urology
Fernando Alejandro Garcia
Internal Medicine
Lucas Garcia Reinoso
Internal Medicine
Kyra L. Gassmann *
Urology
Lorena Geilen
Psychiatry
Christopher D. George*
Dermatology
Blake Spencer Gershon
Interventional Radiology
Sabrina Adriane Ghalili
Dermatology
Kimanthi Gicovi
Thoracic Surgery
Isabella Giunta *
Internal Medicine
Fradah Ethel Gold *
Ophthalmology
Michael Alexander Goldberg
Anesthesiology
Antia Itzel Gomez ~
Psychiatry
Fred Gong
Urology
Diana Maria Gonzalez-Golden
Pediatrics
Jigar Govind *~
Otolaryngology
Alexandra Rachel Greenberg *~
Family Medicine
Erica Yun Griffith
Sierrah Marie Grigsby *
Internal Medicine
Lauren Brooke Gruffi *~
Emergency Medicine
Sharon Alison Guzmán
Medicine-Preliminary
Bana Hadid *
Internal Medicine
Lindsay Elaine Haefner
General Surgery
Stefan Nicholas Hamaway
Phys Medicine & Rehab
Hajaru Tijani Hamza
Family Medicine
Ryan M. Harrington
Psychiatry
Nozomi Paula Harris-Koizumi
Emergency Medicine
David Fredrick Havlicek
Neurological Surgery
Nissim Hazkour *
Plastic Surgery
Cassandra V. Heaney *
Urology
Hindy H. Herbst
Family Medicine
Allyson Maria Hernandez *
Internal Medicine
Rodrigo Jose Hernandez
Internal Medicine
Shivani Hewitt *
Anesthesiology
Matias G. Icaza Beiza ~
Anesthesiology
Roseline O. Idoko
Internal Medicine
Alexander Svetaslav Imas
Internal Med/Prim Care
Karen Izquierdo
Anesthesiology
Marlo Jacobson Carter
Pediatrics
Karl-Ray Olivier Jeune *
Urology
Talia Fay Jubas
Internal Medicine
Gabriel Kabarriti
Ophthalmology
Nikhil Venkat Kasarla
Anesthesiology
Wajiha Kazmi ~
Internal Medicine
Lindsay Anna Kenney
Perry Andrew Kerner ~
Vascular Surgery
Nabil Zaman Khan
Orthopaedic Surgery
Michelle Ki *
General Surgery
Ethan Sebastian Kidde
Neurology
Angela Hyun Ju Kim
Ophthalmology
Tony Jaewon Kim
Oral Surgery
Andriy Kobryn
Orthopaedic Surgery
Arif Koxha
Internal Medicine
Masha Kolesnikova
Ophthalmology
Ryan M. Kong
Otolaryngology
Christopher Kotsis
Family Medicine
Oscar Robert Krol  
*Neurology*

Nina Shiv Kumar  
*~Pediatrics*

Hyuck-Jin Daniel Kwon  
*Internal Medicine*

Rory Langan  
*~Internal Medicine*

Shuhan Li  
*~Medicine-Emergency Med*

Shuojohn Li  
*~Internal Medicine*

Tai Lai Li  
*Family Medicine*

Erica Licari  
*Pediatrics*

Anna Lin  
*Radiology-Diagnostic*

Isaac Ethan Lipsky  
*Neurology*

Kahmun Lo  
*Pediatrics*

Deepti Deepak Mahajan  
*Internal Medicine*

Ryan Scott Marder  
*~

Andrea Nadine Martinez  
*Anesthesiology*

Marzuk Mohammad Masub  
*Pediatrics*

Joel P. Mathew  
*Ob-Gyn/Preliminary*

Joseph Mayer  
*~Anesthesiology*

O’Brian Obinnaya Mbakwe  
*Internal Medicine*

Matthew Vincent Merola  
*Pediatrics*

Takisha Joanne Morancy  
*~Emergency Medicine*

Ariana J. Moreno  
*~Dermatology*

Marc Alfred Moscatelli  
*Otolaryngology*

Saskia Iris Naegele  
*Emergency Medicine*

Electra Nassis  
*Psychiatry*

Ahsan Nawaz  
*General Surgery*

Toan M. Nguyen  
*~Psychiatry*

Kevin T. Nicholas  
*Anesthesiology*

Raymond John Noonan  
*Neurology*

Meghan Patricia O’Keefe  
*Anesthesiology*

Zachary Tyler Olmsted  
*Neurological Surgery*

Ariana Sha’uri Otto  
*~Neurology*

Linda Pak  
*Internal Medicine*

Noah Jordan Panitch  
*Urology*

Sahil Sandip Parikh  
*Anesthesiology*

Neil P. Patel  
*Orthopaedic Surgery*

Radhika Patel  
*Anesthesiology*

Justine Irene Pollack  
*Anesthesiology*

Andrew Blaise Porrazzo  
*Neurology*

Alexandros Prokopiou  
*Emergency Medicine*

Franco Arturo Revello  
*General Surgery*

Jacob Brentnell Robinson  
*Orthopaedic Surgery*

Alexander Rompala  
*Anesthesiology*

Charlotte W. Ruby  
*Pediatrics*

Ahmad Raafat Saleh  
*~Surgery-Preliminary*

Monica Saw-Aung  
*Pediatrics*

Molly Adelman Schneider  
*~Pediatrics*

Lisa Marie Scott  
*~Internal Medicine*

Gavriel Shimonov  
*Family Medicine*

Menachem Shimonov  
*Radiology-Diagnostic*

Jaewoo Shin  
*Psychiatry*

Omar Mohammad Siddique  
*Ophthalmology*

Kathleen G. Simons  
*Anesthesiology*

José Ifé Kossi Sinon  
*Ophthalmology*

Heidi Sosa  
*~Emergency Medicine*

Hadassah Stein  
*~Radiology-Diagnostic*

Lora D. Stoianova  
*Medicine-Primary*

Daniel Edward Suarez  
*Otolaryngology*

Nicholas V. Sullivan  
*Phys Medicine & Rehab*

Nicholas Edward Tan  
*~Ophthalmology*

Bertilia Venecia Tavárez  
*~Internal Medicine*

Gardenia Taza  
*Internal Medicine*

Adira Teitelbaum  
*Pediatrics*

Azriel Teitelbaum  
*Psychiatry*
Teguru Tembo *
Radiology-Diagnostic

Jason Truong ~
Emergency Medicine

Galina Udod
Emergency Medicine

Dov Vachss
Internal Medicine

Athena M. Vallejo
Family Medicine

Alejandro Vega
Surgery-Preliminary

Gayatri Venkataraman
Obstetrics-Gynecology

Nicole Rachel Vingan
Plastic Surgery

Radhika Viswanathan *~
Obstetrics-Gynecology

Thy Minh Ha Vo
Anesthesiology

Spencer Waldman *
Radiology-Diagnostic

Annette S. Wang

Kelita Waterton

Ian Benjamin Winthrop
Orthopaedic Surgery

Wen Ting Yang
Internal Medicine

Tatyana Yatsenko
Urology

Johnny Ye
Psychiatry

Zachary Hongliang Ye
Internal Medicine

Esther Heeran Yoo
Anesthesiology

Katarzyna Zaniewska
Pediatrics

Denotes:
*  Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society
~  Gold Humanism Honor Society

DISTINCTION IN RESEARCH

Christina Ines Williams Agudelo
Jonathan Ryan Amaro-Barron
Mitchell Bayne
Joshua Rory Buksbaum
Stephanie Cardona
Gabrielle M. Estevez-Inoa
Christopher D. George
Fradah Ethel Gold
Fred Gong
Stefan Nicholas Hamaway
Nissim Hazkour
Wajiha Kazmi
Nabil Zaman Khan
Masha Kolesnikova
Ryan M. Kong
Anna Lin

Takisha Joanne Morancy
Saskia Iris Naegle
Ahmad Raafat Saleh
Alejandro Vega
Nicole Rachel Vingan

COMMENDATION IN INVESTIGATIVE SCHOLARSHIP

Joseph Mayer
Emery Neal Brown, M.D., Ph.D.

Honorary Doctor of Science

Emery Neal Brown, M.D., Ph.D., is an acclaimed American statistician, neuroscientist, and anesthesiologist, and one of the world’s foremost experts on developing signal processing methods for neuroscience data analysis. His work in the field of anesthesiology is considered transformative.

Dr. Brown is the Warren M. Zapol Professor of Anaesthesia at Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH). At the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), he is the Edward Hood Taplin Professor of Medical Engineering, Professor of Computational Neuroscience, and Professor of Health Sciences and Technology in the Picower Institute for Learning and Memory and in the Institute for Medical Engineering and Science. He served for 10 years as the Director of the Harvard-MIT Program in Health Sciences and Technology.

Neural Signal Processing Algorithms and the Nature of General Anesthesia

Dr. Brown is a pioneer in developing signal processing and statistical methods for analyzing neuroscience data. He and his team have used these frameworks in numerous applications, ranging from measuring the period of the human biological clock and establishing the relationship between learning and hippocampal function to assessing the effectiveness of deep brain stimulation on behavioral performance and how the brain represents movement information.

Another area of Dr. Brown’s research lies within the field of anesthesiology. In collaboration with neuroscientists, engineers, mathematicians and clinicians from MIT, Massachusetts General Hospital, and Boston University, Dr. Brown has used his systems neuroscience approach to study anesthesia’s effects on the brain. His research draws from mathematical modeling and studies of neurophysiological recordings (EEG, local field potentials and neural spike trains) in humans, non-human primates and rodents.

He has been able to define with precision anesthesia-induced loss of consciousness, as well as its subsequent recovery, and he has shown that the level of unconsciousness produced by different classes of anesthesia medications can be characterized by analyzing oscillatory patterns observed in EEGs. These patterns change systematically with anesthetic class (the receptors and neural circuits the agents target), anesthetic dose, patient age and patient state of health. Indeed, there are significant oscillatory differences between very young children and the elderly.

The result of Brown’s research has been a new paradigm for brain monitoring during general anesthesia for surgery, one that allows an anesthesiologist to dose a patient based on EEG readouts (neural oscillations) of the patient’s anesthetic state rather than purely based on vital sign responses. The long-term goal of this research is to establish safer, site-specific anesthetic drugs, and to develop better neurophysiologically based methods for measuring and controlling the states of general anesthesia.

Dr. Brown holds bachelor’s, master’s, M.D., and Ph.D. degrees from Harvard. He completed his internship in internal medicine and a research fellowship in endocrinology at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital, and his residency in anesthesiology at MGH.

Dr. Brown served on President Barack Obama’s BRAIN Initiative Working Group, the NIH Council of Councils, the National Science Foundation Mathematics and Physical Sciences Advisory Committee, the Board of Directors of the Burroughs-Wellcome Fund, the Board of Trustees of the International Anesthesia Research Society, and the Scientific Advisory Committee of CURE Epilepsy. He currently serves on the Board of Trustees of the Guggenheim Foundation and the Board of Trustees of the Simon’s Foundation.

Dr. Brown is the recipient of a National Institute of Mental Health Independent Scientist Award, an NIH Director’s Pioneer Award (the first anesthesiologist and the first statistician to receive this award), an NIH Director’s Transformative Research Award, the 2011 Jerome Sacks Award from the National Institute of Statistical Science, a Guggenheim Fellowship in Applied Mathematics in 2015 and the 2015 Excellence in Research Award from the American Society of Anesthesiologists. Recent awards include the Dickson Prize in Science from Carnegie Mellon University in 2019, the Swartz Prize for Theoretical and Computational Neuroscience from the Society for Neuroscience in 2020, and the 2022 Pierre M. Galletti Award from the American Institute of Medical and Biological Engineering. He is a co-winner of the 2022 Gruber Neuroscience Prize.

Dr. Brown holds several patents. He has published widely on topics in computational neuroscience and
anesthesiology and is co-author of a definitive textbook on neuroscience data analysis. Dr. Brown’s anesthesiology research has been featured on National Public Radio, in Scientific American, the MIT Technology Review, and the New York Times, among other venues.

**Nancy-Ann DeParle, J.D.**  
*Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters*

Nancy-Ann DeParle is a healthcare policy expert nationally known for her significant contributions to addressing health disparities and healthcare access barriers among disadvantaged populations. She served in several positions in the Obama Administration, including as Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy. Currently, she is a managing partner in the private equity firm Consonance Capital Partners.

**Serving the Public Good Through Public Health Policy**

When Barack Obama was inaugurated as the 44th President of the United States in January 2009, 51 million Americans were without health insurance. Millions more lacked access to quality care. Healthcare reform became one of President Obama’s top priorities. To lead his efforts to enact the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and manage its initial implementation, President Obama reached out to Nancy-Ann DeParle.

Serving as Counselor to the President and Director of the Office of Health Reform, a position she held from 2009 to 2011, Ms. DeParle managed White House and interagency processes, helped bridge House-Senate differences, and served as the President’s “point guard,” as he called her. Her administrative and political skills proved vital in negotiations on the complex and massive overhaul of the U.S. health system. Ms. DeParle managed dozens of senior and junior White House Staff in weekly and sometimes daily meetings as she worked through the ACA’s design, supported Congressional staff in analyzing its impact, considered hundreds of amendments during committee markups, and oversaw public engagement.

Even in the face of legal challenges, the law Ms. DeParle stewarded continues to positively impact the nation. Access to health care has expanded, health outcomes have improved, and healthcare spending is better controlled. Over 40 million Americans now have health coverage through the Affordable Care Act.

Following the bill’s passage, President Obama promoted Ms. DeParle to Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy, a post she held from 2011 to 2013. In this role, she oversaw all policy and regulatory matters for the White House.

Ms. DeParle had previously worked in the Clinton Administration. Between 1993 and 1997, she served as Associate Director for Health and Personnel in the Office of Management & Budget. From 1997 to 2000, Ms. DeParle was the administrator of the Health Care Financing Administration (renamed the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in 2001). She oversaw $600B in annual Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP spending during her tenure there. In addition, she addressed the enormous administrative challenges introduced into the Medicare payment system by the 1997 Balanced Budget Act, which included the most significant reductions to Medicare spending in the program’s history and extended the life of the Medicare Trust Fund by more than a decade. Ms. DeParle also implemented the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP), which now covers more than 10 million uninsured low-income children.

After leaving the White House in 2013, Ms. DeParle was a Lecturer in Law at Harvard Law School and a Visiting Scholar in Economic Studies at the Brookings Institute. From 2006-2009, she was a managing director of CCMP Capital Advisors. Ms. DeParle was also a Senior Fellow of Health Systems at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and a trustee of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. In addition, from 2002-2008, she was a commissioner of the Medicare Payment Commission (MedPAC), which advises Congress on Medicare policy matters.

Today, Ms. DeParle is a managing partner and co-founder of Consonance Capital Partners (CCP). This private equity firm focuses on investing in the U.S. healthcare industry, helping build businesses with innovative concepts aimed at efficiency, cost containment, and high-quality patient care. CCP has raised over $1.3B in equity capital across two funds to date. In addition, Ms. DeParle serves as a director of CVS Health and HCA Healthcare, and as a trustee of Duke University.

A native of Rockwood, Tennessee, Ms. DeParle received a B.A. with highest honors from the University of Tennessee and a J.D. from Harvard Law School. She also received a B.A. and M.A. in Politics and Economics from Balliol College of Oxford University, where she was a Rhodes Scholar. In 2021 she was elected to the National Academy of Medicine.
Eva Brown Cramer, Ph.D., Distinguished Service Professor of Cell Biology and Vice President for Biotechnology and Scientific Affairs, has profoundly impacted SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University and its surrounding community. Downstate has established itself and Brooklyn as a leader in New York City’s growing biotechnology sector through her efforts.

Dr. Cramer designed and implemented a comprehensive strategic plan that addressed the industry’s critical needs. Her plan, launched in 2014, included constructing the Biotech Incubator adjacent to Downstate’s main campus and establishing the BioBAT site at the Brooklyn Army Terminal for biotech expansion and manufacturing. Dr. Cramer also developed symbiotic relationships between biotech companies and Downstate, and implemented workforce development programs.

She received her Ph.D. from Thomas Jefferson University, School of Medicine, in 1969 and did her postdoctoral training at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University. Dr. Cramer came to Downstate in 1973 after spending two years as an Instructor in the Anatomy Department at Harvard Medical School. She was an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Cellular Physiology and Immunology Laboratory at The Rockefeller University from 1982 to 1986. Dr. Cramer became a full Professor of Anatomy and Cell Biology at Downstate in 1988. She was named to The State University’s highest faculty rank, the Distinguished Service Professor, in 2006.

Dr. Cramer has published numerous research articles and book chapters and has been the recipient of grants from various organizations, including the National Institutes of Health and the American Heart Association. In addition, she holds a patent on a device for growing and testing biological materials.

Mantosh Dewan, M.D., is President and SUNY Distinguished Service Professor, Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, New York, where he has also served as Director of Undergraduate Education, Director of Residency Training, and Chair of the Department of Psychiatry. He was interim Dean of the College of Medicine from 2016-17. His 80 papers, 35 books and book chapters, and hundreds of presentations are on topics that range from brain imaging and economics of mental health care to psychotherapy and medical education.

His work has been funded by grants from the National Institute of Mental Health [NIMH] and Health Resources and Services Administration [HRSA]. He is co-Editor of two books: The Difficult to Treat Psychiatric Patient [2001], which has been translated into Italian and Spanish and The Art and Science of Brief Psychotherapies [2004], a best seller now in its 3rd edition [2018], which has been translated into Italian, Japanese, Taiwanese, Turkish and Chinese and chosen for the Core Competencies in Psychotherapy Series by the American Psychiatric Associations’ press.

He had an active clinical practice and is listed in The Best Doctors in America. He is a Distinguished Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and has received numerous prestigious awards: the Scientific Achievement Award from the Indo-American Psychiatrists Association, the Exemplary Psychiatrist Award from National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, the 2010 George Tarjan Award from the American Psychiatric Association, the 2018 Gentile Advocacy Award from NAMI Syracuse, designated an “Exemplary Chair” by SUNY in 2011, Syracuse University’s Chancellor’s Medal in 2021, an Honorary Degree from Onondaga Community College in 2021 and the Council of the Upstate Medical University Award for Exemplary Service in 2022.

He has served on the Editorial Board of Annals of Clinical Psychiatry and Surgical Neurology and on the International Advisory Board of the Irish Journal of Psychological Medicine. He is also an Affiliated Professor in Quality improvement and Leadership at Jonkoping Academy for Improvement of Health and Welfare, the School of Health Sciences, Jonkoping University in Sweden since 2013.
To the Class of 2023,

It is a great point of privilege for me to congratulate you, the Class of 2023, on this momentous achievement.

As we continue to emerge from the pandemic, rest assured the College of Medicine spirit of perseverance and progress were evident throughout the 2022-2023 academic year, and we continue to find hope as you graduate today and move into this next season of your careers.

Today is not the end of your relationship with the College of Medicine—it’s only the beginning. You may not realize it, but on the day you accepted your offer of admission from College of Medicine at SUNY Downstate, you joined a lifelong community. In fact, you joined more than a community—you joined a family. And just like your own family, you remain a member of the College of Medicine family for life. You share a common bond with thousands of other College of Medicine alumni out there in the world. Every time you see someone wearing a College of Medicine sweatshirt, or whenever you read about the accomplishments of a fellow alumnus, it is my hope that you’ll feel a sense of pride and nostalgia.

As you depart College of Medicine, I challenge you, each in your own way, to allow your academic experiences at College of Medicine to serve as the foundation upon which you build productive careers. Allow your social interactions with faculty, staff, administrators, and your fellow students to guide you as you interact with individuals in the workplace and in society and allow the College’s commitment to you to be a model for your commitment back to yourself, your family, your community, and your alma mater.

It is my desire for you to live richly, satisfying personal lives filled with love and laughter, to find ways to make your community a better place for yourselves and your neighbors, to grow, and to continue learning for the rest of your lives. Remember that you are conquerors, and you have the courage and the strength to overcome every obstacle set before you.

Graduates, each of you has successfully completed multiple years of rigorous training and skill development to earn your degree. You have proven your readiness for success. Now you have a different job to do, for the greatest things have not been done. I have been consistently impressed and invigorated with stories shared about the research and work you’ve conducted over your academic journey. With its rigor and required work ethic, you will be able to face nearly anything in life. Here is to you, the next generation of doctors and the newest members of the College of Medicine SUNY Downstate Alumni Family!

My charge to you is to see the horizon not as a limit, but as an invitation. The torch has been passed to you with the expectation that you will hold it higher and carry it farther than those who walked before you.

Congratulations once again on this amazing milestone, graduating from the College of Medicine is an achievement you can be proud of for the rest of your life.

With all good wishes,

Anne Marie Beddoe, M.D., MPH ’78
President
Alumni Association of the College of Medicine
The State University of New York
Downstate Health Sciences University
MESSAGES TO THE ALUMNI

SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
www.downstate.edu/alumni

Dear SOHP 2023 Graduate,

Congratulations Class of 2023! We are proud to welcome each one of you as a Downstate Health Sciences University, School of Health Professions (SOHP) alumna/alumnus, where many alumni before you are outstanding examples in the field of healthcare.

The SOHP has a long history of educating students preparing them for a variety of healthcare careers, namely physician assistants, occupational therapists, physical therapists, diagnostic medical sonographers, midwives, and medical informaticists. We are committed to continuing to serve you, our newest alumni, through evidence-based professional development and continuing education, networking activities, and fun events. We need your help to be successful in these endeavors.

Joining the SOHP Alumni Association helps to ensure that our students have an opportunity to interact with homegrown healthcare professionals as mentors. Your time and talents as alumni can benefit students who are matriculating as well as help attract new students.

We hope that you consider staying active with the SOHP family as a way to give back to the institution that helped put you on track to become an exceptional healthcare professional. There are many ways you can be involved.

Please continue to visit us on the website, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Facebook for information on future Alumni activities. You may also contact Assistant Dean Phillip Bones (SOHP Alumni Association Contact Person: philip.bones@downstate.edu).

No matter where you are, we want to reach out and engage with you.

Sincerely,

Allen Lewis, Ph.D., CRC
Dean and Professor
School of Health Professions
Downstate Health Sciences University
Congratulations, New Alumni of the College of Nursing!

On behalf of the College of Nursing, I would like to congratulate and welcome the class of 2023 to our alumni family. For our new alumni, and as well as our existing alumni, please consider our invitation to get involved. There are many opportunities for you to participate in our vibrant college, such as serving on my advisory board, as guest speakers and on student panels, support for current students through a mentoring relationship, or supporting our college through monetary gifts. We seek your continued support, and we need you!

There are currently two ways to make a gift. I established the Nursing Cares Fund in 2019 to assist Downstate College of Nursing students in meeting immediate financial expenses due to unforeseen, temporary hardships. Awards not exceeding $500 are made to eligible nursing students in an effort to maintain academic progression and well-being in the student’s program of study. Covered expenses for students experiencing hardship include textbooks, travel costs due to death or illness of an immediate family member, medications, eyeglasses, food, technological support, clothing, shelter, or disaster relief.

The other opportunity for gift-giving is through our College of Nursing Giving Tree. The Giving Tree provides scholarships for students who excel academically, clinically, or who demonstrate outstanding leadership. Your donation to the Growing the Future of Nursing Giving Tree will help us continue to achieve our mission and to enhance the educational experience of our students. The hand-crafted tree is located at the entrance of the College of Nursing and welcomes our students, faculty, staff, and guests. As your donations accrue, the tree will continue to grow. Please consider commemorating a loved one or acknowledging a special achievement.

For more information about how to support the future of the College of Nursing, visit our web site:

https://www.downstate.edu/education-training/college-of-nursing/giving-tree/index.html

I would love to hear from you if you are interested in becoming involved as a College of Nursing alumnus. I am pleased to work alongside each of you as we move forward together to provide outstanding nursing education and change the world as Downstate nurses!

Please stay in touch and update your address with Ms. Karen Thomas at Karen.Thomas-Lovell@downstate.edu and, as always, feel free to contact me at lori.escallier@downstate.edu

My very best wishes,

Lori Escallier, Ph.D., RN, CPNP-PC, FAAN
Dean, College of Nursing
Downstate Health Sciences University
MESSAGES TO THE ALUMNI

SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC HEALTH
www.downstate.edu/alumni

To the New Alumni of the School of Public Health,

Congratulations on your success! Your degree represents your commitment and hard work, and I hope you take a moment to reflect on your accomplishments. As you venture forward, please don’t hesitate to engage with the Downstate community. I would encourage you to keep in contact with your peers and professors, not only to stay abreast of potential opportunities for career enhancement and community engagement, but to help support the next generation of leaders in public health as well. The diversity of the Downstate Community and its unifying dedication to service are what make it unique, and your newfound voice as an alumni and public health professional is an invaluable resource. I look forward to building a stronger Downstate community alongside you while promoting health and wellness for all into the future!

Best wishes in your endeavors!

Jake Littman
SPH alumnus ’20
Chair, SPH Alumni Advisory Board
jakelouislittman@gmail.com

SCHOOL OF
GRADUATE STUDIES
www.downstate.edu/alumni

Dear New Alumni of the School of Graduate Studies,

Congratulations on reaching this incredible milestone in your career!

First, if we can help with anything, please do not hesitate to reach out to us – we will do everything we can to help you navigate your careers.

Second, we would love to engage you in the future, e.g., as a seminar speaker and/or career role model.

Thank you for your contributions to SGS and don’t forget to reach back and lend a hand, or your experience, where you can. Let’s stay in touch!

Best wishes in your every endeavor,

David Christini, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President for Research and Interim Dean, School of Graduate Studies
## Faculty and Staff Serving as Marshals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title and Department</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saren Ahearn, PT, DPT, Dip ACLM</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, Physical Therapy, School of Health Professions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yaacov Anziska, M.D.</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Department of Neurology, College of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riccardo Bianchi, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Associate Dean for Foundations of Medicine, College of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marlene Camacho-Rivera, Sc.D., MS, MPH</td>
<td>Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, School of Public Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camille Clare, M.D., MPH, CPE</td>
<td>Chair, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, College of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eva Cramer, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Distinguished Service Professor, Department of Cell Biology, College of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anika Daniels-Osaze, Ed.D., MPH</td>
<td>Associate Dean for Education, School of Public Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Ehlke, Ph.D., MA</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Department of Health Policy and Management, School of Public Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohammad Faysel, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Chair and Associate Professor, Medical Informatics, School of Health Professions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharon A. Glick, M.D., FAAD, FAAP</td>
<td>Interim Chair and Program Director, Department of Dermatology, College of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rivka Hellmann, MS, RDMS, RDCS, RVT</td>
<td>Clinical Associate Professor and Clinical Coordinator, Diagnostic Medical Imaging Program, School of Health Professions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elka Jacobson-Dickman, M.D.</td>
<td>Associate Dean for Clinical Medicine, College of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony J. Joseph, M.D.</td>
<td>Dean of Admissions, College of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joanne S. Katz, PT, DPT, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Chair and Associate Professor, Physical Therapy, School of Health Professions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbara Kitchener, Ph.D., R.N.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, Director, RN-BS Nursing Program, College of Nursing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Kollmar, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Department of Cell Biology, College of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crystal Marquez, M.D.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine, College of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Márquez, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Professor &amp; Co-Director of Gross Anatomy, College of Medicine, Director of Anatomical Donor Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura Martello-Rooney, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Director of GI Research, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, School of Graduate Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isabel M. McFarlane, M.D., FACP</td>
<td>Clinical Assistant Professor and Director, Third-Year Medicine Clerkship, College of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeanne McHugh, Ph.D., R.N., APRN, ACNS-BC, FNYAM</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Director, Accelerated BS in Nursing Program, College of Nursing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeanine O’Hagan Murphy, DNP, FNP-BC</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, Director FNP Program, College of Nursing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katherine L. Perkins, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Physiology and Pharmacology, College of Medicine</td>
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<td>Vice Dean for Faculty Affairs and Research, Distinguished Service Professor, School of Public Health</td>
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SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University

SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University is one of four academic health science centers within the 64-unit State University of New York. SUNY Downstate includes the College of Medicine, School of Graduate Studies, College of Nursing, School of Health Professions, School of Public Health, a major research center, several biotechnology sites, and University Hospital at Downstate.

The year 2023 marks the 164th anniversary of SUNY Downstate’s emergence as a leader in American medical education. In 1860, the Collegiate Division of the Long Island College Hospital (as it was then known) first opened its doors to students. The school revolutionized medicine in the United States: for the first time in this country, the teaching of medicine was brought to the hospital bedside and the idea that physicians should be trained exclusively in university classrooms and lecture halls was rejected.

In 1931, the school was rechartered as the Long Island College of Medicine. The “Downstate” era began on April 5, 1950, when a merger contract was signed between the Long Island College of Medicine and the newly constituted State University of New York. Several years later, Downstate’s current flagship campus was built in East Flatbush, Brooklyn. In April 1953, ground was broken for the Basic Sciences Building, and President Dwight D. Eisenhower laid the cornerstone in 1954. The complex was expanded in 1966 with the opening of University Hospital at Downstate, the School of Health Professions, and the College of Nursing. The School of Public Health was established in 2009. In 2019, Downstate’s name was officially changed to SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University, to more accurately capture the total breadth of the institution’s contributions to higher education, scholarship, workforce development, and healthcare.

Today, SUNY Downstate is the focal point of a health education network that encompasses numerous healthcare sites. It offers students broad professional education opportunities, especially for those committed to combating the spread of disease and eliminating health disparities in urban and underserved communities. It plays an important role, nationally and regionally, in the physician and healthcare-professional supply chain. The College of Medicine ranks fourth among the nation’s 157 accredited medical schools in the number of graduates who hold an active license to practice medicine and is the top producer of physicians in New York State and New York City.

Downstate faculty members were the first to produce full-body human images using magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and the first to successfully perform open-heart surgery in New York State. We were the first to establish a federally funded dialysis clinic in the United States, prove that alcoholism has a genetic link, conduct a federal study of perinatal transmission of HIV disease, and identify the important role that nitric oxide plays in cardiovascular health.

This last discovery led to the award of the 1998 Nobel Prize for Medicine or Physiology to the late Downstate faculty member Dr. Robert F. Furchgott.

Land Acknowledgment

We recognize that the venue in which we are celebrating sits on the traditional homelands of the people of the Lenape. The land is both seized and occupied territory of the Lenape People. We honor the Indigenous caretakers of these lands and waters, the elders who lived here before, the Indigenous today, and the generations to come. We recognize, support, and advocate for Indigenous individuals and communities. By offering this Land Acknowledgement, we support Indigenous autonomy and will work to hold ourselves more accountable to the needs of Indigenous peoples.
The Academic Procession

The procession is led by the presiding marshal. Other members of the procession include faculty marshals (chosen by the graduates), faculty members, deans, honorary degree recipients, and the president of SUNY Downstate.

The academic gown worn by procession members is said to be symbolic of the "democracy of scholarship," for it covers any dress of rank or social standing underneath.

Academic gowns originated in the Middle Ages, the period when universities were beginning to take form. At that time, most scholars were also clerics and therefore dressed as clerics, in long gowns. Over time, the gown became the accepted dress code for scholars: in England, in the second half of the 14th century, for example, several colleges forbade “excess in apparel” and decreed the wearing of long gowns.

The assignment of colors to signify different academic disciplines developed much later, and was standardized in the United States in the late 19th century. In 1895, an intercollegiate commission composed of representatives from leading colleges established a code of academic dress that prescribed cut, style, and materials of the gowns, as well as colors to represent different fields of learning. Today, academic dress code is regulated by a formal Committee on Academic Costumes and Ceremonies created by the American Council on Education in 1952.

The gown is usually black for all degrees, with variations in the sleeves, the front cut, and trim. The bachelor’s degree gown is black with long pointed sleeves. The master’s degree gown is black without trim and has oblong sleeves so the upper part of the arm comes through the slit in the sleeve. Doctoral (Ph.D.) gowns are black with bell-shaped sleeves. Mortarboards (caps) with tassels have their own significance. Master’s and bachelor’s tassels are black, while the Ph.D. tassel may be black or gold; medicine is green.

Hood colors indicate the field of learning: dark blue-philosophy; green-medicine; light blue-education; apricot-nursing; golden yellow-science; white-history; purple-law; dark blue-psychology; salmon-public health; and teal-physical therapy.

Details of academic attire may vary depending on where faculty members completed their degrees. Some foreign degree holders, for example, wear special hats, distinctive to their degree and institution. Whatever the differences, however, the governing tradition is continuity of the academic symbols from the Middle Ages.

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Oath of Professional Practice

As a member of the graduating classes of the School of Health Professions and the College of Nursing,

I solemnly pledge my commitment to the faithful practice of my profession and the provision of high-quality healthcare services, scientific inquiry, and the collective actions necessary to protect and advance the health of all people, with honesty, integrity, and dedication.

I recognize and value human diversity and will provide individualized services for all who seek my care or assistance and respect the rights, values, beliefs, and cultures of those individuals and communities with whom I work.

I will hold as my primary responsibility the health, safety, welfare, and dignity of all human beings.

I will hold in confidence the information shared in the course of my professional service.

I will rely on evidence to support my decisions and actions, and translate that evidence into policies and programs that improve health for all.

I will accept responsibility for my actions and uphold the standards of my profession.

I will actively seek to expand my knowledge and skills as I engage in lifelong learning.

I will add to the body of research and knowledge and share my discoveries.

I will use my experiences to contribute to an improved community and will seek new information and be open to ideas that can better protect and promote the health of individuals in my care and the health of populations.

I will advance health literacy for all and seek equity and justice for vulnerable populations.

My functions and goals are based upon my commitment to the expansion of medical knowledge and the improvement of public health and healthcare for all those in need of the skills of my profession.

I make these commitments freely and with honor.

The Hippocratic Oath

I do solemnly swear by that which I hold most sacred:

That I will be loyal to the profession of medicine and just and generous to its members;

That I will lead my life and practice my art in uprightness and honor;

That whatever house I shall enter, it shall be for the good of the sick to the utmost of my power;

That I will hold myself aloof from wrong;

That I will exercise my art solely for the cure of my patients, and will give no drug and perform no operation for a wrongful purpose;

That whatsoever I shall see or hear of the lives of men and women that should not be spoken, I will keep secret;

These I do promise, and, in proportion as I am faithful to this my oath, may happiness and good repute be ever mine.