



2026

UB University at Buffalo
The State University of New York

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTIETH ANNUAL



JACOBS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES
COMMENCEMENT

FRIDAY

MAY 1, 2026

1:00 PM

CENTER FOR THE ARTS, NORTH CAMPUS

Allison Brashear, MD, MBA
Vice President and Dean

Senior Associate Deans

Gustavo Arrizabalaga, PhD
Gregory S. Cherr, MD
Marc Halterman, MD, PhD
David A. Milling, MD
Nancy H. Nielsen, MD, PhD
John C. Panepinto, PhD
Brian M. Parker, MD
Sanjay Sethi, MD

Associate Deans

Fred Archer, MD
Leslie Bisson, MD
Alan J. Lesse, MD
Robert McCormack, MD
Jennifer A. Meka, PhD
Roberto Pili, MD
Teresa Quattrin, MD
Jessica L. Reynolds, PhD
Jennifer Surtees, PhD

Assistant Deans

Samantha Bordonaro, MD
Kristina Costanzo-Metcalf, MEd
Jessica Donhauser, MD
Alysia Kwaitkowski, DO, MS, EdM
Anyango Kamina, PhD
Susan M. Orrange, PhD
David E. Shubert, PhD
Mark Sutton, PhD
Diana G. Wilkins, MD

Letter to the Class of 2026 from President Tripathi



Dear Graduates,

Congratulations! You have reached an important milestone—one that marks both the completion of your degree and your arrival at a threshold of new opportunities and responsibilities. For that reason, today we celebrate not only what you have accomplished, but who you have become.

Your time here has been defined by intellectual growth, perseverance and discovery. You arrived with promise; you leave with purpose, ready to make an impact in a changing landscape that needs your talents and will test your resolve.

As graduates of the University at Buffalo, you uphold a mission dedicated to advancing knowledge and serving society. Your education has endowed you with greater clarity: to understand complexity and question assumptions. If we have done our job well, you have also come to appreciate the resilience of our collective humanity while recognizing where it is fraying.

You will encounter trials in the years ahead. When confronted with division or adversity, I urge you not to turn away, but to engage. Draw on what you have learned here to mend and renew the fabric of our communities. Whatever your discipline, you possess both the capacity and the duty to champion the public good through your work, commitment and leadership.

As Martin Luther King Jr. reminded us, “We are all caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny.” The challenges you encounter will not be yours alone, nor will their solutions be found in isolation. Beyond your knowledge, you carry a shared obligation—to fortify those bonds, enrich those connections and cultivate fairness and compassion in all that you do.

It has been one of the great privileges of my life to celebrate our UB graduates and to witness your growth. As I conclude my presidency this summer, my faith in the contributions you are poised to make remains unwavering.

To the Class of 2026, please accept my heartfelt best wishes. May your efforts advance integrity and harmony across society, and may you inspire others to follow your example.

Sincerely,

Satish K. Tripathi

President



Program

This commencement marks the 180th for the University at Buffalo. The original class, in 1847, had 17 graduates. They completed their first lecture term elsewhere and their second term, of 16 weeks, at the University at Buffalo.

Processional

Selections from
Pomp and Circumstance
By Edward Elgar

Grand Marshal

Andrew B. Symons, MD
Clinical Professor; Vice Chair for Medical Student Education, Department of Family Medicine

Faculty Marshal

Norma J. Nowak, PhD

Student Marshal

Stuart D. Inglis, PhD

Opening Declaration by Grand Marshal

Andrew B. Symons, MD

National Anthem*

Amanda Altman
Mathias Tevendale
MD Candidates

Call to Order

Allison Brashear, MD, MBA
Vice President for Health Sciences Dean, Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

Greetings

Satish K. Tripathi, PhD
University President

SUNY Honorary Degree

Mary Wilson
Board Chair and Life Trustee, Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation

Eunice A. Lewin
Member of the SUNY Board of Trustees

President Tripathi

University at Buffalo President's Medal

Allison Brashear, MD, MBA

President Tripathi

Honored Speaker

Monica M. Bertagnolli, MD
President Elect, National Academy of Medicine

Class Speaker

Andrew David Gasper
MD Candidate

Presentation of Parents Council Gift

Danessia Scott- Warren
Parents Council President

Presentation of Candidates Doctor of Medicine/ Doctor of Philosophy

Marc Halterman, MD, PhD
Director, MD-PhD Program

Conferrer of Degrees

President Tripathi

Calling of Candidates

Fred Archer, MD
Associate Dean for Admissions

Hooding

Hooding Party/Major Professor

Presentation of Candidates Doctor of Medicine/ Master of Business Administration

Jennifer Pugh, MD, MBA
MBA Liaison for UB Health Sciences and the School of Management

Conferrer of Degrees

President Tripathi

Calling of Candidates

Associate Dean Archer

Hooding

Hooding Party/Major Professor

Presentation of Candidates Doctor of Medicine/ Master of Public Health

David A. Milling, MD
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Conferrer of Degrees

President Tripathi

Calling of Candidates

Associate Dean Archer

Hooding

Hooding Party/Major Professor

Presentation of Candidates Doctor of Medicine

Senior Associate Dean Milling

Conferrer of Degrees

President Tripathi

Calling of Candidates

Associate Dean Archer

Hooding

Samantha Bordonaro, MD
Jessica Donhauser, MD
Alan J. Lesse, MD
David Holmes, MD
Alysia Kwaitkowski, DO
Jennifer A. Meka, PhD

Signing Book of Physicians

Senior Associate Dean Milling

Charge of Maimonides

Senior Associate Dean Milling

The Oath

Dean Brashear

Welcome to Alumni Association

Jessica A. Donhauser, MD '13
*President, Medical Alumni Association Clinical
Assistant Professor, Pediatrics
Assistant Dean for Student & Academic Affairs*

Nancy H. Nielsen, MD '76, PhD
*Senior Associate Dean for Health Policy
Golden Alumna*

Alma Mater

Amanda Altman
Mathias Tevendale
MD Candidates

Closing Declaration

Andrew B. Symons, MD

***Recessional**

Triumphal March from Aida
By Giuseppe Verdi

**Guests will please rise and remain standing
during the Recessional.*

*All are invited to a reception in the Student
Union social hall immediately following the
ceremony.*

The music performed for the commencement ceremony by "Cathedral Brass" is provided by the Department of Emergency Medicine.



*Today's ceremony is being recorded and will be
available for on-line viewing at the following site:
www.buffalo.edu/commencement*

SUNY Trustee and UB Officials

Eunice Ashman Lewin

Member of the State University of New York Board of Trustees



President and co-founder of Impacto Consulting Associates, Eunice Ashman Lewin was appointed to the SUNY Board of Trustees in February 2010. During her tenure, she has been instrumental in

reinstating the Student Life Committee and in spearheading the committee's food insecurity and mental health task forces.

A retired bilingual social worker for the Buffalo Board of Education, Lewin is deeply dedicated to her community. She served on the Western New York Health Equity Task Force, was named co-chair of the 5/14 Remembrance Committee and is a founding member of the Roswell Park Alliance and the Greater Buffalo Racial Equity Roundtable. Lewin is also a member of the Hispanic Women's League and Hispanics United of Buffalo and previously served as a commissioner of the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority. In 2024, she was named chair of the Buffalo Urban League, where she continues to advance its mission of social parity, economic self-reliance and civil rights for underserved communities.

Born in Guantanamo, Cuba, Lewin immigrated to the United States with her family in 1967. She holds a bachelor's degree in sociology from Marymount Manhattan College and master's degrees in American and Puerto Rican studies and in educational administration from UB.

Jerry Jacobs Jr.

Chairman of the University at Buffalo Council



Jeremy "Jerry" M. Jacobs Jr. is the chief executive officer of Delaware North, a role he shares with his brothers, Lou and Charlie. He also serves as an alternate governor to the Boston Bruins.

As CEO, Jacobs oversees the company and its operating subsidiaries, focusing on strategic growth, corporate governance and financial management. He joined Delaware North in 1986 and held progressive leadership roles before becoming CEO in 2015.

Jacobs is actively involved in numerous philanthropic, civic and business organizations in Buffalo and across the country. He was appointed UB Council chairman by New York State Governor Kathy Hochul in December 2024. His additional current board positions include The Corps Network, Mimivax and the Jacobs Institute. He is also a member of the U.S. Travel Association's CEO Roundtable and the Partnership for New York City.

Jacobs was a founding board member of Say Yes Buffalo, and he has dedicated more than two decades of service to the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County, including past chairmanships of the board of directors and the annual fundraising campaign. He is a past member of the Board of Regents at Georgetown University and past chair of the Nichols School's Board of Trustees. He also served three terms on the University at Buffalo Foundation board.

Jacobs holds an MBA from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania and a BA from Georgetown University.

Satish K. Tripathi

University President



An internationally distinguished researcher and higher education leader, Satish K. Tripathi, PhD, is the University at Buffalo's 15th president.

Tripathi, who served as UB's provost from 2004-2011, was dean of the Bourns

College of Engineering at the University of California, Riverside, from 1997-2004. Previously, he spent 19 years as a professor of computer science at the University of Maryland, including seven as department chair.

In 2024, Tripathi was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. A fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the International Academy of Artificial Intelligence Sciences, he has published more than 200 scholarly papers, supervised more than 30 doctoral and postdoctoral students and served on program committees of numerous international conferences.

Tripathi graduated at the top of his class from Banaras Hindu University (BHU). He holds a master's degree and doctorate in computer science from the University of Toronto, as well as master's degrees in statistics from the University of Alberta and BHU. He has received honorary doctorates from Maharaja Surajmal Brij University, the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad, and Brock University.

Tripathi serves on the College Football Playoff Board of Managers and the board of University Innovation Alliance. Previously, he chaired the Mid-American Conference Council of Presidents and Internet2 and served on the boards of the AAU, NCAA Division I, NCAA Board of Governors, Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities and Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

Honored Speaker

A. Scott Weber

*Provost and Executive Vice President
for Academic Affairs*



As provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, A. Scott Weber, PhD, serves as the university's chief academic officer, providing leadership across the academic enterprise including research, scholarship and

creative activities; undergraduate, graduate, professional and international education; faculty development; inclusive excellence initiatives; and university libraries. Weber is leading the implementation of the university's vision to be recognized among the top public research universities in the nation, focused on building on UB's strengths to achieve new levels of excellence in research, scholarship, education, clinical care and engagement.

A UB faculty member since 1983, Weber is an innovative scholar, teacher and former chair of UB's Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering. Prior to his appointment as provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, Weber held several other senior administrative roles at UB, including senior vice provost for academic affairs, where he was instrumental in the creation of the UB Curriculum and nationally recognized Finish in 4 program; and vice president for student life, where he focused on enhancing the student experience and promoting overall student wellness.

Weber serves on New York's Hazardous Waste Facility Siting Board for Chemical Waste Management. He is a former board member and current advisory committee member of the United Way of Buffalo & Erie County.

Weber earned bachelor's and master's of science degrees in civil engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and a PhD in civil engineering from the University of California, Davis.

Allison Brashear

*Vice President for Health Sciences
Dean of the Jacobs School of Medicine
and Biomedical Sciences*



Allison Brashear, MD, MBA, is a world-renowned neurologist and a transformative leader reshaping academic medicine at the University at Buffalo. As vice president for health sciences and

dean of the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, she oversees a comprehensive educational continuum—spanning undergraduate biomedical programs, graduate research and professional medical and postgraduate training. She drives health care innovation locally and nationally, advancing strategic partnerships and serving as president and CEO of UBMD Physicians' Group.

A leading authority on ATP1A3-related diseases, she has received continuous National Institutes of Health funding since 2008. Her groundbreaking research helped secure approval for three botulinum toxin therapies used to treat post-stroke spasticity and other neurologic conditions.

Prior to UB, Brashear was dean of the University of California, Davis School of Medicine, and a professor and the Walter C. Teagle Endowed Chair of Neurology at Wake Forest School of Medicine.

She earned her medical degree and completed her neurology residency at Indiana University School of Medicine and her MBA at Duke University's Fuqua School of Business.

In 2025, Brashear was elected to the National Academy of Medicine. She holds national leadership roles, including serving on the Association of American Medical Colleges' Council of Deans Administrative Board, where she became chair-elect in 2024, on the AAMC board of directors and as a trustee of the McKnight Brain Research Foundation. In Buffalo, she serves as a board member of the WNY Women's Foundation.

Monica M. Bertagnolli, MD

*President Elect
National Academy of Medicine*



Monica M. Bertagnolli, M.D., is a surgical oncologist and cancer researcher currently serving as the Richard E. Wilson Professor of Surgery Emerita at Harvard Medical School and a Senior Fellow in Healthcare Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School.

From November 2023- January 2025 she was the 17th director of the National Institutes of Health. Prior to this, she was the director of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and Chief of Surgical Oncology at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Throughout her career, Dr. Bertagnolli has been at the forefront of the field of translational oncology. Over the past decade, she has championed collaborative initiatives to enable a learning healthcare system by transforming the data infrastructure for clinical research. Dr. Bertagnolli was elected to the National Academy of Medicine in 2021 and in 2025 she was chosen to be the Academy's 11th President, a position she will assume in July, 2026. Dr. Bertagnolli graduated from Princeton University with a Bachelor of Science in Engineering degree and attended medical school at the University of Utah. She trained in surgery at Brigham and Women's Hospital and was a research fellow in tumor immunology at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

SUNY HONORARY DEGREE

Mary McLean Wilson

*Board Chair and Life Trustee
Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation*



Mary Wilson is a philanthropist, civic champion and former internationally ranked tennis player. She is the board chair and a life trustee of the Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation, established by her late husband, the founder of the Buffalo Bills, which she owned with him.

Through the foundation, Wilson works to improve quality of life in southeast Michigan, where her husband grew up, and Western New York. The foundation has distributed more than 1,500 grants to both communities, including \$100 million to create Buffalo's Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Centennial Park and connect the region's trail system.

Wilson is also a dedicated supporter of the Jacobs School, where she serves on the Dean's Council. In 2015, the foundation's gift to the school established the Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Center of Excellence in Sports Medicine, which trains medical students, residents and fellows in arthroscopy. The Wilson family's 2011 gift supported concussion and biomechanics research and specialized equipment, and established the Ralph and Mary Wilson Visiting Professor Lecture Series.

Passionate about participation in athletics, Wilson in 2006 founded WNY Girls in Sports, which twice yearly invites 250 local girls to sample different sports. In 2024, she was inducted into the Western New York Business Hall of Fame and named "Philanthropist of the Year" by the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County for her community impact. She is also a recipient of UB's highest honor, the Chancellor Charles P. Norton Medal.

Wilson competed in the Wimbledon Championships in 1976 and was later ranked first in the world among women 60 and over. A former board member of the USTA Foundation, she holds a bachelor's degree in physical education from Trintiy University.

SUNY Honorary Doctoral Degree Recipients—University at Buffalo

1981	David Harker	1997	William Christie	2011	Ronald I. Dozoretz
1983	Alan E. Gottlieb		James Holland		Arthur E. Levine
1984	William C. Baird		Franklyn G. Knox	2012	Paula Allen-Meares
	Jacques Genest		Thomas Tomasi		Ronald H. Coase
	Wilson Greatbatch	1998	James W. McLernon	2013	Calyampudi R. Rao
	Seymour H. Knox Jr.	1999	Wolf Blitzer		Charles Wuorinen
1985	Erich Bloch		Lucille Clifton	2014	Ira Flatow
	Pierre Dejours		Clifton A. Poodry		Jack N. Lightstone
	Edwin F. Jaeckle	2000	Thomas Buergenthal		Norman R. McCombs
1986	Willard A. Genrich	2001	Alison Des Forges	2015	Christopher J. Scolese
	Gregory B. Jarvis*		Jane Goodall		David L. Shire
	Brian MacMahon		H. William Lichtenberger	2016	Leslie G. Ford
	John B. Slaughter		William H. Siemering		Helene D. Gayle
1987	George Hatem		Hatim A. Tyabji	2017	Marc A. Edwards
	Robert E. Rich Sr.	2002	Ellen Shulman Baker		Seong-Kon Kim
	Amos Tversky		Erma Hallett Jaeckle		Margaret Hempling McGlynn
1988	Louis J. Gerstman		Tom Toles		Bernard Rands
	Claude Lenfant	2003	Joseph P. Allen	2018	Gordon L. Amidon
1989	John M. Coetzee		Arthur O. Eve		Robert Peter Gale
	Philip Glass		Brad Grey		Abbe Raven
1990	Alonzo Church		Elizabeth Pierce Olmsted Ross		Margaret W. Wong
	Ira Michael Heyman	2004	John Walsh	2019	Julio Fuentes
	Wynton Marsalis		Robert G. Wilmers		Rebecca J. McCormick-Boyle
1991	James P. Comer	2005	Jack Dangermond		Donald Pinkel
	John W. Gardner		Henry A. Panasci Jr.*		Ashutosh Sharma
	Theodoor C. van Boven	2006	His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama	2020	Ruth Bader Ginsburg
1992	Marisol Escobar		Steven B. Sample		Donnica L. Moore
1994	Burt P. Flickinger Jr.	2007	Warren Bennis		Richard A. Schatz
	Robert V. Pound		Terry Gross	2021	C.K. "David" Chu
	Milton Rogovin	2008	Michael Batty		William R. Kinkel
1995	Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot		Maxine Hayes	2022	David Frank Adjaye
	Ishmael Scott Reed		Jean Malaurie		Ravinder K. Bansal
	George Widmer Thorn	2009	J. Mason Davis Jr.		Francesco Calogero
1996	Max B.E. Clarkson		Herbert A. Hauptman	2023	Agnes F. Williams
	Saxon Graham		Irene Zubaida Khan	2024	James S. Marks
	Jeremy M. Jacobs		Alan M. Zweibel		
	Florence S. Jacobson	2010	Mata Amritanandamayi Devi		<i>* Awarded posthumously</i>
	Gaynor I. Jacobson		Barry Glick		
	Northrup R. Knox		Steve Reich		
	Seymour H. Knox III*		Robert Vince		
	Helen M. Ranney				

UB President's Medal

Allison Brashear, MD, MBA

Vice President for Health Sciences

Dean, Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

President and CEO, UBMD Physicians' Group



Allison Brashear, MD, MBA, is an internationally distinguished neurologist and academic leader who is ushering in a new era for the University at Buffalo's health sciences enterprise, marked by research expansion and rising national recognition.

Since joining UB in 2021, she has strengthened the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences by recruiting research-focused faculty, expanding multidisciplinary collaborations and advancing clinical and translational science across Western New York. Under her leadership, the school has achieved sustained growth in NIH and other external funding, elevating its competitiveness and visibility among research intensive academic medical centers.

Elected to the National Academy of Medicine in 2025, Dr. Brashear is widely regarded for her scientific contributions and values-driven leadership shaping medical science, health care delivery and public health.

Recognized worldwide as an authority on ATP1A3-related disorders, she leads an NIH-funded multi institutional program on rapid-onset dystonia-parkinsonism, advancing recognition of this rare disease and improving diagnosis and care. Her career includes leadership of NIH- and industry-sponsored clinical trials. She was lead author of a pivotal study published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* on botulinum toxin for post stroke spasticity, she edited the first book on spasticity, and she has completed 56 clinical trials that contributed to three FDA-approved medications—work that has improved outcomes for millions.

Beyond her research, Dr. Brashear is a national leader in academic medicine, serving on the boards of the Association of American Medical Colleges and the McKnight Brain Research Foundation, with prior service on the NIH Scientific Management Review Board and the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine. Committed to championing women in medicine through mentorship and leadership development, she serves on the WNY Women's Foundation board.

UB President's Medal Recipients

1990	Charles M. Fogel	2016	Paras N. Prasad
1992	William B. Hoyt*		Claude E. Welch Jr.
1993	Northrup R. Knox	2017	Margarita L. Dubocovich
	Robert Wilmers		Francis M. Letro
	John L. Hettrick Sr.	2018	Michael E. Cain
1994	Robert H. Rossberg		Laura E. Hubbard
1995	George C. Lee		Cristanne Miller
1996	Irving Freedman	2019	Amit Goyal
1997	Philip B. Wels		Amanda B. Nickerson
1998	Lawrence P. Castellani	2020	Jean Wactawski-Wende
2000	Mary E. Randolph	2021	Dexter Johnson
	John N. Walsh III		Peter A. Rogerson
2002	Robert J. Wagner	2022	Sargur N. Srihari*
2003	Reginald B. Newman II	2023	Oren R. Lyons
2007	Stephen C. Dunnett	2024	Deborah Duen Ling Chung
2008	Robert Genco		Venu Govindaraju
2010	Robert G. Shibley		Timothy F. Murphy
2012	Angelo M. Fatta	2025	Luis A. Colón
	Bruce D. McCombe		William J. Maggio
2013	Diane R. Christian		X. Christine Wang
	Edmond J. Gicewicz		
2014	Robert D. Gioia		
	Nancy H. Nielsen		
2015	John T. Ho		
	Gerald S. Lippes		

* *Awarded posthumously*

Program Notes

Graduation and Commencement Awards Committee

Samantha Bordonaro, MD
Jennifer Britton, MS
Lauren Fitzpatrick, MA
David A. Milling, MD
Julie Szrama, MS
Laura Yusick, JD

Alpha Omega Alpha

Michelle Carr, MD, PhD
Christopher S. Cohan, PhD,
Secretary/Treasurer
Anne B. Curtis, MD
Philip L. Glick, MD, MBA
Faye E. Justicia-Linde, MD,
Councilor
Alan J. Lesse, MD
Randall Loftus, MD
David A. Milling, MD

The Richard Sarkin/Emeritus Faculty Chapter Of The Gold Humanism Honor Society Administrative Committee

David A. Milling, MD, *Co-Advisor*
Charles Paganelli, MD, *Emeritus faculty*
Marcia Sarkin, *Mentor*

Department Chairs

Brian M. Parker, MD
Chair of Anesthesiology

Jennifer A. Surtees PhD
Chair of Biochemistry

Mark Sutton, PhD
Interim Chair of Biochemistry

Yun Wu, PhD
Chair of Biomedical Engineering

Peter L. Elkin, MD
Chair of Biomedical Informatics

Paul J. Kostyniak, PhD
*Chair of Biotechnical and
Clinical Laboratory Sciences*

Robert F. McCormack, MD
Chair of Emergency Medicine

Andrea T. Manyon, MD
Chair of Family Medicine

Leonard E. Egede, MD, MS
Chair of Medicine

James D. Bangs, PhD
Chair of Microbiology and Immunology

Daniel Woo, MD, MS
Chair of Neurology

Elad I. Levy, MD
Chair of Neurosurgery

Sarah L. Berga, MD
Chair of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Sandra Sieminski, MD
Interim Chair of Ophthalmology

Leslie J. Bisson, MD
Chair of Orthopaedics

Troy D. Woodard, MD
Chair of Otolaryngology

Karen Frank, MD, PhD
*Chair of Pathology and
Anatomical Sciences*

Benny L. Joyner, Jr., MD, MPH
Chair of Pediatrics

Michael G. Malkowski, PhD
Chair of Pharmacology and Toxicology

Mikhail V. Pletnikov, MD, PhD
Chair of Physiology and Biophysics

Beth Smith, MD
Chair of Psychiatry

Kenneth D. Pearsen, MD
Chair of Radiology

Michael G. Malkowski, PhD
Chair of Structural Biology

Steven D. Schweitzberg, MD
Chair of Surgery

K. Kent Chevli, MD
Chair of Urology

Doctor of Medicine / Doctor of Philosophy Dual Degree Program

Candidate	Training Program	Program Name
Jack Andrew Reeves	Neurology	University of Michigan Health System, Ann Arbor, MI

Doctor of Medicine / Master of Business Administration Dual Degree Program

Candidate	Training Program	Program Name
Adam Matthew Greenstein	Urology	Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, NC
Tiffany Alafia Sinclair	Internal Medicine/Sisters	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY

Doctor of Medicine/ Master of Public Health Dual Degree Program

Candidate	Training Program	Program Name
Adalia Bilotta	Surgery-Prelim	Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell, New Hyde Park, NY
Katherine Foote	General Surgery	Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell, Bay Shore, NY
Simon Peter Pratt	Family Medicine	Allina Health, St Paul, MN

Doctor of Medicine / Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery / MD Residency Program

Candidate	Training Program	Program Name
Jason Wen	Oral Maxillofacial Surgery	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY

Doctor of Medicine

Candidates for Degrees:

Subject to the completion of all degree requirements, degrees will be conferred as indicated upon those individuals listed herein who were identified by April 1, 2026, and upon such others as may meet the requirements of their respective degrees. Degree recipients will come forward to be congratulated during the commencement ceremony.

The Alpha Omega Alpha Cords

The green and gold cord is being worn by graduating students who are members of the national Alpha Omega Alpha honor medical society.

The Latin Honor Cords

The solid gold cord is being worn by graduating students who have earned the academic distinction of Latin honors including cum laude, magna cum laude, or summa cum laude.

The Gold Humanism Honor Society Cords

The gold and burgundy cord is being worn by graduating students who are members of the national Gold Humanism Honor Society.

Candidate

Daniel Cole Adelsberg
Shahneel Ahmed
Nana Fosu Aikins
Amanda Altman
Elizabeth Kay Altman
Anthony Christian Amador
Christina Andreou
Samantha Fu Ang
Arshia Arjomandi

Henry Avetisian
Mohamed Bah
Amanda Bahgat
Clay Thomas Baron
Justin Baroukhian
Tyler Jeffery Barwald
Claire Eugenia Beecher
Tamari Bekauri
Rachel Berger

Miranda Elizabeth Berkebile
Leah Simone Bernacki
Shaia Eliana Bierman-Chow
Walker Patrick Black
Fernando Aguiar Bomfim
Brayan Leandro Calle Gonzalez
Taylor Victor Camelo
Michael Christopher Carinha
Lawson Castaldo
Deana Grace Chan

Training Program

Otolaryngology
Pediatrics
Internal Medicine
Neurology
Emergency Medicine
Pediatrics
Child Neurology
Psychiatry
Internal Medicine

Orthopaedic Surgery
Surgery-Prelim
Pediatrics
Emergency Medicine
Medicine-Prelim
Emergency Medicine
Obstetrics-Gynecology
Obstetrics-Gynecology
Medicine-Prelim
Phys Medicine & Rehab
Obstetrics-Gynecology
Psychiatry
Internal Medicine
Pediatrics
Urology
Anesthesiology
Psychiatry
Orthopaedic Surgery
Internal Medicine
Neurology

Program Name

Westchester Medical Center, Valhalla, NY
University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
New York-Presbyterian/Queens, Flushing, NY
NYU Long Island School of Medicine, Mineola, NY
New York Presbyterian Hospital, New York, NY
University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
St Bernardine University of California Riverside School of Medicine, San Bernardino, CA
University of Southern California/LAC+USC Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA
University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital, St Petersburg, FL
Strong Memorial Hospital of the University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
UPMC Medical Education, Pittsburgh, PA
Strong Memorial Hospital of the University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
Spectrum Health/Michigan State University, Grand Rapids, MI
University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Cone Health, Greensboro, NC
New York Presbyterian Hospital, New York, NY
University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Temple University Hospital, Philadelphia, PA
Boston University Medical Center, Boston, MA
Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, OH
Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, Newark, NJ
Strong Memorial Hospital of the University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
Temple University Hospital, Philadelphia, PA
Robert Packer Hospital, Sayre, PA
Strong Memorial Hospital of the University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
VBMC Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell, Poughkeepsie, NY

Candidate	Training Program	Program Name
Janus Chan	Psychiatry	University of Nevada Reno School of Medicine, Reno, NV
Ivette Chen	Surgery-Prelim	New York-Presbyterian/Queens, Flushing, NY
Elizabeth Li-Hua Chow	Internal Medicine	Brown University/Rhode Island Hospital-Lifespan, Providence, RI
Madison Amber Clague	Obstetrics-Gynecology	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Owen Philip Cordaro	General Surgery	Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL
Emily Corigliano	Anesthesiology	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Patricia Sofia Corujo Avila	General Surgery	New York Medical College, New York, NY
Chloe Jordan Cottone	Plastic Surgery (Integrated)	University of Chicago Medical Center, Chicago, IL
Patrick Crossen	Medicine-Prelim-LI-Long Island	NYU Grossman Long Island SOM-NY, Mineola, NY
Joseph Robert Current	Anesthesiology	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Benjamin Scott Dale	General Surgery	Strong Memorial Hospital of the University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
Nadine de Nijs	Anesthesiology	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Malaika de Weever	Urology	State University of New York Downstate Health Sciences University, Brooklyn, NY
Devin Keane DeCotes	Internal Medicine	Rutgers Health, New Brunswick, NJ
Abbigail Delmonte	Urology	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Peter James Demjanenko	Internal Medicine	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Mara Devia	Psychiatry	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
John Rankin Dougherty	Orthopaedic Surgery	Strong Memorial Hospital of the University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
Rachel Droznik	Surgery-Prelim/Non-designated	University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
Elisha Earley	Family Medicine	Strong Memorial Hospital of the University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
Jade Edwards	Family Medicine	St Luke's University Hospital, Bethlehem, PA
Tara Ann Edwards	Pediatrics	University of Michigan Health System, Ann Arbor, MI
Sinan Ersan	Ophthalmology	Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC
	Ophthalmology	
Maureen Macneil Fagan	Emergency Medicine	UPMC Medical Education, Pittsburgh, PA
Daniela Rosa Falcone	Obstetrics-Gynecology	Hackensack University Medical Center, Neptune, NJ
Grace Victoria Faulkner	Medicine-Pediatrics	Strong Memorial Hospital of the University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
Marco Uriel Flores	Emergency Medicine	Stony Brook Medicine, Stony Brook, NY
Hannah Foster	Child Neurology	Strong Memorial Hospital of the University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
Hendrick Ben Francois	Neurological Surgery	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Gabriela Alejandra Funez-dePagnier	Neurology	Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA
Karlie Gambino	Pediatrics	UPMC Medical Education, Pittsburgh, PA
Andrew David Gasper	Psychiatry	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Erin Marie Gawel	Otolaryngology	Medical University of South Carolina College of Medicine, Charleston, SC
Serendy Genao Ramirez	Pediatrics	Eastern Virginia Medical School, Norfolk, VA
Sabrina Miriam George	Child Neurology	Montefiore Medical Center/Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, NY
Jason Gershgor	Anesthesiology	New York Presbyterian Hospital, New York, NY
Sarah Ghadersohi	Psychiatry	Albany Medical Center, Albany, NY
George Elia Ghanatios	Int Medicine/ Leadership in Medicine Ed	Case Western Reserve University/University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center, Cleveland, OH
Ryan Goliber	Deferred Residency	
Elissa Goorman	Medicine-Prelim	Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell, Great Neck, NY

Candidate	Training Program	Program Name
Theresa Elizabeth Gossel	Emergency Medicine	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA
Hannah Grace Granger	Family Medicine/St Francis	Bon Secours Richmond Health System, Midlothian, VA
Juliana Marie Greene	Obstetrics-Gynecology	Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD
Samantha Gregoire	Transitional/NWH	Mass General Brigham, Newton, MA
Ariel Joy Harsinay	Dermatology	University of Michigan Health System, Ann Arbor, MI
Marquessa Simone Henry	Surgery-Prelim	Stamford Hospital, Stamford, CT
Rae Ann Hermans	Deferred Residency	Maine Medical Center, Portland, ME
Max William Hernandez	Family Medicine	University of South Florida Morsani College of Medicine, Tampa, FL
Jason Steven Hochwald	Internal Medicine	Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell, Poughkeepsie, NY
Victoria Hoffman	Transitional	University of Miami/Jackson Health System, Miami, FL
Holly Ann Hostenstein	Interventional Radiology (Integ)	St Elizabeth's Medical Center, Brockton, MA
Rahima A Hussain	Transitional/GSMC	Case Western Reserve University/University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center, Cleveland, OH
Ethan Thomas Hutchins	Obstetrics-Gynecology	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Siana Elizabeth Jacobs	Combined Adult/Child Psychiatry	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Wady Jacoby	Anesthesiology	Albany Medical Center, Albany, NY
Sydney Marie Johnson	Obstetrics-Gynecology	Maine-Dartmouth Family Medicine Residency, Augusta, ME
Kyle Kenyon	Emergency Medicine	MedStar Health, Washington, DC
Ali Muhammad Al Mutawakal Khan	Internal Medicine	UPMC Medical Education, Pittsburgh, PA
Brianna Lynn Kinley	Emergency Medicine	Penn State Milton S Hershey Medical Center, Hershey, PA
Katherine Joan Kolodziej	Pediatrics	Strong Memorial Hospital of the University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
Kerryann Elizabeth Koper	Emergency Medicine	Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA
Macrae Alexander Kozody	General Surgery	Brown University/Rhode Island Hospital-Lifespan, Providence, RI
Jesse Michael Kozub	Family Medicine/Olean	Dartmouth-Hitchcock/Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital, Lebanon, NH
John Robert Kraus	Anesthesiology	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Olean, NY
Abby Krysztowicz	Obstetrics-Gynecology	Stanford Health Care, Stanford, CA
Rachael Lynn Kueker	Family Medicine	University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine, Kansas City, MO
Abhinav Yellamraju Kumar	Internal Medicine	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Nayoung Kwak	Family Medicine	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Georgia Anthie Kyriacou	Family Medicine	Strong Memorial Hospital of the University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
Charles Evan Lafargue	Medicine-Prelim	NYU Long Island School of Medicine, Mineola, NY
Michael Anthony LaRock	General Surgery	UPMC Medical Education, Pittsburgh, PA
Juliana Marie Larson	Emergency Medicine/Georgetown-WHC	MedStar Health, Washington, DC
Nicole Lattimore	Surgery-Prelim	University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY
Hannah Carol Lease	Medicine-Pediatrics	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Delaney Lenaghan	Family Medicine	Stamford Hospital, Stamford, CT
Emily Liang	Obstetrics-Gynecology	Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, Oceanside, NY
Dylan Jacob Lis	Orthopaedic Surgery	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Eric Antonio Lovett, Jr.	Surgery-Prelim/Ophthalmology	Stanford Health Care, Stanford, CA
Madelyn Lorene Lux	Ophthalmology	Rutgers Health, Newark, NJ
Bailey Michael Majtyka	Medicine-Pediatrics	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Megan Drew Malueg	Family Medicine	Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science, Rochester, MN
Spencer David Maranto	Neurological Surgery	McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University, Chicago, IL
	Medicine-Prelim	

Candidate	Training Program	Program Name
Umar Masood	Neurology	Rutgers Health, Newark, NJ
Daniel Ferris Maywalt	Internal Medicine	Yale-New Haven Hospital, New Haven, CT
Benjamin Edward Mazur	Anesthesiology	State University of New York Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, NY
Mason Jude McMullen	Orthopaedic Surgery	UPMC Medical Education, Pittsburgh, PA
Chloe Constatine McQuestion	Anesthesiology	University of Florida College of Medicine, Gainesville, FL
Maeanna Mary Merrill	General Surgery	University of Chicago Medical Center, Chicago, IL
Janine Meurer	Pediatrics/Health Services	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Jacob Froehlich Mogerman	Obstetrics-Gynecology	University of Colorado School of Medicine, Aurora, CO
Humberto Jose Molina	Orthopaedic Surgery	St John's Episcopal Hospital-South Shore, Far Rockaway, NY
Michael Gregory Mostowy	Internal medicine	University of Illinois College of Medicine at Chicago, Chicago, IL
Tuka G Mousa	Surgery-Prelim	Hackensack University Medical Center, Brick, NJ
Nitya Jaya Murali	Family Medicine/Osteopathic	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Maarya Muzzammil	Obstetrics-Gynecology	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Msaada Nankumba	Internal Medicine	University of Rochester Med Ctr-NY, Rochester, NY
Kelly Ailsa Nealon	Anesthesiology	Rutgers Health, New Brunswick, NJ
Harry Ngai	Pediatrics	
Andrew Pichai Ngov	Deferred Residency	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Sara Irene Nieto	Anesthesiology	Creighton University SOM Phoenix-AZ, Phoenix, AZ
Dominic Jason Occhino	Obstetrics-Gynecology	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Michel Andres Padilla Mazzeo	Internal Medicine	University of Miami/Jackson Health System, Miami, FL
Alexandra Marie Pado	Urology	UPMC Medical Education, Pittsburgh, PA
Hannah Marie Panzica	Pediatrics	University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA
Fabrizio Angelo Passalacqua	Pediatrics	Case Western Reserve University/University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center, Cleveland, OH
	Psychiatry	McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University, Chicago, IL
Tyler Michael Pauly	Internal Medicine	Strong Memorial Hospital of the University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
Brendan Raymond Perreault	Internal Medicine	Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine, Dayton, OH
Lovely Pierre	Pediatrics	Kaiser Permanente Northern California, Vallejo, CA
Renato Quinones	Family Medicine	Strong Memorial Hospital of the University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
Alaina Catherine Richards	Pediatrics	Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell, Port Jefferson, NY
Janiece Loren Rosado	Internal Medicine	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Baltaj Singh Sandhur	Medicine-Prelim/Ophthalmology	
	Ophthalmology	Kaiser Permanente Northern California, San Francisco, CA
Jonathan Joseph Sarquiz	Internal Medicine	Allegheny Health Network Medical Education Consortium, Pittsburgh, PA
Johann Richard Schwarz	General Surgery	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Lucas Antonio Sepe	Family Medicine	Strong Memorial Hospital of the University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
Pooja Shah	Psychiatry	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Kelsey Rose Shank	General Surgery	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Nuuh Abdikadir Sidali	Internal Medicine	San Antonio Uniformed Services Health Education Consortium, Fort Sam Houston, TX
Ava Rogers Simoncelli	Emergency medicine	University of Central Florida/HCA Healthcare GME, Ocala, FL
Amelia Ellen Simpson	Orthopaedic Surgery/Ocala	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Lovejit Singh	Combined Adult/Child Psychiatry	Urban Health Plan-NY, Bronx, NY
Caleb Skyes	Psychiatry	UPMC Medical Education, Williamsport, PA
Olivia Renee Slotman	Family Medicine	

Candidate	Training Program	Program Name
Evan Manak Sood	Internal Medicine	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA
Joshua Maxwell Sorrentino	Otolaryngology	University of Connecticut School of Medicine, Farmington, CT
Alexandra Rosalie Spath	Orthopaedic Surgery	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Emilee Brooke Stenson	Combined Adult/Child Psychiatry	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Karen Marie Stephenson	Neurology	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Daniel Philip Sullivan	Transitional	HCA Healthcare Redmond Regional Medical Center, Rome, GA
Umair Ahmed Syed	Radiation Oncology	Tufts Medical Center, Boston, MA
Anna Marie Szombathy	Medicine-Prelim	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Zachary Tamweber	Radiology-Diagnostic	Albany Medical Center, Albany, NY
Mathias Tevendale	Neurology	New York Presbyterian Hospital, New York, NY
Allison McLean Thayer	Orthopaedic Surgery	Westchester Medical Center, Valhalla, NY
Michael Toledano	Surgery	Dignity Health East Valley, Chandler, AZ
Zakwan Uddin	Neurology	Strong Memorial Hospital of the University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
Maria Victoria Urbina Castillo	Internal Medicine	Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell, Great Neck, NY
Emily Vallee	Transitional	Hackensack University Medical Center, North Bergen, NJ
Roman Velichkovski	Radiology-Diagnostic	Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell, Manhasset, NY
Alexandra S Wadhvani	Family Medicine/Pawtucket	Kent Hospital, Pawtucket, RI
Joseph F Wahba	Orthopaedic Surgery	University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City, IA
Ian William Wallis	Internal Medicine	University at Buffalo SOM-NY, Buffalo, NY
Jeremy Ian Wells	Surgery-Prelim	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
Tenzin Namdol Yongye	Pediatrics	Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX
Mary Youssef	Emergency Medicine	Strong Memorial Hospital of the University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
Callista C Zayatz	Internal Medicine	Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell, Great Neck, NY
Sam Zheng	Internal Medicine	Temple University Hospital, Philadelphia, PA
YiJia Zou	Medicine-Prelim-LI	NYU Long Island School of Medicine, Mineola, NY
	Anesthesiology/NYU LI	NYU Grossman School of Medicine, New York, NY
	Pediatrics	University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY
	Internal Medicine	Christiana Care Health Services Inc, Newark, DE
	Emergency Medicine	Zucker SOM-Northwell NS/LIJ-NY, Manhasset, NY

The Richard Sarkin/Emeritus Faculty Chapter of the Gold Humanism Honor Society

The Richard Sarkin/Emeritus Faculty Chapter of the Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS) stands as a visible expression of the School's commitment to the promotion of humanism in medicine and medical education. Inspired by the vision of Dr. Arnold P. Gold, the GHHS strives to place the patient in the heart of every healthcare interaction. To foster the "habit of humanism," the GHHS recognizes rising fourth year medical students who have demonstrated exemplary attitudes and behaviors in clinical and campus life, leadership, compassion and dedication to service. Members have been selected based on peer nominations and review by the Selection Committee.

Class of 2026

Amanda Bahgat
Rachel Berger
Janus Chan
Madison Amber Clague
Elisha Earley
Daniela Rosa Falcone
Hendrick Ben Francois
Karlie Gambino
Juliana Marie Greene

Max William Hernandez
Sydney Marie Johnson
Kyle Kenyon
Rachael Lynn Kueker
Juliana Marie Larson
Delaney Lenaghan
Maeanna Mary Merrill
Janine Muerer
Ali Muhammed Khan

Fabrizio Angelo Passalacqua
Tyler Michael Pauly
Brendan Raymond Perreault
Baltaj Singh Sandhur
Joshua Maxwell Sorrentino
Alexandra Rosalie Spath
Emilee Brooke Stenson
Allison McLean Thayer
Zakwan Uddin

Alpha Omega Alpha

Honor Medical Society Class of 2026

Daniel Cole Adelsberg
Henry Avetisian
Tamari Bekauri
Elizabeth Li-Hua Chow
Madison Amber Clague
Chloe Jordan Cottone
Joseph Robert Current
Benjamin Scott Dale
Sinan Ersan
Daniela Rosa Falcone
Erin Marie Gawel
Jason Gershgor
Juliana Marie Greene
Adam Matthew Greenstein

Samantha Gregoire
Holly Ann Houenstein
Sydney Marie Johnson
Katherine Joan Kolodziej
Macrae Alexander Kozody
Michael Anthony LaRock
Eric Antonio Lovett, Jr.
Madelyn Lorene Lux
Megan Drew Malueg
Spencer David Maranto
Daniel Ferris Maywalt
Benjamin Edward Mazur
Mason Jude McMullen
Chloe Constatine McQuestion

Michel Andres Padilla Mazzeo
Alexandra Marie Pado
Tyler Michael Pauly
Brendan Raymond Perreault
Jack Andrew Reeves
Alaina Catherine Richards
Amelia Ellen Simpson
Evan Manak Sood
Joshua Maxwell Sorrentino
Alexandra Rosalie Spath
Anna Marie Szombathy
Michael Toledano
Emily Vallee
Jeremy Ian Wells

Honors and Awards

DEPARTMENT OF ANESTHESIOLOGY

Lieberman Award

interest and aptitude in the study of Anesthesiology

Joseph Robert Current
John Robert Kraus

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MEDICINE

Department of Emergency Medicine Scholastic Award

outstanding academic record in Emergency Medicine

Theresa Elizabeth Gossel

Society for Academic Emergency Medicine

excellence in Emergency Medicine

Elizabeth Kay Altman

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE

American Academy of Family Physicians President's Award

outstanding academic record and a commitment to practice Family Medicine

Rachael Lynn Kueker

Charles Bauda Award

academic excellence during third year

Elisha Earley
Jade Edwards
Hannah Grace Granger
Rae Ann Hermans
Jesse Michael Kozub

G. Norris Miner Memorial Award

demonstration of outstanding clinical competence in Family Medicine

Lucas Antonio Sepe

Mark A. Petrino Award

demonstrated interest and aptitude for the general practice of Family Medicine

Bailey Michael Majtyka
Wady Jacoby

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

The Bukowski Award

characteristics of high integrity, loyalty, thoughtfulness and thoroughness

Elizabeth Li-Hua Chow
Grace Faulkner

Patrick Costello Award

achieved highest grade on the written exam for Internal Medicine

George Elia Ghanatios

David K. Miller Prize in Medicine

competence, humility and humanity in caring for the sick

Sam Zheng

Stephen J. Paolini Award

best exemplified the qualities of dedication and compassion which Dr. Paolini personified

Lawson Castaldo

Emilie Davis Rodenberg Memorial Award

demonstrated strong interest in the study of diabetes

Mara Devia
Evan Manak Sood

Harry E. and Loretta A. Jordan Award

recognizes a student for noteworthy investigation of cancer and neoplastic disease

Nuuh Abdikadir Sidali

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE-PEDIATRICS

The Dr. Beth J. Wutz Memorial Award

a student who demonstrates a dedication to both intelligent and empathic care of both children and young adults

Hannah Carol Lease

DEPARTMENT OF NEUROLOGY

American Academy of Neurology Student Prize for Excellence

sustained interest and excellence in Neurology

Hannah Foster
Anna Marie Szombathy

Bernard H. Smith Memorial Award in Clinical Neurology

most outstanding performance in the Neurology clerkship

Tyler Michael Pauly

Philip P. Sang Memorial Award

ability to relate well to patients, faculty, and staff

Hannah Foster

DEPARTMENT OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY

Hans J. Lowenstein Award in Obstetrics

most outstanding clinical work

Madison Amber Clague
Daniela Rosa Falcone
Sydney Marie Johnson

Clyde L. Randall Society Award in Gynecology-Obstetrics

diligence, integrity, scholarship and leadership

Juliana Marie Greene

DEPARTMENT OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

Dr. Thomas J. Guttuso Award

academic excellence in Ophthalmology

Sinan Ersan

Harry E. and Loretta A. Jordan Award

proficiency in Ophthalmology

Eric Antonio Lovett, Jr.

E. J. Weisenheimer Award

excellence in scholarship and patient care in Ophthalmology

Baltaj Singh Sandhur

DEPARTMENT OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY

Department of Otolaryngology Chairman's Award

demonstrated outstanding achievement in Otolaryngology

Erin Marie Gawel

DEPARTMENT OF ORTHOPAEDICS

Dr. Benjamin E. and Lila Oblatz Prize

academic achievement and interest in Orthopaedic Surgery

Emily Vallee

Honors and Awards

DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY & ANATOMICAL SCIENCES

Morris & Sadie Stein Award

excellence in Neuroscience

Elizabeth Li-Hua Chow

DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS

Children's Hospital Foundation Prize

excellence in understanding childhood diseases

Walker Patrick Black

Richard T. Sarkin, M.D. Award/Buffalo Pediatric Society Award

outstanding clinical skills and commitment to primary care Pediatrics

Maeanna Mary Merrill

Frederick B. Wilkes Pediatric Award

dedication to patients and the field of Pediatrics

Joseph F Wahba

Pediatric Chair Award

excellence in Pediatrics

Katherine Joan Kolodziej

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY

Gilbert M. Beck Memorial Prize in Psychiatry

academic excellence in Psychiatry

Taylor Victor Camelo

S. Mouchly Small, M.D. Award

ability to relate well to patients, faculty, and staff

Andrew David Gasper

Farney R. Wurlitzer Prize

outstanding work in Psychiatry

Lovejit Singh

DEPARTMENT OF RADIOLOGY

Dr. George Alker Award

excellence in Radiology

Zakwan Uddin

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

Buffalo Surgical Society Prize in Surgery

academic excellence in the clinical years

Macrae Alexander Kozody

Department of Surgery Chair's Award

superior clinical performance and the highest score on the Surgery exam

Kelsey Rose Shank

Dr. Heinrich Leonhardt Prize in Surgery

academic excellence

Benjamin Scott Dale

RESEARCH AWARDS

Bacelli Award

most outstanding research by a medical student

Henry Avetisian

Robert M. Bannerman Memorial Research Award

most notable research in biomedical science initiated during the UB Jacobs School of Medicine's Summer Research Fellowship Program

Nitya Jaya Murali

Erika Bruck Award

research or thesis based on concepts of the basic sciences as applied to a clinical problem

Victoria Hoffman

Research Honors Awards

a commitment to excellence in research during medical school

Arshia Arjomandi
Henry Avetisian
Patricia Sofia Corujo Avila
Justin Baroukhian
Ivette Chen
Chloe Jordan Cottone
Benjamin Scott Dale
Sinan Ersan
Hendrick Ben Francois
Erin Marie Gawel
Jason Gershgorin
Elissa Goorman
Ariel Joy Harsinay
Eric Antonio Lovett, Jr.
Megan Drew Malueg
Benjamin Edward Mazur
Chloe Constatine McQuestion
Janine Meurer
Jacob Froehlich Mogerman
Evan Manak Sood
Alexandra Rosalie Spath
Anna Marie Szombathy
Emily Vallee

Thesis Honors Awards

outstanding research supported by a written thesis satisfying the School's highest standard

Daniela Rosa Falcone
Victoria Hoffman
Nitya Jaya Murali

Honors and Awards

ASSOCIATION AWARDS AND MEMORIALS

Dr. Avery Ellis Memorial Award

for work advancing the curriculum or implementing a new and lasting school initiative

Madison Amber Clague
Daniela Rosa Falcone

Dr. James Goldinger Curriculum Leadership Award

leadership, enthusiasm, and a dedication to teaching

Allison McLean Thayer

National Medical Association Award

excellence in scholarship, leadership and commitment to community service

Hendrick Ben Francois
Sydney Marie Johnson

John Paroski, M.D. Memorial Award

compassion and excellence in patient care

Bailey Michael Majtyka

The Dr. Karen Schupak Memorial Medical Student Award

demonstrates a high degree of empathy when working with patients

Maeanna Mary Merrill

Maimonides Medical Society Award

Most outstanding academic performance coupled with wisdom and compassion

Katherine Foote

MEDICAL SCHOOL AWARDS AND DEAN'S AWARDS

The Evan Calkins M.D. and Virginia Calkins M.D. Primary Care Achievement Award

exceptional performance in primary care and outstanding personal characteristics including compassion, integrity, judgement, and leadership

Tara Ann Edwards

Elizabeth Award

unusual compassion and a noteworthy personal and professional sense of integrity and ethics

Delaney Lenaghan

Bernhardt & Sophie Gottlieb Award

expertise in areas outside medicine

Siana Elizabeth Jacobs

Colonel and Mrs. Robert C. M. Liu Award

demonstrated commitment to the US military through family or personal service

Ava Rogers Simoncelli

Medical Alumni Association Award

outstanding community service and commitment

Andrew David Gasper

Medical Alumni Association Dean's Award

participation in extracurricular activities in the Medical School while maintaining a high standard of academic excellence

Sydney Marie Johnson

Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award

exemplary compassion and sensitivity in the delivery of care

Grace Victoria Faulkner

Merck Academic Excellence Award

outstanding academics coupled with noteworthy humanism and leadership

Walker Patrick Black
Elizabeth Li-Hua Chow
Joshua Maxwell Sorrentino
Anna Marie Szombathy

James Platt White Society Award

intellectual vigor and moral courage

Joseph Robert Current
Nadine de Nijs

Harold J. Levy Award in Psychophysiological Medicine

worked to make a positive difference on the well-being of fellow medical students

Janine Meurer

The Roy E. Seibel Sr. MD Medical School Award

Academic excellence and outstanding character

Megan Drew Malueg

Wendel Award in Wellness and Inclusion

is presented to a student who has worked to advocate for their peer's inclusivity or wellness

Karlie Gambino
Katherine Joan Kolodziej
Allison McLean Thayer

Carosella Award

Strength of character, personal integrity, academic achievement

Nuuu Abdikadir Sidali

Leonard Katz Award

is presented to an outstanding fourth year medical student graduate who is a GHHS member and exhibits leadership, mentorship, and an impact on humanism in medicine.

Amanda Bahgat

Charge Of Maimonides

"May the Almighty, source of Mercy, be with you in all your efforts to heal the sick.

"May you be filled with love for your art and for mankind.

"May the thirst for gain and desire for fame be far from your heart, for these are the enemies of pity and the ministers of hate.

"May your strength be preserved that you may be able to restore the strength of the rich and the poor, the good and the bad, the friend and the foe. May you see in the sufferer the human alone.

"When those wiser teach you, may you be humble to learn, for the human mind is so limited, and the art of healing is so vast.

"May there never arise in you the notion that you know enough, but may you always have strength, leisure, and zeal to enlarge your knowledge. Your work is great and the mind of mankind presses forward forever.

"You have been chosen to watch over the life and death of the creatures of the Most High, and from the Most High will come the guidance and strength that shall make this immense work of avail."

Latin Honors

Henry Avetisian

Clay T. Baron

Joseph Robert Current

Nadine de Nijs

Karlie Gambino

Andrew David Gasper

Ethan Hutchins

Sydney Marie Johnson

Kyle Kenyon

Kerryann Koper

Kelly Ailsa Nealon

Andrew Pichai Ngov

Sara Irene Nieto

Alexandra Marie Pado

Karen M. Stephenson

Daniel Philip Sullivan

Umair A. Syed

Ian W. Wallis

Tenzin Yongye

Sam Zheng

Nana Fosu Aikins

Leah Simone Bernacki

Taylor Victor Camelo

Madison Amber Clague

Owen Cordaro

Benjamin S. Dale

Devin DeCotes

Abbigail Cady Delmonte

Tara Ann Edwards

Theresa Elizabeth Gossel

Holly A. Houenstein

Siana Elizabeth Jacobs

Georgia A. Kyriacou

Juliana M. Larson

Benjamin E. Mazur

Michel Andres Padilla Mazzeo

Fabrizio Angelo Passalacqua

Jack Andrew Reeves

Amelia Ellen Simpson

Joshua Maxwell Sorrentino

Emilee B. Stenson

Daniel Cole Adelsberg

Shaia Eliana Bierman-Chow

Elizabeth Li-hua Chow

Chloe J. Cottone

Sinan Ersan

Daniela Rosa Falcone

Grace Victoria Faulkner

Hannah Foster

Erin Marie Gawel

Jason Gershgor

George Elia Ghanatios

Hannah Grace Granger

Juliana Marie Greene

Adam Matthew Greenstein

Samantha Gregoire

Katherine Joan Kolodziej

Macrae Alexander Kozody

Michael A. LaRock

Madelyn Lorene Lux

Megan Drew Malueg

Spencer D. Maranto

Daniel F. Maywalt

Mason McMullen

Chloe Constatine McQuestion

Tyler Pauly

Brendan Raymond Perreault

Alaina Catherine Richards

Lucas Antonio Sepe

Evan Manak Sood

Alexandra Rosalie Spath

Anna Marie Szombathy

Michael Toledano

Emily Kathryn Vallee

Joseph F. Wahba

Jeremy Ian Wells

Dean's Letter of Commendation

Daniel Cole Adelsberg ¹²
Nana Fosu Aikins ¹²
Elizabeth Altman ¹
Christina Andreou ²³
Samantha Fu Ang ²
Arshia Arjomandi ¹
Henry Avetisian ¹³
Clay Thomas Baron ²³
Justin Baroukhain ¹
Tamari Bekauri ¹
Rachel Berger ³
Leah Simone Bernacki ¹²
Shaia Eliana Bierman-Chow ¹²³
Walker Patrick Black ¹²
Fernando Aguiar Bomfim ²
Taylor Victor Camelo ¹²³
Lawson Castaldo ²
Elizabeth Li-Hua Chow ¹²³
Madison Amber Clague ¹²³
Owen Philip Cordaro ¹²³
Chloe Jordan Cottone ¹²³
Joseph Robert Current ¹²
Benjamin Scott Dale ¹²³
Nadine de Nijs ¹²
Devin Keane DeCotes ¹²
Abbigail Delmonte ¹²³
Peter James Demjanenko ¹²
Elisha Earley ¹
Tara Edwards ¹²
Sinan Ersan ¹²³
Maureen Macneil Fagan ³
Daniela Rosa Falcone ¹²³
Grace Victoria Faulkner ¹²³
Hannah Grace Finson ¹²
Marco U Flores ¹
Hannah Foster ¹²
Gabriela Alejandra Funez-dePagnier ²
Karlie Gambino ¹²
Andrew David Gasper ¹²
Erin Marie Gawel ¹²³
Sabrina Miriam George ²
Jason Gershgorin ¹²³
Sarah Ghadersohi ¹
George Elia Ghanatios ¹²
Theresa Elizabeth Gossel ¹²³
Juliana Marie Greene ¹²³
Adam Greenstein ¹²³
Samantha Gregoire ¹²³
Ariel Joy Harsinay ²
Marquessa Henry ¹
Max William Hernandez ²
Jason Steven Hochwald ²
Holly Ann Hostenstein ¹²³
Ethan Thomas Hutchins ¹²
Siana Elizabeth Jacobs ¹²³
Wady Jacoby ¹
Sydney Johnson ¹²
Alaina Catherine Kenny ¹²³
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Daniel Ferris Maywalt ¹²³
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Jeremy Ian Wells ¹²³
Tenzin Namdol Yongye ¹²
Sam Zheng ²³

Academic Costume

In 1971, to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, the first division of the University, an official academic gown*, uniquely that of the Jacobs School, was adopted.

The gown and hood are of royal blue, one of the colors of both the University at Buffalo and the State University of New York. The panels and chevrons are of hunter green velvet, the traditional color of the discipline of medicine, and are outlined in silver. A silver Aesculapian staff, classical symbol of medicine, is embroidered on the left panel. The octagonal tam, which is hunter green with a silver tassel, replaces the traditional, "mortarboard" of the British universities and is a return to the hat styles employed in the Middle Ages in continental universities.

A Doctor of Philosophy academic gown, unique to the Jacobs School, was adopted in 1979. The gown and hood are also royal blue, but the panels and chevrons are "doctor of philosophy blue" with a silver outline. A blue velvet octagonal tam with a silver tassel complements the gown and hood.

The Oath

I swear to fulfill, to the best of my ability, this covenant:

I will respect the scientific gains of those physicians and scientists in whose steps I walk, and gladly share such knowledge as is mine with those who are to follow.

I will remember that there is both art and science to medicine.

I will pursue the expansion of my knowledge throughout my life for the benefit of my patients.

I will practice medicine with conscience and dignity.

I will respect the privacy of my patients and not judge them.

I will prevent disease whenever I can; for prevention is preferable to cure.

Most especially I will tread with care in matters of life and death. If it be merely within my abilities to help ease suffering at the end of a life, may I face this awesome responsibility with humility and awareness of my own frailty.

I vow always to act to preserve the finest traditions of my calling and may I long experience the joy of healing those who seek my help.

Charge Of Maimonides

"May the Almighty, source of Mercy, be with you in all your efforts to heal the sick.

"May you be filled with love for your art and for mankind.

"May the thirst for gain and desire for fame be far from your heart, for these are the enemies of pity and the ministers of hate.

"May your strength be preserved that you may be able to restore the strength of the rich and the poor, the good and the bad, the friend and the foe. May you see in the sufferer the human alone.

"When those wiser teach you, may you be humble to learn, for the human mind is so limited, and the art of healing is so vast.

"May there never arise in you the notion that you know enough, but may you always have strength, leisure, and zeal to enlarge your knowledge. Your work is great and the mind of mankind presses forward forever.

"You have been chosen to watch over the life and death of the creatures of the Most High, and from the Most High will come the guidance and strength that shall make this immense work of avail."

The Mace

From its origin as a weapon of the Middle Ages, the mace has evolved into a symbol of authority associated with the formal ceremonial rituals of educational, religious, and governmental institutions with a western European heritage.

The traditional mace incorporates in its design elements of the history of the institution, its origin, its discipline, or its relationships. The School of Medicine's mace, which was designed and constructed by Dr. Robert L. Brown, follows this tradition.

Mounted on the drum-shaped head are six rectangular, faceted chips of red sandstone. They are fragments of a surviving block from the first School of Medicine built by the University in 1848 and occupied until 1893. These stones represent the original six departments of study at the School.

Surmounting the head is a crown of cast silver with six oval pieces of polished jade. The dark green color of jade is the academic color of medicine, and the stone has the additional folklore attribution of relieving the wearer's back pain.

Rising above the spikes of the crown, a forked silver staff of Aesculapius is surrounded by a single serpent—the authentic caduceus of medicine.

Implanted in the head of the mace is a seed from a Plane tree (which grows on the island of Cos in Asia Minor) under which Hippocrates is

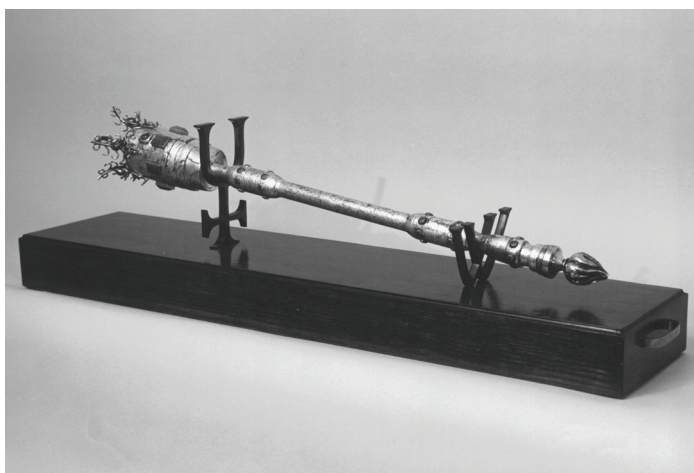
reputed to have taught the beginnings of scientific medicine, the origin of the practices of the western world.

Located at the end of the mace's shaft is a silver flame finial cast of a fragment of woodwork from the library of the School of Medicine located on High Street and occupied from 1892 to 1953. The flaming urns (a motif of the library) represented the eternal search for knowledge. The wooden form of the mace is covered with antiqued silver leaf.

The cradle holding the mace consists of two rests in the form of medieval alchemist symbols. The larger symbol is that of the element and Roman god Mercury, associated by the ancients with health. The smaller symbol represents the element silver and the Roman goddess Diana, helper of women in childbirth. The oak planking of the base is library shelving (now over ninety years old) from the School on High Street.

Mythology, folklore, ancient traditions of medicine, and elements of this University's history in the education of physicians are in the School of Medicine mace.

During the commencement ceremonies, the School's mace is carried by one of Marshals. Following the processional, the mace is placed in its cradle, which is located on the ceremonial stage. At the conclusion of the exercises, the Marshal removes the mace from the cradle and carries it in the recessional.



The Aesculapian Staff

The Aesculapian staff, traditional symbol of medicine, has its origins in Greek mythology.

According to legend, Apollo, the Greek god of health and pestilence, taught the Centaur Chiron the art of healing. Chiron, in turn, taught the art to Achilles and Aesculapius. The latter, many historians believe, actually lived and practiced medicine about 1250 B.C.

In Greek mythology, Aesculapius cured his patients by having his sacred serpents lick the ill person. His children, Panacea and Hygeia, were personifications of health. Fearing that Aesculapius might make humans immune to disease and, hence, immortal, Zeus slew Aesculapius.

The cult that developed about Aesculapius saw the construction of temples where the sick would go to be licked by sacred serpents or bathed in healing waters. The staff with one serpent coiled about it became the symbol of Aesculapius and eventually the symbol of medicine.

The winged staff with two serpents intertwined is the symbol of Mercury, the messenger of Greek gods, and has no relevance to healing or medicine, although it is mistakenly used by some to denote medicine.

A replica of the staff* is used in the School's commencement ceremonies and is carried by the Chief Marshal during the processional. Following the invocation, he presents the staff to the Dean. This symbolizes the presentation of the graduating class and opens the exercises. To close the ceremonies, the Dean returns the staff to the Chief Marshal.

Upon receipt of the staff, the Marshal announces the conclusion of the exercises and then proceeds to lead the recessional from the ceremonial stage.

*Designed by Dr Robert L. Brown

UB Alma Mater

*Music by Walter S. Goodale, MD, 1903.
Lyrics adapted by UB students in 2006 for contemporary use.*

Verse 1:

The pride of our spirit and tradition,
Our alma mater's truth and name declare.
Celebrate our history and wisdom,
O let us all prepare to sing her glory.

Refrain:

To Buffalo all hail to thee,
Noble and strong it's our university!
To blue and white pledge loyalty,
Singing, I will always remember thee!

Verse 2:

We'll ever keep our standards high,
And sing UB's praises to the sky.
Receiving the finest education,
Our knowledge we impart unto the nations.
(Repeat refrain)

Verse 3:

Our friends we've made with ties that bind,
A union of our spirit, heart and mind.
Together we'll continue life's journey,
O may dear Buffalo forever be.
(Repeat refrain)

Medical Alumni Association Letter



Dear Class of 2026,

On behalf of the Medical Alumni Association, congratulations on earning your Doctor of Medicine degree. This moment is the culmination of years of dedication, resilience, and purpose, and it reflects not only your hard work, but also the support of the many people who encouraged you along the way. Take a moment to reflect on all you have accomplished and to be proud of every step that brought you here.

Today, you join a lifelong community. We are proud to welcome you into the Jacobs School alumni network, a community that will remain part of your journey as you begin residency and continue shaping the future of medicine. Being part of the Medical Alumni

Association offers invaluable connections, meaningful opportunities, and a lasting sense of belonging. Whether through mentorship, professional relationships, shared experiences, or support during the many transitions ahead, this network is here to help you grow and thrive.

As you move into this next chapter, carry the strength and values of UB with you. Stay connected to one another and to the alumni community that is ready to support, encourage, and celebrate you. And as your own career unfolds, we hope you will one day pay it forward by lifting up the next generation of UB medical students and contributing to the broader medical community.

The bonds you have built here matter. Reunions, milestones, and shared memories with classmates and faculty will continue to bring you back together over the years. Your place in this community does not end at graduation. We are always here for you, and we hope you will always feel connected to Jacobs and to the Medical Alumni Association.

Stay in touch, share your journey, and remember that the hard work and dedication that brought you to this moment will continue to guide the impact you make in the lives of others.

Welcome to the alumni network, and congratulations once again!

Sincerely,

Jessica Donhauser, MD '13

President, Medical Alumni Association (2026–2028)
Assistant Dean for Student and Academic Affairs; and
Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

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*UB alumnus/alumna/alum

ON THE COVER:

The modern seal for the University at Buffalo harks back to a design adopted in 1923 to reflect the evolution of the university from separate schools into a more close-knit organization. Though the seal has been revised several times over the decades, the foundational elements remain: a proud bison signifying the city of Buffalo atop a shield supported by the palm leaves of victory and emblazoned with the flames of wisdom.

