

Spring 5-4-2015

2015 Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine Convocation

Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine, Florida International University

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HERBERT WERTHEIM COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

CONVOCAATION

MAY 4, 2015





Dear Graduates of 2015:

On behalf of President Mark B. Rosenberg, Provost Ken Furton, and the entire faculty and staff, I am honored to congratulate you on your graduation from Florida International University Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine (FIU HWCOM). It is a tremendous honor for us to be entrusted with the task of teaching, training, mentoring and guiding you on your path to becoming physicians, and it brings us great joy to celebrate your commencement today.

Graduating from medical school is a momentous achievement and an important step in your personal and professional development—but this is just one step along a path that is yours to create. I am touched by the words of Sir William Osler, a Canadian physician and one of the “Big Four” founding professors at Johns Hopkins Hospital:

“The hardest conviction to get into the mind of a beginner is that the education upon which he[she] is engaged is not a college course, not a medical course, but a life course, for which the work of a few years under teachers is but a preparation.”

On behalf of all of your teachers at FIU HWCOM, I am confident that your dedication and hard work have equipped you with the knowledge, skills and attributes required to become excellent physicians and leaders and—most importantly—lifelong learners. As you move on to residency, fellowships, clinical practice, research, and other academic and personal pursuits, carry with you the pioneering spirit that has driven the creation of our new college of medicine at FIU as you continually strive to learn and to serve and to make this world a better place.

Godspeed and good luck,

John A. Rock, M.D.

John A. Rock, M.D.

Founding Dean and Senior Vice President for Health Affairs

Florida International University Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine

Convocation Program

ACADEMIC PROCESSION	Saint Andrew’s Pipe Band of Miami
CONVOCATION MARSHAL	Pedro J. Greer Jr., M.D. <i>Interim Chair, Department of Medicine Chair, Department of Humanities, Health and Society</i>
FACULTY MARSHALS	Yolangel Hernandez Suarez, M.D. <i>Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education</i> Cheryl Brewster, Ed.D. <i>Assistant Dean for Diversity and Inclusion</i>
STUDENT MARSHALS	Marin Gillis, Ph.D. <i>Associate Professor, Division of Medicine and Society, Department of Humanities, Health and Society</i> Zeidan Hammad, M.D. <i>Assistant Professor, Division of Family Medicine, Department of Humanities, Health and Society</i>
CONVENER	John A. Rock, M.D. <i>Founding Dean and Senior Vice President for Health Affairs</i>
THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND FIU ALMA MATER	Veronica Marie Alvarez, M.D., <i>Class of 2015</i> Jessica Jeanne Batlle, M.D., <i>Class of 2015</i> Silvia Patricia Coronel, M.D., <i>Class of 2015</i> Michaela Wendy Georgia Gaffey, M.D., <i>Class of 2015</i> Robert Michael Guido, M.D., <i>Class of 2015</i> Mary Frances Kearns, M.D., <i>Class of 2015</i> Marta Lauren Papoosha, M.D., <i>Class of 2015</i> Rebecca Elizabeth Weisenfeld, M.D., <i>Class of 2015</i>
OPENING REMARKS	Carolyn D. Runowicz, M.D. <i>Executive Associate Dean for Academic Affairs</i>
INTRODUCTION AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	John A. Rock, M.D. <i>Founding Dean and Senior Vice President for Health Affairs</i>
REMARKS	Herbert A. Wertheim, O.D., D.SC. <i>Founding Chairman and Trustee Emeritus</i>
INTRODUCTION OF CONVOCATION SPEAKER	Robert L. Hernandez Jr., M.D. <i>Executive Associate Dean for Student Affairs</i>

CONVOCATION ADDRESS	J. Patrick O’Leary, M.D. <i>Founding Executive Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs</i>
PRESENTATION OF SENIOR CLASS GIFT	Luv N. Hajirawala, M.D. <i>President, Class of 2015</i>
INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT SPEAKER	Adrian L. Jones, J.D. <i>Associate Dean for Student Affairs</i>
STUDENT ADDRESS	Alyssa Dayne Swick, M.D. <i>Class of 2015</i>

Presentation of Hoods and Diplomas

NARRATOR	Robert L. Hernandez Jr., M.D. <i>Executive Associate Dean for Student Affairs</i>
HOODS	George Dambach, Ph.D. <i>Associate Dean for Curriculum and Medical Education</i> Karin Esposito, M.D., Ph.D. <i>Associate Dean for Academic Affairs</i> David Graham, M.D. <i>Associate Dean for Clinical Medical Education</i> Vivian Obeso, M.D. <i>Assistant Dean for Curriculum and Medical Education</i>
DIPLOMAS	Carolyn D. Runowicz, M.D. <i>Executive Associate Dean for Academic Affairs</i>
ADMINISTRATION OF PHYSICIAN’S OATH	J. Patrick O’Leary, M.D. <i>Founding Executive Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs</i>
CLOSING REMARKS	John A. Rock, M.D. <i>Founding Dean and Senior Vice President for Health Affairs</i>
RECESSIONAL	

The History of FIU’s Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine

Florida International University Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine arose from a community need for access to medical education and a projected critical shortage of physicians in the state and nationwide. In March 2006, the Florida Board of Governors of the State University System of Florida approved FIU’s plans for establishing a college of medicine. In May 2006, the state legislature of Florida authorized the creation of the new college and immediately thereafter FIU began to develop an innovative, 21st century approach to health care and medical education. In the fall of 2006, FIU selected John A. Rock, M.D., MSPH, as founding dean and senior vice president for medical affairs of its new college of medicine.

In April 2007, the college submitted its application for preliminary accreditation to the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME). The application described a four-year curriculum plan that forgoes the traditional pattern of two years of basic science followed by two years of clinical training and instead integrates clinical and basic science over the entire four-year medical education experience. The program is anchored by a set of competency expectations with core clinical conditions and clinical skills required for every student. The program is a continuum of advancing complexity of study with a formal curriculum in professional development and one-on-one student–physician interaction in a variety of health care settings throughout South Florida. A required research component fosters a spirit of inquiry and supports the missions of the college and its parent university. A service-learning program, Green Family Foundation NeighborhoodHELP™ fosters cultural competence and interdisciplinary teamwork, immersing medical students and students from other disciplines into select South Florida neighborhoods to advance individual and community health. In 2012, HWCOM launched a NeighborhoodHELP™ Mobile Health Center that provides primary and preventive health care services to NeighborhoodHELP™ household members in our communities. The college received preliminary accreditation from the LCME in February 2008, allowing the school to prepare to accept its inaugural class of students in the fall of 2009.

Since its inception, the college has completed each step of the accreditation process in the shortest time possible, achieving full accreditation from the LCME in February 2013. The college is on target to reach full capacity of 480 students in August 2015. In 2011, the university’s faculty group practice, FIU Health, opened a state-of-the-art facility on the FIU Modesto A. Maidique Campus, expanding FIU Health’s services and hours of operation to serve the health care needs of the community. A second FIU Health facility opened at Broward Health Medical Center in February 2013. The college employs a highly diverse faculty and staff, creating learning environments that foster the development of culturally competent physicians prepared to improve the quality of patient care.

On March 15, 2013, Florida International University Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine celebrated its first Match Day, with all graduating medical students matching to one of their chosen residencies. On April 29, 2013, convocation ceremonies for the inaugural class marked the culmination of the first full cycle of the Doctor of Medicine degree program at Florida International University.



Herbert Wertheim O.D., DSc, M.D. (hc)
Founding Chairman, Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine
Trustee Emeritus Florida International University
Chairman and CEO, Brain Power Incorporated

Dr. Herbert A. Wertheim is an inventor, educator, scientist, eye physician, clinician, entrepreneur, philanthropist and community leader. Wertheim’s enduring discoveries and contributions in eye care and other scientific fields have touched millions during his forty years of patient care and eye research. He and his research team have been granted more than 100 patents, copyrights and trademarks.

Wertheim founded Brain Power Incorporated (BPI) more than 40 years ago. BPI is the world’s largest manufacturer of ophthalmic instruments and chemicals for eye care professionals and optical laboratories, with extensive research and manufacturing facilities in the United States and Europe. For many years, he had a clinical practice specializing in Visual Neurology and Optometry at the University Eye and Medical Center in Coral Gables, Florida. Wertheim was a distinguished lecturer in Physiological Optics and Optometry at the world-renowned Bascom Palmer Eye Institute and adjunct professor of physics in the graduate program at the University of Miami. He also served as director of the University of Tennessee Medical School Computer Center, directing more than 40 programmers and researchers.

Wertheim is a graduate of Brevard Community College and the University of Florida, where he studied electrical and computer engineering. He also received a B.S. in optical engineering and a Doctor of Optometry degree from the Southern College of Optometry in association with the University of Tennessee Medical School. Wertheim was awarded the Doctor of Science, honoris causa, from FIU for his distinguished scientific and clinical discoveries. He has completed post graduate studies at Stanford University, London School of Economics, Northwestern University, Harvard and IMD in Switzerland. He is also a member of University of Florida Blue Key.

More than 35 years ago, Wertheim was the first to publicize and stress to eye care professionals the prevention of cataracts and the management of other retinal pathology. He emphasized the fact that UV light was a contributing cause of cataracts and retinal deterioration. Wertheim’s invention of UV-400 absorbers for eyeglasses as well as other discoveries have been beneficial in reducing cataracts and other eye pathologies.

Wertheim has served as chairman of the Board of Directors and board member of the FIU Foundation from 1988 through 2001. He is a founding member of the FIU Board of Trustees and served as chairman and vice chairman of the university’s most successful capital campaign, which raised more than \$200 million.

As chairman of FIU’s Academic Affairs Committee, he conceived, initiated and won the approval of the university’s trustees for the College of Medicine and was asked to chair the Medical College Initiative. In May 2009, he and the Dr. Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Family Foundation made a \$20 million contribution that became \$40 million with state matching funds to establish multiple endowments. They support student scholarships, research fellows, leadership lectures, medical community advancement, and eight endowed chairs for the College of Medicine. In June 2009, the FIU Board of Trustees named the college the Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine in his honor and named him founding chairman of the College of Medicine and trustee emeritus of the university.

In 2011, he was awarded the Horatio Alger Distinguished American Medal of Honor for his lifetime accomplishments in business and philanthropy.

The La Jolla Institute of Allergies and Immunology Board elected Wertheim to serve as a director and research advisor. This will give each institution the ability to benefit from shared educational, research and clinical knowledge and resources in the future.

Wertheim has served as chairman of the Dr. Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Family Foundation since 1977. It has supported hundreds of local and international educational, sporting and community health care organizations around the world with millions of dollars in financial aid grants.

Convocation Speaker



James Patrick O'Leary, M.D., FACS
Founding Executive Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs
Assistant Vice President for Strategic Planning, Office of Clinical Affairs
Professor, Surgery
FIU Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine

Dr. James Patrick O'Leary was born in New York City but quickly found his way to the South where he has remained. He graduated from high school in Winter Haven, Florida. He then matriculated at Belmont Abbey College in North Carolina where he graduated as Salutatorian of his class and was selected for the Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities. His medical school and residency years were spent at the University of Florida where he was elected to Alpha Omega Alpha, the National Honor Society. He then served on the faculty at the University of Florida and in 1977 received the Hippocratic Award as the Outstanding Teacher in the college of medicine. Later, while serving as chief of the surgical service at the Nashville Veterans Administration Medical Center and professor of surgery at Vanderbilt University, O'Leary received the Shovel Award as the Outstanding Teacher at that institution. In 1984, he was appointed as the Seeger Chair in Surgery at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas, Texas and as clinical professor at the University of Texas, Southwestern. In 1989, O'Leary accepted the position as the Isidore Cohn, Jr. Professor and Chairman of the Department of Surgery at Louisiana State University's Health Sciences Center in New Orleans, Louisiana. Subsequently, he served as the associate dean for Clinical Affairs from 2001-2006 and in 2002 and 2003 as interim dean of the medical school. Following in the tradition of his two previous academic appointments, O'Leary received the Outstanding Faculty Teaching Award from the Aesculapian Society in 1990 and 1995. He was also honored by both the Medical School at the University of Florida and Belmont Abbey College by being inducted to each of the school's Wall of Fame, honoring outstanding achievement by their graduates. An Honorary Doctorate Degree in Humane Letters was awarded by the Bradley Institute also at his Alma Mater. In 2001, he was appointed first vice-president of the Southern Surgical Association. In 2003, he received the Distinguished Service Award from the Southern Medical Association and in 2013 the Distinguished Service Award of the Southeastern Surgical Congress.

In addition to having authored more than 200 peer reviewed scientific publications O'Leary has been the editor of four editions of the Physiologic Basis of Surgery Textbook dealing with the basic sciences as they are applied to surgery. As an authority in the field of surgical gastroenterology, O'Leary is an accomplished and sought after lecturer. In addition to his academic positions, O'Leary has been active in a number of regional and national professional organizations. He has held several positions with the National Board of Medical Examiners, including chairman of the Clinical Chairmen's Committee. He has served as president of the New Orleans Surgical Society (NOSS), American Society of Bariatric Surgery (now the American Society of Metabolic & Bariatric Surgery), the Southeastern Surgical Congress (SESC), the Association of Program Directors in Surgery (APDS), and the Louisiana Chapter of the American College of Surgeons (ACS). At the ACS, he has served on multiple committees—including but not limited to the seven SESAP Committees, as the director of SESAP X Audio Companion, as a governor of the College, and then chairman of the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors. He has served as vice-chair of the Advisory Council for General Surgery and as the first vice-president of the ACS from 2005-2006.

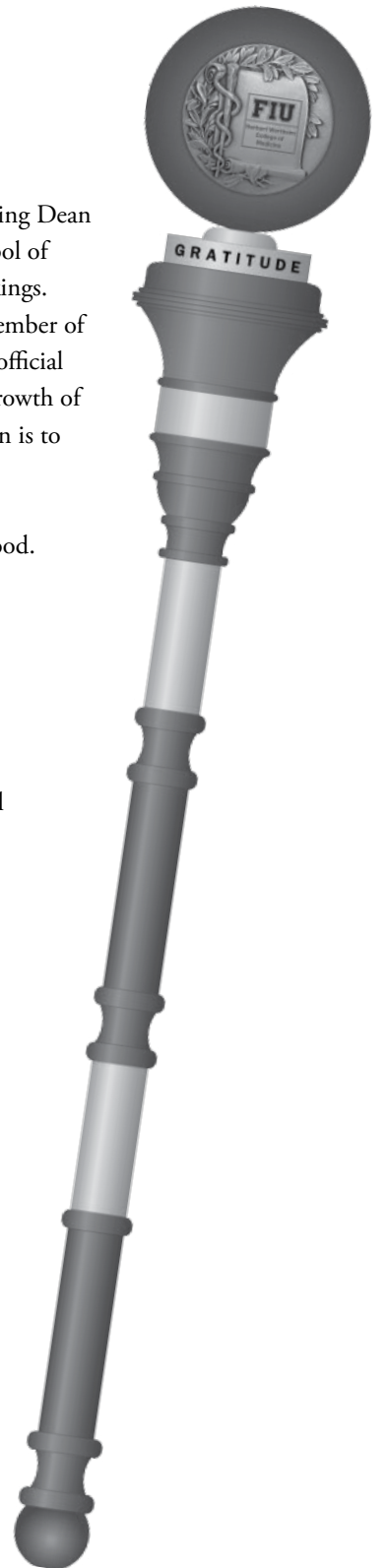
O'Leary retired from the Louisiana State University in July of 2007, but continued as Professor Emeritus and Chairman of the Department Emeritus of Surgery. Since July 1, 2007, O'Leary has been serving as the founding executive associate dean for Clinical Affairs and the assistant vice president for Strategic Planning of the Florida International University Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine.

Senior Class Gift Dedication of the Ceremonial Mace

The FIU Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine Class of 2015 would like to present our Founding Dean Dr. John A. Rock with this year's class gift: the ceremonial mace. Historically, the mace is a symbol of authority dating from medieval times when knights carried them during processions with their kings. Through the centuries, it has become a symbol of authority at academic institutions. A senior member of the faculty carries the mace during formal ceremonies, and it signifies that the proceedings have official sanction. As the third graduating class at the college of medicine, we have been invested in the growth of the college and have had wonderful opportunities to initiate many of its traditions. Our intention is to initiate this tradition as a final symbol of our legacy.

The FIU Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine mace stands 42" and is carved out of cherry wood. Atop the mace are bronze medals, on both sides of a cherry wood disc, portraying the college of medicine logo etched onto a scroll. The university letters are colored in FIU blue to represent the importance of the interaction and collaboration of our college with the rest of the university community. Beside the scroll, the serpent-entwined staff of Asclepius symbolizes the ancient Greek god of medicine and healing. This mace reminds us that the college is custodian both of the enduring traditions of medical education and of the power it bestows upon the students. For the student physicians, it will serve as a reminder of the long and arduous journey of our medical school career.

We proudly present the FIU Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine Ceremonial Mace to Dr. Rock and the faculty of the college of medicine with immense gratitude for their dedication to our education and training.



Class of 2015 Graduates



Michelle Mary Abou-Jaoude, M.D.
Surgery-Preliminary
U Kentucky Medical Center, Lexington, KY

Ophthalmology
U Kentucky Medical Center, Lexington, KY

University of Florida, BS in
Chemical Engineering



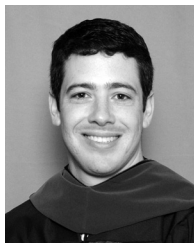
Mohammad Faris Al-mousily, M.D.
Pediatrics
Miami Children's Hospital
Miami, FL

University Of Florida, BS in Microbiology
and Bacteriology



Veronica Marie Alvarez, M.D.
Obstetrics and Gynecology
Emory University School of Medicine
Atlanta, GA

University of Miami, BS in Psychobiology



Peter J. Belin, M.D.
Medicine-Preliminary
North Shore-LIJ Health System
Great Neck, NY

Ophthalmology
North Shore-LIJ Health System
Great Neck, NY

University at Buffalo, BA in Psychology



Jennifer Pernas Boucher, M.D.
Family Medicine
U South Florida College of Medicine
Tampa, FL

University of Miami, BS in Microbiology
and Bacteriology



Melissa A. Cardenas-Morales, M.D.
Pediatrics
Miami Children's Hospital
Miami, FL

Florida International University,
BA in Chemistry



Fernando S. Aran, M.D.
Orthopaedic Surgery
Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center
Winston-Salem, NC

Princeton University, BA in Spanish
and Portuguese



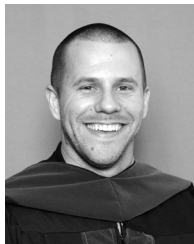
Jacqueline Heather Atlass, M.D.
Obstetrics and Gynecology
UPMC Medical Education
Pittsburgh, PA

University of Florida, BS in Food Science
and Human Nutrition



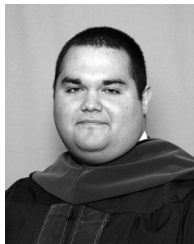
Camila Bahamon, M.D.
Obstetrics and Gynecology
Orlando Health
Orlando, FL

Florida International University, BS in Biology



Casey Terry Carr, M.D.
Emergency Medicine
Johns Hopkins Hospital
Baltimore, MD

University of Florida, BS in
Exercise Physiology



Louis Carrillo, M.D.
Surgery-Preliminary
U Texas Medical School
Houston, TX

University of Florida, MS in Public Health

University of Florida, BS in Microbiology
and Molecular Biology



Alejandro Castañeda, M.D.
Internal Medicine
Huntington Memorial Hospital
Pasadena, CA

Florida International University, BS in Biology



Fabiana Barnabe, M.D.
Pediatrics
Eastern VA Medical School
Norfolk, VA

University of Miami, BS in Religion
and Microbiology and Bacteriology



Shane Lolan Barney, M.D.
Surgery-Preliminary
Brooke Army Medical Center
San Antonio, TX

Urology
University of Texas Health Science Center
San Antonio, TX

Brigham Young University, BS in Biology



Colleen Nykole Bartley, M.D.
Surgery-Preliminary
U North Carolina Hospitals
Chapel Hill, NC

University of Miami, BS in Biology



Rhea Chattopadhyay, M.D.
Obstetrics and Gynecology
Rutgers-R W Johnson Medical School
New Brunswick, NJ

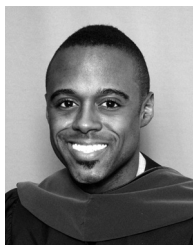
University of Florida, BS in Biology



Jennifer Chen, M.D.
Surgery-Preliminary
UC Riverside School of Medicine
Moreno Valley, CA

Radiology-Diagnostic
Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital
Santa Barbara, CA

California State University – Los Angeles,
BS in Biology



Jerry Cherisien, M.D.
Surgery-Preliminary
Orlando Health, Orlando, FL

Radiology-Diagnostic
Mount Sinai Medical Center
Miami Beach, FL

University of Florida, BS in Microbiology
and Bacteriology

Class of 2015 Graduates

Class of 2015 Graduates



Rebecca Lauren Cole, M.D.

Obstetrics and Gynecology
INOVA Fairfax Hospital
Falls Church, VA

University of Southern California, BS in
Health Promotion and Disease Prevention

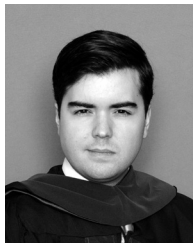


Silvia Patricia Coronel, M.D.

Internal Medicine
U Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

Tufts University, MS

University of Florida, BS in Microbiology
and Bacteriology



Franklin Javier Danger, M.D.

Transitional
St. Mary Mercy Hospital, Livonia, MI

Radiology-Diagnostic
Florida Hospital, Orlando, FL

Florida International University,
BA in Psychology



Stephen Ferraresi, M.D.

Emergency Medicine
Virginia Commonwealth U Health Sys
Richmond, VA

Florida State University, BS in Exercise Science



Kobi Fogel, M.D.

Surgery-Preliminary
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Boston, MA

Florida International University,
BA in Chemistry



Farah Y. Fourcand, M.D.

Medicine-Preliminary
Union Memorial Hospital
Baltimore, MD

Neurology/Clinician Scientist
Georgetown University Hospital
Washington, DC

University of Miami, BS in Biology

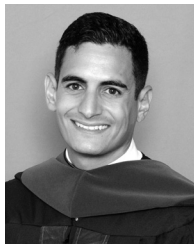


Natalia Echeverri Botero, M.D.

Obstetrics and Gynecology
Jackson Memorial Hospital, Miami, FL

University of Miami, MA in International
Administration

University of Miami, BS in Biology



Adam Mark El Kommos, M.D.

Anesthesiology
Jackson Memorial Hospital
Miami, FL

University of Central Florida,
BS in Biotechnology



Erica Jeanette Escarcega, M.D.

Emergency Medicine
St Lukes-Bethlehem
Bethlehem, PA

Florida International University, BS in Biology



Michaela Wendy Georgia Gaffley, M.D.

General Surgery
Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center
Winston-Salem, NC

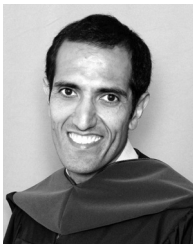
University of Miami, BS in Neuroscience



Robert Michael Guido, M.D.

Preventive Medicine
NCC Walter Reed National Military Medical
Center, Bethesda, MD

University of Florida, BS in Journalism



Christian Raul Gutierrez Morales, M.D.

Florida International University, MS in
Biomedical Engineering

Florida International University,
BS in Electrical Engineering



Salman Ahmad Farsi, M.D.

Internal Medicine
U Miami MSOM/Palm Beach Reg Campus
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Drexel University, MPH in Health
Management and Policy

Valdosta State University, BS in Biology



Stephen Paul Ferber, M.D.

Psychiatry
NYP Hospital-Columbia University
Med Center
New York, NY

Carleton College, BA in Psychology



Ernesto Fernandez, M.D.

Pediatrics
Baylor College of Medicine-Houston
Houston, TX

University of Florida, BS in Microbiology
and Cell Science



Luv N. Hajirawala, M.D.

General Surgery
LSU School of Medicine
New Orleans, LA

University of South Florida, MS in Anatomy
University of South Florida, BS in Biology



Jade M. Hernandez, M.D.

Obstetrics and Gynecology
Stamford Hospital/Columbia
Stamford, CT

Florida International University, BS in Biology



Julia Donnelly Hicks, M.D.

Obstetrics and Gynecology
U Illinois College of Medicine
Chicago, IL

Emory University, BA in Chemistry

Class of 2015 Graduates



Allison Elizabeth Holder, M.D.
Pediatrics
UPMC Medical Education
Pittsburgh, PA

University of Florida, BHS in Health Science



Mary Frances Kearns, M.D.
Pediatrics
East Tennessee State University
Johnson City, TN

University of Notre-Dame, BS in Science
Pre-Professional



Joshua Paul Kelley, M.D.
Plastic Surgery
Grand Rapids Med Ed Partners
Grand Rapids, MI

Vanderbilt University, BA in Chemistry



Kenneth Logan Maskell, M.D.
Internal Medicine
U Illinois College of Medicine
Chicago, IL

University of Florida, BS in Microbiology
and Cell Science



Mario Enrique Mayes Romero, M.D.
Internal Medicine
U Miami MSOM/Palm Beach Reg Campus
Atlantis, FL

Florida Atlantic University, BA in Biology



Hans Michell, M.D.
Surgery-Preliminary
Boston University Medical Center, Boston, MA

Radiology-Diagnostic
University of Vermont Medical Center
Burlington, VT

CUNY Brooklyn College, BS in Biology



Kamen Jordanov Kutzarov, M.D.
Orthopaedic Surgery
Monmouth Medical Center
Long Branch, NJ

University of California-San Diego,
BS in Human Biology



Dustin Matthew Lang, M.D.
Otolaryngology
U Florida COM Shands Hospital
Gainesville, FL

University of Florida, MS in Biomedical Science
University of Florida, BS in Chemistry



Claudia Marisa Leon, M.D.
Pediatrics
Miami Children's Hospital
Miami, FL

University of Florida, BA in Biology



Kathryn Elizabeth Myers, M.D.
Psychiatry
The San Antonio Uniformed Services Health
Education Consortium
Fort Sam Houston, TX

University of Miami, BS in Neuroscience
and Psychobiology



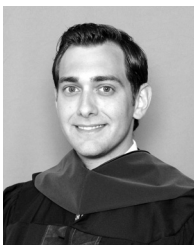
Christian Wallace Nagel, M.D.
Pediatrics
U Minnesota Med School
Minneapolis, MN

University of Minnesota – Twin Cities,
BA in History and BS in Biology



Maria-Carolina Orbay, M.D.
Orthopaedic Surgery
Wake Forest Baptist Med Center
Winston-Salem, NC

Duke University, BS in Biology



Jason Ilias Liounakos, M.D.
Neurological Surgery
Jackson Memorial Hospital, Miami, FL

Georgetown University, MS in Physiology
and Biophysics
University of Florida, BS in Applied Physiology
and Kinesiology



Lori Maria Marcu, M.D.
Family Medicine
Jackson Memorial Hospital
Miami, FL

Florida International University,
BS in Biological Sciences



Fady Paul Marji, M.D.
University of Florida, BS in Chemistry
and Biology



Guillermo Enrique Ortega, M.D.
Emergency Medicine
Rutgers-R W Johnson Medical School
New Brunswick, NJ

Johns Hopkins University, BA in Biology



Marta Lauren Papoosha, M.D.
Psychiatry
Rutgers-R W Johnson Medical School
Piscataway, NJ

University of Florida, BS in Psychology



Ana I. Pena Calero, M.D.
General Surgery
Cleveland Clinic Florida
Weston, FL

Florida International University,
BS in Biomedical Engineering

Class of 2015 Graduates



Christopher Jordan Plescica, M.D.
Psychiatry
North Shore-LIJ Health System
Great Neck, NY

University of Florida, BS in Biology



Monica Evelyn Polcz, M.D.
General Surgery
Vanderbilt University Med Center
Nashville, TN

University of Florida, BS in Biochemistry



Carlos A. Prays, M.D.
Florida International University, BS in Physics



Michael Rosenthal, M.D.
Psychiatry
Icahn School of Medicine Beth Israel
New York, NY

Duke University, BS in Psychology



Brian Jason Salzverg, M.D.
Psychiatry
U Illinois College of Medicine
Chicago, IL

University of Miami, BS in Psychology



Dale Segal, M.D.
Orthopaedic Surgery
Emory University School of Medicine
Atlanta, GA

SUNY at Albany, BS in Biochemistry
and Molecular Biology



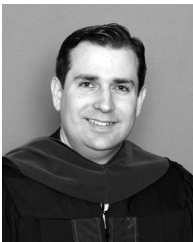
Katherine Kornelia Raczek, M.D.
Emergency Medicine
Texas Tech U Affiliate
El Paso, TX

University of Southern California,
BA in Biological Sciences



Katiuska Johana Ramirez, M.D.
Psychiatry
Harvard Longwood Psych
Boston, MA

University of Florida, BS in Biology
and BA in Spanish



Javier Reyes, M.D.
Psychiatry
Jackson Memorial Hospital
Miami, FL

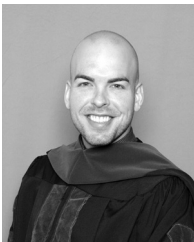
Florida International University, BS in Biology



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Surgery-Preliminary
Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Nashville, TN

Radiology-Diagnostic
Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Nashville, TN

University of Florida, BA in German



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Internal Medicine
NCC Walter Reed National Military Medical
Center
Bethesda, MD

Florida State University,
BS in Biological Science



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Pediatrics
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Andres Luis Rodriguez, M.D.
Family Medicine
West Kendall Baptist Hospital
Miami, FL

Florida International University, BS in Biology



Jose Raul Rodriguez, M.D.
Medicine-Preliminary
FAU-Schmidt College of Medicine
Boca Raton, FL

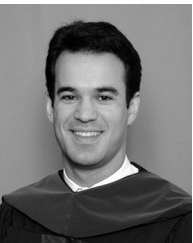
Radiology-Diagnostic
Jackson Memorial Hospital, Miami, FL

Florida International University, BS in Biology



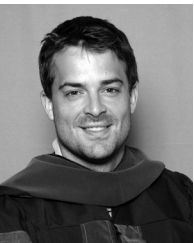
Marlen Maria Rodriguez, M.D.
Pediatrics
Miami Children's Hospital
Miami, FL

Florida International University, BS in Biology



Gabriel Raul Suarez, M.D.
Family Medicine
West Kendall Baptist Hospital
Miami, FL

Florida International University,
BS in Health Science



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Medicine-Preliminary
U Arizona Affiliate Hospitals, Tucson, AZ

Anesthesiology

U Arizona Affiliate Hospitals, Tucson, AZ

University of Florida, BHS in Health Science



Alyssa Dayne Swick, M.D.
Pediatrics
Indiana University School of Medicine
Indianapolis, IN

Indiana University – Bloomington,
BS in Biology

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Pediatrics
Tulane University School of Medicine
New Orleans, LA

Tufts University, BS in Biology



Stanley Tiu, M.D.
Surgery-Preliminary
Orlando Health
Orlando, FL

University of Florida, BS in Microbiology
and Bacteriology



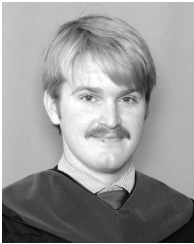
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Surgery-Preliminary
Einstein/Montefiore Medical Center
Bronx, NY

University of South Florida, BS in
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology



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Emergency Medicine
Christiana Care
Newark, DE

Florida State University,
BA in Classical Civilizations



Michael William Witteman, M.D.
Internal Medicine
U Miami MSOM/Palm Beach Reg Campus
Atlantis, FL

Florida Gulf Coast University, BS in Biology
and BS in Chemistry



Yoko Melainie Young Sang, M.D.
General Surgery
LSU Health Sciences Center, Shreveport, LA

Florida International University,
MS in Public Health

University of Miami, BS in Health Science



Lynn Zaremski, M.D.
Internal Medicine
Einstein/Montefiore Medical Center
Bronx, NY

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Not Pictured

Jessica Jeanne Batlle, M.D.

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Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society, a professional medical organization, recognizes and advocates for excellence in scholarship and the highest ideals in the profession of medicine. Up to 16 percent of the graduating class may be elected based on leadership, character, community service and professionalism.

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Sponsored by the Gold Foundation, this award is presented to the student who best demonstrates the Foundation’s ideals of outstanding compassion in the delivery of care, respect for patients, their families, and healthcare colleagues, as well as demonstrated clinical excellence.

Alyssa Dayne Swick

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(Patterned after the Oath of Hippocrates)

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 all;

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

That into whatsoever house I shall enter,
it shall be for the good of the sick to the utmost of my power,
I, myself aloof from wrong, from corruption,
and from the temptation of others to vice;

That I will exercise my art solely for the cure of patients,
and will give no drug, perform no operation for criminal purpose,
even if solicited, and far less suggest such a thing.

That whatsoever I shall see or hear of the lives of others
which is not fitting to be spoken,
I will keep inviolably secret.

These things I do promise,
and in proportion as I am faithful to this, my oath,
may happiness and good repute be ever mine –
the opposite if I shall be forsworn.

