



Kansas City
University

2025 COMMENCEMENT
JOPLIN, MISSOURI

MAY 4, 2025

KANSAS CITY UNIVERSITY

2025 COMMENCEMENT



Improving the well-being of the communities we serve.

JOPLIN, MISSOURI

MAY 4, 2025

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members of the Class of 2025,

Today marks not just the end of one chapter, but the beginning of an extraordinary journey. You have worked with purpose and perseverance to arrive at this moment, and I extend my heartfelt congratulations to each of you. Whether you have earned your degree in osteopathic medicine, bioethics, public health or health care leadership, you have demonstrated not only academic excellence but the strength of character that defines true service.

When you began your studies at Kansas City University, the world was still finding its footing in the wake of a global pandemic. Despite uncertainty, you chose to pursue a calling greater than yourselves. Your resilience in the face of many unprecedented challenges, your commitment to healing, and your devotion to our values of excellence, equity and empathy embody the very best of KCU and the profession you now enter.

You graduate not only as individuals, but as a united class—bound by shared experience, compassion and purpose. As you step into a world that needs your knowledge, your leadership and your heart, I urge you to remain true to our mission of *improving the well-being of the communities we serve*.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Your connection to KCU does not end today. You are forever part of our history, our family and our future. I hope you remain engaged with your alma mater – through alumni events, continued learning, mentorship and support for the generations who will follow in your footsteps. Your voice, your presence and your passion matter.

As we close this momentous day, I leave you with the words of Albert Einstein, who said, “Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile.” Class of 2025, your years of dedication, your resilience and your compassion have prepared you not only to heal but to lead – to bring light where there is darkness, and to bring peace and love into a world that desperately needs both.

I am deeply proud of all you have achieved and profoundly grateful for the strength and hope you carry forward. Congratulations to each and every one of our graduates of the Class of 2025!

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Marc B. Hahn', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Marc B. Hahn, DO, FAOCA
President and Chief Executive Officer

PROGRAM

PROCESSIONAL

WELCOME

Marc B. Hahn, DO, FAOCA

President and Chief Executive Officer of Kansas City University

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Shilpa Bhat & Rahul Ramani

Graduates from the Class of 2025

INVOCATION

Kristine Stevens, EdD

Vice Provost for Student Services

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Robert S. Juhasz, DO, FACP, MACOI

Chair of the Kansas City University Board of Trustees

CONFERRING OF THE HONORARY DEGREE

Edward R. O'Connor, PhD, MBA, FACHE

Provost & Executive Vice President for Academic, Research and Student Affairs

WILL CONFER THE DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS UPON

Robert A. White, PhD

Dean of the College of Biosciences & Professor of Biochemistry

PROGRAM

PRESENTATION OF THE KANSAS CITY UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE CLASS OF 2025

W. Joshua Cox, DO, FACOFP

Executive Dean of the College of Osteopathic Medicine & Vice Provost for Medical Affairs

CONFERRING OF DEGREES UPON THE KANSAS CITY UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE CLASS OF 2025

Marc B. Hahn, DO, FAOCA

President and Chief Executive Officer of Kansas City University

THE OSTEOPATHIC OATH

W. Joshua Cox, DO, FACOFP

Executive Dean of the College of Osteopathic Medicine & Vice Provost for Medical Affairs

COMMISSIONING OF OFFICERS INTO THE ARMED FORCES

Philip Volpe, DO

Major General, United States Army (Ret.) & Associate Professor of Primary Care

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WELCOME

Dale Bratzler, DO, MPH

*Dean of the Hudson College of Public Health, Professor and Chair of Health Administration and Policy,
and Professor in the College of Medicine at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center &*

Alumni Representative from the KCU College of Osteopathic Medicine Class of 1981

BENEDICTION

Kenneth Durgans, EdD

Associate Provost for Student Culture and Engagement

RECESSIONAL

PLATFORM PARTY

Marc B. Hahn, DO, FAOCA
*President and Chief Executive Officer of
Kansas City University*

Robert S. Juhasz, DO, FACP, MACOI
Chair of the Kansas City University Board of Trustees

Edward R. O'Connor, PhD, MBA, FACHE
*Provost & Executive Vice President for
Academic, Research and Student Affairs*

Richard D. Schooler, DO
Vice President of the Farber-McIntire Campus

W. Joshua Cox, DO, FACOFP
*Executive Dean of the College of Osteopathic Medicine &
Vice Provost for Medical Affairs*

Sharon Gustowski, DO, MPH, FAAO
*Kansas City Campus Dean of the
College of Osteopathic Medicine*

Kenneth A. Heiles, DO, FACOFP *dist.*
*Joplin Campus Dean of the
College of Osteopathic Medicine*

Linda C. Niessen, DMD, MPH, MPP
*Dean of the College of Dental Medicine &
Vice Provost for Oral Health Affairs*

PLATFORM PARTY

Robert A. White, PhD

*Dean of the College of Biosciences &
Professor of Biochemistry*

Philip Volpe, DO

*Major General, United States Army (Ret.) &
Associate Professor of Primary Care*

Kenneth Durgans, EdD

Associate Provost for Student Culture and Engagement

Kristine Stevens, EdD

Vice Provost for Student Services

Jason Malousek, PsyD

*President of Faculty Senate, Assistant Director of Clinical Psychology Training
& Assistant Professor of Health Service Psychology*

David Lingerfelt, EdD, MBA

*Clinical Assistant Professor of Management and Analytics & Director of the
DO/MBA Program for the Rockhurst University Helzberg School of Management*

Dale Bratzler, DO, MPH

*Dean of the Hudson College of Public Health, Professor and Chair of Health Administration and Policy,
and Professor in the College of Medicine at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center &
Alumni Representative from the KCU College of Osteopathic Medicine Class of 1981*

FACULTY HOODERS

Kenneth A. Heiles, DO, FACOFP *dist.*

Joplin Campus Dean of the College of Osteopathic Medicine

Bruce Williams, DO, FACOFP *dist.*

Associate Dean of Clinical Education & Associate Professor of Primary Care

Sharon Gustowski, DO, MPH, FAAO

Kansas City Campus Dean of the College of Osteopathic Medicine

Rebecca Bowden, PhD

Senior Director of Simulation & Professor of Immunology

Bradley Creamer, PhD

Chair of Basic Sciences & Professor of Physiology

Robert Hillard, MD, FCAP

*Chair of Pathology and Anatomical Sciences &
Assistant Professor of Pathology*

Kelley Joy, DO

Chair & Professor of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine

John Paulson, DO, PhD

Chair & Associate Professor of Primary Care

David Lingerfelt, EdD, MBA

*Clinical Assistant Professor of Management and Analytics & Director of the
DO/MBA Program for the Rockhurst University Helzberg School of Management*

DIGNITARIES

FACULTY MARSHAL

Jason Malousek, PsyD

*President of Faculty Senate, Assistant Director of Clinical Psychology Training
& Assistant Professor of Health Service Psychology*

STUDENT MARSHAL FOR THE COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

Daniella Nicole Rivera

Silver Stethoscope Award Recipient

GONFALONIER FOR THE COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

Michelle Ann Mathew

Student DO of the Year Recipient

READERS

Scott Andelin, MD

Assistant Professor of Primary Care

Marcus Iszard, PhD

Associate Professor of Pharmacology

COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

*Candidates for the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine &
the Master of Business Administration in Health Care Leadership*

Vishnu Sagar Basude

*Internal Medicine
Baylor Scott & White - Baylor COM
Temple, TX*

Bhavana Pabbiseti

*Internal Medicine
UC Riverside SOM
San Bernardino, CA*

Melody Galicia Beltran

*Emergency Medicine
University of Central Florida/HCA Healthcare GME
Gainesville, FL*

Gauri Vilas Patel

*Transitional Year
Garnet Health Medical Center
Middletown, NY*
*Physical Medicine &
Rehabilitation
Temple University Hospital
Philadelphia, PA*

Kenedy Denise Dawson

*Anesthesiology
University of Oklahoma COM
Oklahoma City, OK*

Seth Michael Rohlwing

*Pediatrics
University of Tennessee Health Science Center
Memphis, TN*

Hailey Joyce Garza

*Internal Medicine
Texas Health Resources
Bedford, TX*

Laura Marie Schreck

*General Surgery
University of Missouri-Kansas City
Kansas City, MO*

Kurtis Alan Guy

*Obstetrics & Gynecology
Creighton University
Omaha, NE*

Emily Grace Shima

*Pediatrics
Childrens Mercy
Kansas City, MO*

Ethan Carl Hayes

*Transitional Year
Medical College of Wisconsin
Affiliated Hospitals
Milwaukee, WI*
*Diagnostic Radiology
Integris Health
Oklahoma City, OK*

Brooklin Christine Smith

*Emergency Medicine
St. Barnabas Hospital
Bronx, NY*

Tess Louise Krage

*Internal Medicine
McLaren Health Care
Lansing, MI*

Alexander Gerard Stowe

*Psychiatry
Prisma Health-University of South Carolina SOM
Greer, SC*

Cecilia Leng

*Family Medicine
Morehouse School of Medicine
Santa Cruz, CA*

Alyssa Kathryn Wilhelm

*Pediatrics
Marshfield Clinic
Marshfield, WI*

Caleb McNab

*Family Medicine
HCA Healthcare Kansas City
Lee's Summit, MO*

COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

Candidates for the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine & the Master of Public Health

Avina Kaur Mahroke ‡

Neurology
Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, OH

Candidates for the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine & the Master of Arts in Bioethics

Mariah Blair Fedje

Internal Medicine
University of Minnesota Medical School
Minneapolis, MN

Sahana Tota Reddy

Preliminary Internal Medicine Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
Advocate Health Care University of Kansas SOM
Park Ridge, IL Kansas City, KS

SaiBhavana Srikakolapu

Internal Medicine
OhioHealth-Doctors Hospital
Columbus, OH

The Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine & the Master of Business Administration in Health Care Leadership is awarded in partnership with the Rockhurst University Helzberg School of Management.

The Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine & the Master of Public Health is awarded in partnership with the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

The Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine & the Master of Arts in Bioethics is awarded by Kansas City University.

COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

Candidates for the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine

Cyril Abadir
Orthopaedic Surgery
Henry Ford Macomb Hospital
Clinton Township, MI

Kaleb Thomas Baker
Pediatrics
Advocate Health Care
Oak Lawn, IL

Feza Fatima Abbas
Internal Medicine
HCA Florida JFK Hospital - University of Miami
Atlantis, FL

Durganili Balasubramaniyan
Internal Medicine
NewYork-Presbyterian Queens
Flushing, NY

Hasan Ahmed
Neurology
Tower Health/Reading Hospital
West Reading, PA

Jenil Ajay Baman
Pediatrics
Osteopathic Medical Education Consortium of Oklahoma
Tulsa, OK

Ramisa Fariha Alam
Pediatrics
Advocate Health Care
Park Ridge, IL

Parker Steven Beer
Anesthesiology
University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics
Iowa City, IA

Marina Ali
Internal Medicine
Texas Health Resources
Bedford, TX

Alexandra Jolanta Belohlavek
Internal Medicine
Wright State University Boonshoft SOM
Dayton, OH

Nicole Marie Andriot
Family Medicine
Christ Hospital
Cincinnati, OH

Shilpa Bhat
Internal Medicine
Brown University/Kent Hospital
Warwick, RI

Chance James Aplanalp
Otolaryngology
KCU-GME Consortium
Joplin, MO

Kaitlin Lindsey Bierman-Macke
Pediatrics
University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics
Iowa City, IA

Manik Arora
Neurology
Kettering Health Network
Dayton, OH

Jonathan Aurel Builta
Anesthesiology
Loyola University Medical Center
Maywood, IL

Tressa Lee Asbury
Pediatrics
Central Iowa Health System
Des Moines, IA

Kylee Lynn Burnett
Pediatrics
ECU Health Medical Center
Greenville, NC

‡ Cum Laude

‡‡ Magna Cum Laude

‡‡‡ Summa Cum Laude

COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

Candidates for the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine

Sydney Blake Carpenter

*General Surgery
Midwestern University OPTI
Mesa, AZ*

Tate Michael Dennis

*Family Medicine
Osteopathic Medical Education Consortium of Oklahoma
Tahlequah, OK*

Alyssa Chin

*Family Medicine
In His Image Family Medicine
Tulsa, OK*

Andrew David Dettwiler ‡‡

*Emergency Medicine
Prisma Health-University of South Carolina SOM
Columbia, SC*

Sydney Elizabeth Christensen ‡

*Anesthesiology
Loyola University Medical Center
Maywood, IL*

Keenan Ross Dickens

*Transitional Year Diagnostic Radiology
San Antonio Uniformed Services San Antonio Uniformed Services
Health Education Consortium Health Education Consortium
San Antonio, TX San Antonio, TX*

Patrick Michael Connell

*Internal Medicine
CHRISTUS Health
Longview, TX*

Jason Tyler Doheny

*Internal Medicine
Legacy Emanuel/Good Samaritan
Portland, OR*

Grace Juliet Cooper

*Pediatrics
Orlando Health
Orlando, FL*

Grant Michael Dolan

*General Surgery
McLaren Health Care
Lansing, MI*

Jarod Jeffrey Cooper

*Family Medicine
Clarkson Family Medicine Residency
Omaha, NE*

Marley Grace Drake

*Family Medicine
University of Kansas SOM
Wichita, KS*

Cole Mayer Dattel

*Family Medicine
Campbell University
Conway, SC*

Jules Daniel Edralin

*Emergency Medicine
University of Texas Medical Branch
Galveston, TX*

Laleh Davis

*Internal Medicine
University Hospital
Columbia, MO*

Aaron Bradford Epperson

*General Surgery
University of Texas Health Science Center
San Antonio, TX*

Sophia Jeanetta Day

*Internal Medicine
KCU-GME Consortium
Joplin, MO*

Daniel Andrew Estep

*Transitional Year Occupational &
University of Texas Environmental Medicine
Health Science Center University of Texas
Tyler, TX Health Science Center
Tyler, TX*

‡ Cum Laude

‡‡ Magna Cum Laude

‡‡‡ Summa Cum Laude

COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

Candidates for the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine

Austin Blake Faerber
Internal Medicine
University of Kentucky Medical Center
Lexington, KY

Kelsey Marie Hillyer
Pediatrics
University of Nebraska Medical Center
Omaha, NE

Katherine Claire Flatt
Family Medicine
Northwestern University McGaw Medical Center
Geneva, IL

Sarita Katherine Hira
Psychiatry
Ohio State University Medical Center
Columbus, OH

Rose Madison Galetti
Internal Medicine
HCA Florida JFK Hospital - University of Miami
Atlantis, FL

Vivian Truc Hoang
Family Medicine
Texas Tech University Affiliates
Amarillo, TX

Julianne Chan Garcia
Family Medicine
Kettering Health Network
Dayton, OH

Zachary Hollendonner ‡
General Surgery
Sunrise Health GME Consortium
Las Vegas, NV

Kyleigh Allison Getchell
Emergency Medicine
Navy Medical Center
Portsmouth, VA

Logan Gregory Horn
General Surgery
Cape Fear Valley Health
Fayetteville, NC

Rishi Sanjay Gupta
Emergency Medicine
St. Agnes Medical Center
Fresno, CA

Joshua Liam Huseby ‡
Family Medicine
Oregon Health & Science University
Hillsboro, OR

Levy Travis Hacker
Emergency Medicine
University of Oklahoma COM
Tulsa, OK

Syed Haider Hussain
Internal Medicine
University Hospital
Columbia, MO

Arie Hakimi
Family Medicine
Hilo Medical Center
Hilo, HI

Erin Fri Igwacho
Internal Medicine
Florida State University COM
Cape Coral, FL

Manvir Singh Heer
Internal Medicine
St. Josephs Medical Center
Stockton, CA

Zachary Cole Irwin
Family Medicine
SW Missouri Consortium GME
Springfield, MO

COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

Candidates for the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine

Ian Arthur Jasso
Family Medicine
WiNC GME Consortium
Wausau, WI

Nicholas Joseph Lukish
Child Neurology
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
Cincinnati, OH

Sasha Belle Johnson
Obstetrics & Gynecology
Texas Tech University Affiliates
Amarillo, TX

Joseph Valenzuela Madrid
Residency Placement
Information Not
Available

George Ukpai Kalu
Emergency Medicine
Kaiser Permanente-Central Valley
Modesto, CA

Dominic Edward Maiuro
Orthopaedic Surgery
Henry Ford Genesys Hospital
Grand Blanc, MI

Sukhmanjit Kaur
General Surgery
UMass Chan Medical School-Baystate
Springfield, MA

Nagib Manzur ‡
Internal Medicine
University at Buffalo SOM
Buffalo, NY

Amy Patricia Keller
Obstetrics & Gynecology
University of Kansas SOM
Wichita, KS

Grace Isabella Mapel
Family Medicine
HCA Healthcare Kansas City
Kansas City, MO

Alex Michael Kneller
Emergency Medicine
HCA Healthcare East Florida Division GME
Aventura, FL

Stephanie Kay Marks
General Surgery
Franciscan Health Olympia Fields
Olympia Fields, IL

Lucas John Koenen
Family Medicine
Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center
Idaho Falls, ID

Rishik Marneni
Internal Medicine
Trinity Health Ann Arbor Hospital
Ann Arbor, MI

Lawrence Ku
Psychiatry
University of Central Florida/HCA Healthcare GME
Gainesville, FL

Michelle Ann Mathew ‡
Preliminary Surgery
University of Texas Medical School
Houston, TX

Mikayla Christine Lebo
Otolaryngology
Detroit Medical Center/WSU
Detroit, MI

Matias Nemetz Matias
Psychiatry
Broward Health Medical Center
Fort Lauderdale, FL

COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

Candidates for the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine

Jeshrine Mazhil

*Family Medicine
Novant Health
Cornelius, NC*

Santosh Kiran Nimkar

*Transitional Year
University of Texas Health Science Center
Tyler, TX*

Dalton Patrick McGerr

*Transitional Year
Lakeland Regional Health
Lakeland, FL*

*Diagnostic Radiology
Tufts Medical Center
Boston, MA*

Jackson O'Keefe

*Internal Medicine
Adena Health System
Chillicothe, OH*

Shelby Ann Mertz

*Obstetrics & Gynecology
Akron General Medical Center
Akron, OH*

Daniel Dossetor O'Kelly

*Residency Placement
Information Not
Available*

Sarah J. Min

*Internal Medicine
UC San Francisco
Fresno, CA*

Zachary K. Ostapowicz

*Emergency Medicine
Aultman Hospital/NEOMED
Canton, OH*

Audry Maryanne Neville

*General Surgery
David Grant USAF Medical Center, Travis AFB
Fairfield, CA*

Camille Rose Papelera ‡‡

*Emergency Medicine
Rush University Medical Center
Chicago, IL*

Hannah Christine Newland

*Family Medicine
SW Missouri Consortium GME
Springfield, MO*

Divya-Shree Patel

*Preliminary Internal Medicine
Rutgers University Newark
Beth Israel Medical Center
Newark, NJ*

*Neurology
Rutgers University Robert
Wood Johnson Medical School
New Brunswick, NJ*

Dung Cindy Hoang Nguyen ‡‡

*Internal Medicine
University of Kansas SOM
Wichita, KS*

Ethan Anil Patel

*Psychiatry
Carolinas Medical Center
Charlotte, NC*

Khanh-Hoa Thi Nguyen

*Internal Medicine
Alameda Health System-Highland Hospital
Oakland, CA*

Het Patel

*Family Medicine
Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences
McAlester, OK*

Kyle Nguyen

*Residency Placement
Information Not
Available*

Shaina Anuj Patel

*Neurology
Prisma Health-University of South Carolina SOM
Greer, SC*

‡ Cum Laude

‡‡ Magna Cum Laude

‡‡‡ Summa Cum Laude

COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

Candidates for the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine

Andrew David Payne
Emergency Medicine
University of Kansas SOM
Kansas City, KS

Patrick Michael Riscoe
Emergency Medicine
University of Kansas SOM
Kansas City, KS

Seth Taylor Rick Peavler
General Surgery
Womack Army Medical Center
Fort Liberty, NC

Daniella Nicole Rivera ‡‡
Internal Medicine
Cleveland Clinic Florida
Weston, FL

Rachel Mary Poothakary
Psychiatry
University of Texas Health Science Center
Pittsburg, TX

Kyle H. Roberts
Internal Medicine
Madigan Army Medical Center
Tacoma, WA

Kevin Austin Quibodeaux
Family Medicine
CHRISTUS Health
Corpus Christi, TX

Hannah Kaitlin Rourick ‡
Internal Medicine
University of Texas Medical Branch
Galveston, TX

Rahul Ramani
Family Medicine
Ascension St. Vincent Hospital
Milwaukee, WI

Gregory Mark Ruddy
Transitional Year
Eisenhower Army Medical Center
Fort Gordon, GA

Sierra BreAnne Raney ‡‡
Anatomic and Clinical Pathology
UPMC Medical Education
Pittsburgh, PA

Kaheerman Saibire ‡
Obstetrics & Gynecology
Flushing Hospital Medical Center
Flushing, NY

Tabitha Lynn Ranson ‡‡
Internal Medicine
University of Arkansas COM
Little Rock, AR

Nathan Scott Salts ‡
Internal Medicine
Central Iowa Health System
Des Moines, IA

John Robert Reagen
Emergency Medicine
KCU-GME Consortium
Joplin, MO

Jamie Ann Satow
Internal Medicine
Corewell Health
Farmington Hills, MI

Marguerite Mae Riggenbach
Internal Medicine
Western Michigan University Stryker SOM
Kalamazoo, MI

Kaitlyn Alexis Sbarro
Emergency Medicine
Jefferson Health-Jefferson Einstein Philadelphia
Philadelphia, PA

COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

Candidates for the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine

Steven Thomas Scheidt ‡‡

Preliminary Internal Medicine

Baylor Scott & White

Baylor COM

Temple, TX

Diagnostic Radiology

Baylor Scott & White

Baylor COM

Temple, TX

Zayn Sikander Suhale

Internal Medicine

Sutter Health

Oakland, CA

Allayna Jo Scheumann

Family Medicine

Texas Tech University Affiliates

Lubbock, TX

Charmaine Sukdeo

Family Medicine

The MetroHealth System/Case Western

Cleveland, OH

Millie Ashesh Shah

General Surgery

Virtua Health

Camden, NJ

Marissa Margaret Tassone

Family Medicine

Hinsdale Hospital

Hinsdale, IL

Ruchit Rupesh Shah

Psychiatry

SSM Health/St. Louis University SOM

St. Louis, MO

Keanna Gloria Theobalt

Family Medicine

MultiCare Health System

Puyallup, WA

Elizabeth Kathryn Sherwood

Obstetrics & Gynecology

University of Illinois COM

Peoria, IL

Rachel Lee Tighe ‡‡

Internal Medicine

Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences

Tulsa, OK

Austin Alan Skinner ‡

Orthopaedic Surgery

University Hospital

Columbia, MO

Haden Josef Tobola

Psychiatry

New Hanover Regional Medical Center

Wilmington, NC

Sean Smith

Emergency Medicine

St. Lukes Hospital

Bethlehem, PA

Christian Emmanuel Troas

Internal Medicine

Texas Institute for Graduate Medical

Education and Research

Laredo, TX

Mark Cole Spangler

Preliminary Internal Medicine

University of Kansas SOM

Kansas City, KS

Diagnostic Radiology

University of Kansas SOM

Kansas City, KS

Miles Alexander Turk ‡

General Surgery

Gundersen Lutheran Medical Foundation

La Crosse, WI

Brian Edward Stevens

Pediatrics

University of Texas Medical School

Houston, TX

Nicholas Scott Vollano ‡‡

Orthopaedic Surgery

Rutgers University Jersey City Medical Center

Jersey City, NJ

‡ Cum Laude

‡‡ Magna Cum Laude

‡‡‡ Summa Cum Laude

COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

Candidates for the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine

Heather Margaret VonHegel

*Emergency Medicine
Garnet Health Medical Center
Middletown, NY*

Holly Rachelle Weeks

*Family Medicine
CoxHealth
Springfield, MO*

Lukas Jon Vopnford

*Internal Medicine
Wright State University Boonshoft SOM
Dayton, OH*

Paige Alexandra Wells

*General Surgery
Texas Tech University Affiliates
Lubbock, TX*

Anne Nicholle Wallace

*Family Medicine
WiNC GME Consortium
Appleton, WI*

Brianne Elizabeth Werner ‡

*Emergency Medicine
University of Nebraska Medical Center
Omaha, NE*

Hailee Michelle Warren ‡

*Internal Medicine
Mercy Medical Center
Des Moines, IA*

Zachary Bernard Werner

*Emergency Medicine
University of Nebraska Medical Center
Omaha, NE*

Adam Webb

*Internal Medicine
Spokane Teaching Health Center
Spokane, WA*

*Congratulations to the graduates of the Kansas City University
Joplin College of Osteopathic Medicine Class of 2025
and their families, friends and supporters.*

HONOR SOCIETIES

Sigma Sigma Phi

Kaleb Thomas Baker
Kaitlin Lindsey Bierman-Macke
Jonathan Aurel Buita
Alyssa Chin
Sydney Elizabeth Christensen
Grace Juliet Cooper
Aaron Bradford Epperson
Mariah Blair Fedje
Ethan Carl Hayes
Manvir Singh Heer
Zachary Hollendonner
Mikayla Christine Lebo
Joshua Liam Huseby
Avina Kaur Mahroke
Nagib Manzur
Michelle Ann Mathew
Shelby Ann Mertz
Bhavana Pabbisetti
Divya-Shree Patel

Seth Taylor Rick Peavler
Kevin Austin Quibodeaux
Tabitha Lynn Ranson
Sahana Tota Reddy
Daniella Nicole Rivera
Hannah Kaitlin Rourick
Kaheerman Saibire
Steven Thomas Scheidt
Millie Ashesh Shah
Elizabeth Kathryn Sherwood
Austin Alan Skinner
Sean Smith
SaiBhavana Srikakolapu
Brian Edward Stevens
Keanna Gloria Theobalt
Miles Alexander Turk
Nicholas Scott Vollano
Heather Margaret VonHegel
Hailee Michelle Warren

Beta Gamma Sigma

Hailey Joyce Garza
Seth Michael Rohlwing

HONOR SOCIETIES

Gold Humanism Honor Society

Ramisa Fariha Alam	Daniel Dossetor O'Kelly
Nicole Marie Andriot	Camille Rose Papelera
Tressa Lee Asbury	Shaina Anuj Patel
Durganili Balasubramaniyan	Seth Taylor Rick Peavler
Patrick Michael Connell	Sierra BreAnne Raney
Laleh Davis	Patrick Michael Riscoe
Kenedy Denise Dawson	Laura Marie Schreck
Tate Michael Dennis	Elizabeth Kathryn Sherwood
Daniel Andrew Estep	Austin Alan Skinner
Ethan Carl Hayes	Marissa Margaret Tassone
Mikayla Christine Lebo	Brianne Elizabeth Werner
Michelle Ann Mathew	Zachary Bernard Werner
Jackson O'Keefe	

Psi Sigma Alpha

Patrick Michael Riscoe
Miles Alexander Turk
Nicholas Scott Vollano

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Ambassadors

Feza Fatima Abbas
Durganili Balasubramaniyan
Sydney Blake Carpenter
Alyssa Chin
Sydney Elizabeth Christensen
Patrick Michael Connell
Grace Juliet Cooper
Kenedy Denise Dawson
Grant Michael Dolan
Mariah Blair Fedje
Ethan Carl Hayes
Erin Fri Igwacho
Cecilia Leng
Michelle Ann Mathew
Jeshrine Mazhil

Shelby Ann Mertz
Sarah J. Min
Hannah Christine Newland
Divya-Shree Patel
Seth Taylor Rick Peavler
Tabitha Lynn Ranson
Sahana Tota Reddy
Patrick Michael Riscoe
Hannah Kaitlin Rourick
Kaheerman Saibire
Laura Marie Schreck
Millie Ashesh Shah
Austin Alan Skinner
Keanna Gloria Theobalt
Brianne Elizabeth Werner

Class Officers

Daniel Dossetor O'Kelly, *Class President*
Nicole Marie Andriot, *Class Vice President*
Jeshrine Mazhil, *Class Secretary*
Bhavana Pabbisetti, *Class Treasurer*

Senators

Melody Galicia Beltran
Shilpa Bhat
Austin Alan Skinner
SaiBhavana Srikakolapu

FELLOWSHIPS

Fellowship in Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine

Sydney Blake Carpenter
Hannah Christine Newland
Patrick Michael Riscoe

Clinical Anatomy

George Ukpai Kalu
Dominic Edward Maiuro
Keanna Gloria Theobalt
Miles Alexander Turk

HONORS TRACK IN GLOBAL MEDICINE

Durganili Balasubramaniyan
Grace Juliet Cooper
Zachary Hollendonner
Mikayla Christine Lebo

Michelle Ann Mathew
Kaheerman Saibire
Brianna Elizabeth Werner
Zachary Bernard Werner

HONORS TRACK IN MILITARY MEDICINE

Alexandra Jolanta Belohlavek, *Navy*
Keenan Ross Dickens, *Air Force*
Kyleigh Allison Getchell, *Navy*
Audry Maryanne Neville, *Air Force*
Seth Taylor Rick Peavler, *Army*

Kyle H. Roberts, *Army*
Gregory Mark Ruddy, *Army*
Alexander Gerard Stowe
Keanna Gloria Theobalt
Heather Margaret VonHegel

AWARD RECIPIENTS

PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Divya-Shree Patel

Given to a student who has made significant and meritorious contributions to the larger community in a leadership role while enrolled at the University.

DEAN'S AWARD

Austin Alan Skinner

Given to a student who has excelled academically and made significant and meritorious contributions to the University community and enhanced the overall quality and spirit of the College of Osteopathic Medicine.

SILVER STETHOSCOPE

Daniella Nicole Rivera

Presented to the student ranked second in the class of graduating osteopathic medical students.

STUDENT DO OF THE YEAR

Michelle Ann Mathew

Presented to a student who exemplifies: leadership, commitment to community service, dedication to the profession, professionalism and embodiment of the osteopathic philosophy.

KCU-COM BASIC SCIENCE RESEARCH AWARD

Chance James Aplanalp

Presented to an osteopathic medical student who has demonstrated significant interest and participation in basic sciences research.

AWARD RECIPIENTS

MATHEWS MILITARY HONOR GRADUATE AWARD

Seth Taylor Rick Peavler

Honors the military graduate who best exemplifies academic excellence, commitment to serve in the military, leadership, service to one's community and esprit de corps.

VESALIUS AWARD

Dominic Edward Maiuro

Presented for outstanding academic performance in the disciplines of human anatomy, histology and neuroanatomy, as well as service to the Department of Pathology and Anatomical Sciences.

AMERICAN MEDICAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

GLASGOW-RUBIN CITATION FOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Sydney Elizabeth Christensen • Avina Kaur Mahroke

Dung Cindy Hoang Nguyen • Camille Rose Papelera

Sierra BreAnne Raney • Tabitha Lynn Ranson • Daniella Nicole Rivera

Hannah Kaitlin Rourick • Rachel Lee Tighe • Hailee Michelle Warren

Presented to women who graduate in the top ten percent of their class of graduating medical students.

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MISSION

Improving the well-being of the communities we serve.

Kansas City University is a community of professionals committed to excellence in education, research, patient care and community service while improving the well-being of the communities we serve.

VISION

Changing health care for good.

CORE VALUES

Excellence | *Striving for quality, integrity and innovation*

Equity | *Supporting an inclusive and collaborative environment*

Empathy | *Caring for our students, our colleagues and our community*



The Commencement Ceremony is an important tradition at Kansas City University. Both a formal recognition of the academic accomplishments made by the graduates as well as a celebration of their potential to continue *improving the well-being of the communities we serve* for future generations, each Commencement Ceremony is a historic moment for our graduates, their loved ones and the University.

As such, the Commencement Ceremony includes a number of symbolic traditions that honor the importance of this day. The following section provides a brief overview of the unspoken traditions you will witness during today's ceremony.

MACES

An ancient symbol of authority that was originally held by individuals protecting dignitaries, the mace reminds us that universities are custodians both of the enduring tradition of learning and of the power they bestow upon those who have come to learn.

University Mace

The University Mace holds the highest formal purpose of all the maces, representing the University's governing authority and signifying that the event has official sanction. It is carried by the Faculty Marshal during the ceremony.

Graduation Scepters

Gifted to the University by Lee E. Davidson, DO (COM '45), in 1975, this pair of replicas of the Rod of Asclepius were hand-crafted from wood and bronze by then-student doctor Evany Zirul, DO (COM '79). The graduation scepters are now carried by Student Marshals during the ceremony.

The Centennial Mace

The Centennial Mace was commissioned in 2016 to commemorate the University's Centennial Celebration and was first carried by G. Michael Johnston, DO, MACOI (COM '73), KCU alumnus, long-time professor and associate provost for faculty and student success. A modern interpretation of the Rod of Asclepius that has been crafted from metal alloy, the Centennial Mace reflects the intersection of the University's first 100 years of history and our beginning of a new century of innovation. The Centennial Mace is traditionally reserved for display on the Kansas City campus; however, at the discretion of the President, it may instead be carried by the Faculty Marshal in lieu of the University Mace during select Commencement Ceremonies.

GONFALONS

Gonfalons are heraldic banners adding an element of pageantry to the ceremony. Tracing back to medieval Italy, “gonfalon” were originally the community meetings during which every neighborhood displayed its own custom, ornate flag. Over time, the word has become associated with the flag itself, and gonfalons have become part of ceremonies worldwide.

Kansas City University's gonfalons serve to herald the presence of both the University as a whole and the colleges participating in each ceremony. Student gonfaloniers, or carriers of the flags, each carry their college's respective gonfalon during the Commencement Ceremony.

REGALIA

Academic regalia traces its beginnings to the Middle Ages. When English universities were forming in the 12th and 13th centuries, scholars were also clerics and they adopted robes similar to those of their monastic orders. Caps were a necessity in drafty buildings and capes with hoods attached were needed for warmth. In 1895, the Intercollegiate Commission specified a code that was adopted by American institutions of higher learning to standardize the regalia worn by faculty and graduates. It has stood virtually unchanged to present time.

Master's Regalia

Master's gowns are silk-finish, black gowns with oblong sleeves that open at the wrist and feature a crescent-shaped trailing edge. The master's cap is a rigid mortarboard with a medium-length tassel that matches the color of the velvet trim of the master's hood. Master's tassels are worn on the left side of the cap at all times.

The hood is the most distinctive feature of the master's regalia. Master's hoods are medium length and feature a crescent-shaped trailing edge which compliments the sleeves of the master's gown. The color of the velvet edging of the hood indicates the degree earned while the color of the satin lining represents the university from which that degree has been conferred. Several combinations can be seen on the regalia worn by KCU administration and faculty, but the colors on the following page will be worn by KCU graduates.

Doctor's Regalia

Doctor's gowns are silk-finish gowns trimmed down the front with velvet and have three velvet bars on the bell-shaped sleeves. The velvet color is unique to the discipline for which the degree pertains, or may be black. The doctor of osteopathic medicine, as well as the doctor of medicine, is represented by green velvet.

The doctoral cap is an eight-sided velvet tam with short tassels that match the color of the velvet trim of the doctoral hood, although metallic gold tassels are also permitted. As with master's tassels, doctor's tassels are worn on the left side of the cap at all times.

The hood is the most distinctive feature of the doctor's regalia. Doctor's hoods are long and marked by a wide velvet binding in the color representing the degree earned. The color of the hood's interior satin lining represents the university from which that degree has been conferred. Myriad combinations can be seen on the regalia worn by KCU administration, faculty and guest hooders, but the colors on the following page will be worn by KCU graduates.

UNIVERSITY TRADITION

VELVET & SATIN COLORS

Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine

Green velvet representing medicine with silver & aubergine satin for Kansas City University.

Doctor of Humane Letters (*hon.*)

White velvet representing the arts with silver & aubergine satin for Kansas City University.

Master of Arts in Bioethics

White velvet representing the arts with silver & aubergine satin for Kansas City University.

Master of Business Administration
in Health Care Leadership

Brown velvet representing business with white & blue satin for Rockhurst University.

LATIN HONORS

Graduating with Latin Honors is a distinction that marks tremendous academic achievement. Graduates awarded Latin Honors wear bronze medallions on green grosgrain ribbon.

Summa Cum Laude

Bestowed with highest distinction upon students graduating in the top 2 percent of their class.

Magna Cum Laude

Bestowed with great distinction upon students graduating in the top 3 to 7 percent of their class.

Cum Laude

Bestowed with distinction upon students graduating in the top 8 to 12 percent of their class.

HONORS CORDS

Two honor societies provide graduates with a visual representation of their membership through braided honors cords worn over the standard regalia. Gold Humanism Honor Society members wear purple cords. Sigma Sigma Phi members wear burnt orange cords.

Additionally, graduates participating the Military Commissioning Ceremony, as well as graduates and faculty members who are veterans of the United States Armed Forces, may elect to wear braided red, white and blue Military Honors cords in recognition of their service to their country.

MEDALLIONS

Symbolic medallions are worn by Kansas City University academic administration, including the president and deans, to mark the occasion of Commencement. Additionally, graduates with certain academic distinctions are awarded medallions to reflect their accomplishments.

These distinctions include: members of Psi Sigma Alpha wear medallions on yellow grosgrain ribbon; graduates who completed a fellowship in anatomy or osteopathic manipulative medicine wear a silver medallion on white grosgrain ribbon; graduates bestowed with Latin Honors wear medallions on green grosgrain ribbon. These medallions are worn over the standard regalia.

I do hereby affirm my loyalty to the profession
I am about to enter.

I will be mindful always of my great responsibility
to preserve the health and the life of my patients,

to retain their confidence and respect both as a physician
and a friend who will guard their secrets
with scrupulous honor and fidelity,

to perform faithfully my professional duties,

to employ only those recognized methods of treatment
consistent with good judgment and with my skill and ability,

keeping in mind always nature's laws
and the body's inherent capacity for recovery.

I will be ever vigilant in aiding in the general welfare
of the community, sustaining its laws and institutions,

not engaging in those practices which will in any way
bring shame or discredit upon myself or my profession.

I will give no drugs for deadly purposes to any person,
though it be asked of me.

I will endeavor to work in accord with my colleagues
in a spirit of progressive cooperation,

and never by word or by act
cast imputations upon them
or their rightful practices.

I will look with respect and esteem
upon all those who have taught me my art.

To my college I will be loyal and strive
always for its best interests and for the interests
of the students who will come after me.

I will be ever alert to further the application
of basic biologic truths to the healing arts

and to develop the principles of osteopathy
which were first enunciated by Andrew Taylor Still.

