CLASS OF 2025 DOCTORAL HOODING CEREMONY

DOCTORAL HOODING CEREMONIES

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY, RURAL HEALTH SCIENCES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025 | 12:00 PM

Macon Campus Auditorium

DOCTOR OF MEDICINE - COLUMBUS

Thursday, May 1, 2025 | 2:00 PM

TSYS Auditorium

DOCTOR OF MEDICINE - MACON

Thursday, May 1, 2025 | 2:00 PM

Campus Auditorium

DOCTOR OF MEDICINE - SAVANNAH

Thursday, May 1, 2025 | 2:00 PM

Campus Auditorium

MERCER UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Our Vision

The grand challenges of rural health are resolved through education, research, and community engagement.

Our Mission

To educate physicians and health professionals to meet the primary care and healthcare needs of rural medically underserved areas in Georgia.

Established in 1982, Mercer University School of Medicine's mission is to educate physicians and health professionals to meet the primary care and healthcare needs of rural medically underserved areas in Georgia. We have three main campuses—in Macon, Savannah and Columbus—all united by this mission.



Student Distinctions

Student Achievement

Awards and Honor Societies

Honor Cords and Medallions

Cords and medallions are presented to students based on their academic achievement, military status, community service, or extracurricular involvements.

Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society	Green and Gold
Bears Excelling in the Area of Research	Tan
Bears Exploring Academic Medicine	Red
Certificate in Medical Ethics and Humanities	White
Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Scholar	Orange and Green
COVID Service Award	Purple
Distinction in Service and to the Community	Kelly Green
Gold Humanism Honor Society	Burgundy
Military/Veteran	Red, White, and Blue
MUSM Student Ambassador	Orange
Nathan Deal Scholar	Yellow
The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi	Royal Blue
Primary Care Accelerated Track Scholar	Gold Medallion
URiM Mentor	Orange and Black

ALPHA OMEGA ALPHA HONOR MEDICAL SOCIETY

Founded in 1902, Alpha Omega Alpha, is the nation's honor medical society. It was established to recognize the high ideals of both professionalism and academic excellence. Those selected truly live up to the society's motto of being 'worthy to serve the suffering'.

GOLD HUMANISM HONOR SOCIETY

Established by the Arnold P. Gold Foundation, this honor society recognizes medical students who have practiced patient-centered care by modeling the qualities of integrity, excellence, compassion, altruism, respect, and empathy. Students are selected into the honor society through a peer nomination during their third year of medical school.

PHI KAPPA PHI HONOR SOCIETY

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 to honor those students who had achieved the highest level of academic success regardless of academic discipline. The society was named Phi Kappa Phi from the letters of the Greek words forming its motto, Philosophía Krateítő Phőtôn, "Let the love of learning rule humanity."

PHYSICIAN'S PHYSICIAN AWARD

The Physician's Physician Award is given each year to the graduate who best exemplifies the ideals of a caring and trusted physician. Student are selected by their peers as the classmate who most demonstrates compassion, empathy and quality care and whom they would most likely choose as their own healthcare provider.

Doctor of Philosophy, Rural Health Sciences

ORDER OF CEREMONY

Procession

Welcome Ed Grimsley, MD

Senior Associate Dean, Macon Campus

Speaker Introduction Ed Grimsley, MD

Speaker Remarks Anne Montgomery, PhD

Director, Rural Health Sciences Program Associate Professor, Community Medicine

Presentation of Hoods Anne Montgomery, PhD

David Hollar, PhD

Assistant Professor, Community Medicine

Jennifer Barkin, PhD, Vice Chair, Community Medicine Professor, Community Medicine

Closing Remarks Ed Grimsley, MD

Recession



Zelma Yelitza Delgado, MSHS

 $\textbf{\textit{Dissertation Title:} Birthing Experiences of South Georgia \textit{Healthy}}$

Start Hispanic Participants Living in Rural Georgia

Dissertation Chair: Jennifer BarkinPhD



Taliyah Marie Henderson, MSIT

Dissertation Title: Aerial Delivery of Simulated Medication in a

Rural County of Georgia

Dissertation Chair: David Hollar, PhD



Alika Cleopatra Reid-Croy, MPH

Dissertation Title: Assessing the impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on child maltreatment rates and patterns among rural counties of Central Georgia

Dissertation Chair: Yudan Wei, MD, PhD



Laura Monique Ross, MSW

Dissertation Title: Socioecological Dynamics Influencing the Implementation of Community-Centered Care Models: Cross-Sector Insights from Rural and Tribal Georgia and Oklahoma

Dissertation Chair: Anne Montgomery, PhD

Doctor of Medicine

Columbus Campus

HOODING PARTICIPANTS

COLUMBUS

Speaker Tyler Rogers, MD, Assistant Professor of Family Medicine

Hooders Joe Eikelberry, MD, Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology Maurice M Solis, MD, Professor of Surgery

MACON

Speaker | Erskine James, MD, Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine

Hooders Ed Grimsley, MD, Senior Associate Dean - Macon Candi Nobles-James, MD, Associate Dean of Student Affairs - Macon

SAVANNAH

Speaker | Miller Hamrick, MD, Associate Professor of Surgery

Hooders David Baxter, MD, Senior Associate Dean - Savannah Natalie Hogan, MD, Associate Professor of Pediatrics



William Olin Blair III



Blake Spencer Cromie



Victoria Nichole Davis



Willem Jefferson de Vries



Joshua Joseph Fertig



Octavia Greer



Kieffer James Hellmeister



Cristina Jazmin Huaca



Nicole Christina Humphries ◆



Samantha Van Dyke Johnson ◆



Kaleb Christian Johnston **♦**†



Joshi ◆



Tung La



Jessica Jean Lewis



Jon Mallory McRae



Jin Hyung Moon

Columbus Campus

Doctor of Medicine

Macon Campus



Harley Laing Ponder



Bowen Kenneth Powers ◆



Christopher Ryan Rehak &



Deja Jamese Sibert •



Madison Eileen Adams



Harish Raj Alappan



Sarah Elizabeth Albritton ◆



Luis Enrique Aleman ◆



Camron James Sohn



James David Stephenson



Nidhi Sathya Thiruppathi



Amelia Annette Tochtrop



Ahmad Amer Al-Rafati



Brianna Purves Alwawi



Kaitlin Leigh Anderson ❖◆



Carver Nathaniel Arant *†



Laura Blount Tunison



Katherine Hilton Wells



Austin Allen Wiggins



Gabriela Starr Barr



Davis Edwards Bobbitt *



Arianna Michelle Borges



Lauren Crabb Brooker



Carlos Cespedes



John Pickard Cheek



Caleb Lee Christian



Kun Hsi Chu •

13

12

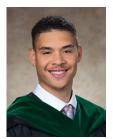
Macon Campus



Ashlee TraKaila Dixon



James Boyd Dunaway III ❖◆†



Myles Nicholas Duncan



Leeia Cheree McEachern Fields



Kristy Elizabeth Jones



Christina Leigh Kinder *



Alexandra Hope Lessnau



Sarah Katherine Neel Maddox



Annsley Haynes Fox



Srividya Ganapathy •



Bret Kevin Garza *†



Anna Corry Gerald ◆



Mary Rachel Metzger



Jacob Stuart Milliner *



Brianna Michaela Moon



Timothy Tyler Moore •



Musab Gulzar *



Maya T. Handberry-Howard



Abigail E. Harrod



Fatima Bint-E Humayun



Sarah Jordan Neaves ◆



Joshua Blake Nunez



Ogechukwu Jane Otiji





Robert Jason Hunter



Maryam Irfan



Susanna Hall Jenkins



Terrell Scott Johnson



Neha Patel



Rutt Patel



Payton Amber Phillips



Charlotte Miriam Pilcher *

Doctor of Medicine Savannah Campus

Macon Campus



Trung Dinh Quach



Supreet Kaur Raina



Taylor Mathis Ŕamirez ❖



Elizabeth Holland Pittman



Zubair Akram



Priya Arya *†



Grayson Taylor Beasley



Austin Hunter Bennett



Nicole Andrea Rios



Gunnar Preston Rogers



Catherine Brooke Sanders



Alexandria Carrasquillo Simko



Samuel Augustin Boatright



Denisa Ramona Boitos



Bethany Rozeboom Bowling



Candler Keith Boyett *†



Skyler Woodard Slater



Ashley Ellen Traylor



Simran Pravinsinh Vaghela



John Dean Christiansen



Jonathan Michael Coates •



Genesis Rebeca Cook



Crew *†



Katelyn Nicole Crumbley *



Meena Dhir *†



Allison Leann Dockus ❖◆†



Avery Michael Duncan *

Savannah Campus



Kira Ruth Eidle ◆



Kaleigh Ann Foster **∻◆**†



Fatima Ghiathi



Joseph Anthony Gibase



Megan Ann McArthur **∻**†



Claire Anne McCarthy



Matthew Gregory McGinty



Chynna Marie Moore



Kaylien Muller Goodin



Kenerly Nell Gordon ◆



Emily Hartley Grant



Hayden Elizabeth Harvard *†



Joshua Ryan Moore *†



Samantha Kenzie Morris



Dakota Jordan Nale Lovett



Zachery Dylan Neil ❖◆



Christopher Lane Hatcher



Megan Nicole Hobbs ◆



Cameron Lee Holsomback •



Caley Anna Ingram



Jimmy Nguyen



Darshti Patel



Mahjabin Patrawala



Garret Peter Pierzchajlo



Kristen Kent



Olivia LeKuang Little



Alina Maleski Zofia



Mikalah Elise Maury *†



Noah Christian Pierzchajlo



Brynne Meaghan Ridgewell



Emily Rose Rinehart



Matthew Louis Romine

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Savannah Campus



Ansley Blair Sanders *



Scott Thomas Saunders





Havird McLean Skalak



Erin Wesley Smith



Shawn-Michael Speight



Sydney Lauryn Stallings



James Avery Stokes •



Olivia Taylor Thomas



Peyton Russell Trancygier



Caitlin Suzanne Turner



Sarah Rachel Tuttle



Collin Andrew Vandemark



Laurie Lynne Villamor



Annabel Grace Ward



Zachary Turner White

After many years of hard work, Mercer University School of Medicine's graduates are on to the next phase in their careers and this is where their

RESIDENCY DESTINATIONS

Madison E. Adams

Family Medicine - ACT Atrium Health Navicent Medical Center Macon, GA

upcoming years in residency will be spent.

Zubair Akram

Transitional South Georgia Medical Center Valdosta, SC

Harish Alappan

Internal Medicine - Primary Yale - New Haven Hospital New Haven, CT

Sarah Albritton

Family Medicine - Rural University of Tennessee College of Medicine Chattanooga, TN

Luis Aleman

Emergency Medicine WellStar Health System Marietta, GA

Ahmad Al-Rafati

Internal Medicine WellStar Health System Marietta, GA

Briana Purves Alwawi

Physical Medicine & Rehab Memorial Healthcare System Hollywood, FL

Kaitlin Anderson

Pediatrics Medical College of Georgia Augusta, GA

Carver Arant

Internal Medicine Emory University School of Medicine Atlanta, GA

Priya Arya

Otolaryngology University of North Carolina Hospitals Chapel Hill, NC

Gabriella Barr

General Surgery
University of Tennessee Graduate
School of Medicine
Knoxville. TN

Grayson Beasley

Anesthesiology Medical College of Georgia Augusta, GA

Samuel Boatright

Internal Medicine University of Tennessee College of Medicine Chattanooga, TN

Davis Bobbitt

Internal Medicine
Emory University School of Medicine
Atlanta, GA

Denisa Boitos

Emergency Medicine University of Tennessee College of Medicine Chattanooga, TN

Arianna Borges

Pediatrics Vanderbilt University Medical Center Nashville, TN

Bethany Bowling

Obstetrics-Gynecology HCA Memorial Health University Medical Center Savannah, GA

Candler Boyett

Internal Medicine
University of Colorado School of Medicine Denver
Aurora, CO

Lauren Brooker

Pediatrics University of Alabama Medical Center -Birmingham Birmingham, AL

J. Carlos Cespedes Pacheco

Pediatrics

Mayo Clinic School of Graduate Medical Education Rochester, MN

John Cheek

Emergency Medicine Northeast Georgia Medical Center Gainesville, GA

Caleb Christian

Internal Medicine

Atrium Health Navicent Medical Center Macon, GA

John Christiansen

Transitional

Emory University School of Medicine Atlanta, GA

Kun Hsi Chu

Opthalmology

West Virginia University School of Medicine Morgantown, WV

Jonathan Coates

Internal Medicine Atrium Health Navicent Medical Center Macon, GA

Bryce Crew

Thoracic Surgery
Loma Linda University Health
Loma Linda, CA

Blake Cromie

Emergency Medicine HCA Healthcare/TriStar Skyline Nashville, TN

Katelyn Crumbley

Obstetrics-Gynecology Carolinas Medical Center Charlotte, NC

Willem de Vries

Internal Medicine Medical College of Georgia Augusta, GA

Meena Dhir

Obstetrics-Gynecology Prisma Health - University of South Carolina School of Medicine - Greenville Greenville, SC

Ashlee Dixon

Obstetrics-Gynecology Prisma Health - University of South Carolina School of Medicine - Columbia Columbia, SC

Allison Jones Dockus

Orthopaedic Surgery University of Tennessee College of Medicine Chattanooga, TN

James Dunaway

Obstetrics-Gynecology University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine Knoxville, TN

Avery Duncan

Anesthesiology Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center Winston-Salem, NC

Myles Duncan

Emergency Medicine Medical College of Georgia Augusta, GA

Kira Eidle

Obstetrics-Gynecology HCA Memorial Health University Medical Center Savannah, GA

Kaleigh Foster

Internal Medicine Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center Winston-Salem, NC

Annsley Fox

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

Srividya Ganapathy

Pediatrics

Emory University School of Medicine Atlanta, GA

Bret Garza

Radiology - Diagnostic Mayo Clinic School of Graduate Medical Education Jacksonville, FL

Anna Gerald

Medicine - Pediatrics University of Mississippi Medical Center Jackson, MS

Joseph Gibase

Internal Medicine Atrium Health Navicent Medical Center Macon, GA

Kaylien Goodin

Internal Medicine HCA Memorial Health University Medical Center Savannah, GA

Kenerly Gordon

Obstetrics-Gynecology University of Central Florida/ HCA Healthcare GME Gainesville, FL

Emily Grant

Family Medicine
Prisma Health - University of South Carolina
School of Medicine - Greenville
Greer. SC

Musab Gulzar

Orthopaedic Surgery University of Florida College of Medicine -Jacksonville Jacksonville, FL

Maya Handberry-Howard

Pathology

University of Alabama Medical Center -Birmingham Birmingham, AL

Hayden Harvard

Orthopaedic Surgery Duke University Medical Center Durham, NC

C. Lane Hatcher

Internal Medicine Carolinas Medical Center Charlotte, NC

Megan Hobbs

Pediatrics

HCA Memorial Health University Medical Center Savannah, GA

Cameron Holsomback

Internal Medicine

HCA Memorial Health University Medical Center Savannah, GA

Fatima Humayun

Internal Medicine Atrium Health Navicent Medical Center Macon, GA

Nicole Humphries

Neurology

Prisma Health - University of South Carolina School of Medicine - Greenville Greer. SC

R. Jason Hunter

Pediatrics - ACT Atrium Health Navicent Medical Center Macon, GA

Caley Ingram

Internal Medicine

HCA Memorial Health University Medical Center Savannah, GA

Maryam Irfan

Psychiatry

Gateway Behavioral Health Community Service Board Savannah. GA

Susanna Jenkins

Pediatrics

Atrium Health Navicent Medical Center Macon, GA

Samantha Johnson

Urology University of Colorado Aurora, CO

T. Scott Johnson

Emergency Medicine University of Miami/Jackson Health System Miami, FL

Kaleb Johnston

Internal Medicine University of Alabama Medical Center -Birmingham Birmingham, AL

Kristy Jones

Psychiatry Piedmont Macon Medical Center Macon, GA

Meenal Joshi

Obstetrics-Gynecology Atrium Health Navicent Medical Center Macon, GA

Kristen Kent

Pediatrics

Nemours Children's Hospital - Florida Orlando, FL

Christina Kinder

General Surgery Orlando Health Orlando, FL

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Tung La

Internal Medicine

East Alabama Medical Center

Opelika, AL

Alexandra Lessnau

Obstetrics-Gynecology

Atrium Health Navicent Medical Center

Macon, GA

Jessica Lewis

Family Medicine

Self Regional Healthcare

Greenwood, SC

Olivia Little

Internal Medicine

University of Tennessee Health Science Center

Memphis, TN

Sarah K. Maddox

Pediatrics - ACT

Atrium Health Navicent Medical Center

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Alina Maleski Smith

Internal Medicine

Mayo Clinic School of Graduate

Medical Education

Jacksonville, FL

Mikalah Maury

Obstetrics-Gynecology

Emory University School of Medicine

Atlanta, GA

Megan McArthur

Internal Medicine

University of Alabama Medical Center -

Birmingham

Birmingham, AL

Claire McCarthy

Anesthesiology

MedStar Georgetown University Hospital

Washington, DC

Matthew McGinty

Internal Medicine

HCA Memorial Health University Medical Center

Savannah, GA

John McRae

Internal Medicine

University of Tennessee Ascension St. Thomas

Nashville, TN

Mary Rachel Bonner Metzger

Obstetrics-Gynecology

Atrium Health Navicent Medical Center

Macon, GA

Jacob Milliner

Family Medicine

Piedmont Columbus Regional

Columbus, GA

Brianna Moon

Medicine - Pediatrics

 ${\it University~of~Tennessee~Health~Science~Center}$

Memphis, TN

Jin Moon

Psychiatry

Gateway Behavioral Health Community

Service Board

Savannah, GA

Chynna Moore

Medicine - Psychiatry

University of Texas Southwestern Medical School

Dallas, TX

Joshua Moore

General Surgery

University of Tennessee Health Science Center

Memphis, TN

T. Tyler Moore

Neurology

Emory University School of Medicine

Atlanta, GA

Samantha Morris

Pediatrics

Medical College of Georgia

Augusta, GA

Dakota Nale Lovett

Internal Medicine

University of Vermont Medical Center

Burlington, VT

Sarah Jordan Neaves

Obstetrics-Gynecology

WellStar Health System

Marietta, GA

Zachery Neil

Internal Medicine

Mayo Clinic School of Graduate

Medical Education

Jacksonville, FL

Jimmy Nguyen

General Surgery

Grand Strand Regional Medical Center

Myrtle Beach, SC

James Nunez

Family Medicine

HCA Florida Orange Park Hospital

Orange Park, FL

Ogechukwu Otiji

Internal Medicine

Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center

Winston-Salem, NC

David Park

Emergency Medicine

Northeast Georgia Medical Center

Gainesville, GA

Darshti Patel

Internal Medicine

University of Arizona College of Medicine

Phoenix, AZ

Neha Patel

Family Medicine

Floyd Medical Center

Rome, GA

Rutt Patel

Internal Medicine

Atrium Health Navicent Medical Center

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Mahjabin Patrawala

General Surgery

Orlando Health

Orlando, FL

Payton Phillips

Family Medicine

Self Regional Healthcare

Greenwood, SC

Garret Pierzchajlo

General Surgery

HCA Memorial Health University Medical Center

Savannah, GA

Noah Pierzchailo

Plastic Surgery

Albany Medical Center

Albany, NY

Charlotte Pilcher

Pathology

Emory University School of Medicine

Atlanta, GA

Elizabeth Pittman

Emergency Medicine

University of Alabama Medical Center -

Birmingham Birmingham, AL

Harley Ponder

Family Medicine

Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare

Tallahassee, FL

Bowen Powers

Medicine - Pediatrics

University of Tennessee Health Science Center

Memphis, TN

Trung Quach

Psychiatry

Piedmont Macon Medical Center

Macon, GA

Supreet Raina

Obstetrics-Gynecology
Loma Linda University Health

Loma Linda, CA

Taylor Ramirez

Neurology

Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center

Winston-Salem, NC

Christopher Rehak

Orthopaedic Surgery

Jack Hughston Memorial Hospital

Phenix City, AL

Brynne Ridgewell

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HCA Memorial Health University Medical Center

Savannah, GA

Emily Rinehart

Transitional

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Myrtle Beach, SC

Radiology - Diagnostic HCA Memorial Health University Medical Center

Savannah, GA

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Matthew Romine

Matthew Rolli

General Surgery
University of Tennessee Health Science Center

Memphis, TN

Ansley Sanders

Child Neurology

Phoenix Children's Hospital Phoenix, AZ

Catherine Sanders

Emergency Medicine WellStar Health System

Marietta, GA

Scott Saunders
Anesthesiology

Ochsner Clinic Foundation

New Orleans, LA

4 25

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Nashville, TN

Deja Sibert

General Surgery University of Toledo

Toledo, OH

Alexandria Simko

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Southeast Georgia Health System

Brunswick, GA

Havird Skalak

Internal Medicine

Medical College of Georgia

Augusta, GA

Skyler Slater

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HCA Memorial Health University Medical Center

Savannah, GA

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Macon, GA

Camron Sohn

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Atrium Health Navicent Medical Center

Macon, GA

Sydney L. Stallings

Pediatrics - ACT

HCA Memorial Health University Medical Center

Savannah, GA

James Stephenson

Transitional

Madigan Army Medical Center

McChord, WA

James Stokes

Internal Medicine

Virginia Commonwealth University Health

Systems

Richmond, VA

Nidhi Thiruppathi

Obstetrics - Gynecology

Aultman Hospital/Northeast Ohio Medical

University

Canton, OH

Olivia Thomas

Family Medicine - ACT

HCA Memorial Health University Medical Center

Savannah, GA

Amelia Tochtrop

Internal Medicine

Mayo Clinic School of Graduate

Medical Education

Jacksonville, FL

Peyton R. Trancygier

Pediatrics - ACT

HCA Memorial Health University Medical Center

Savannah, GA

Ashlev E. Traylor

Family Medicine - ACT

Atrium Health Navicent Medical Center

Macon, GA

Laura Tunison

General Surgery

University of Tennessee Ascension St. Thomas

Nashville, TN

Caitlin Turner

Urology

University of Alabama Medical Center -

Birmingham

Birmingham, AL

Simran Vaghela

Internal Medicine

WellStar Health System

Marietta, GA

Collin Vandemark

Pathology

CommonSpirit Health Mountain Region

Colorado Springs, CO

L. Lvnne Villamor

Internal Medicine

HCA Memorial Health University Medical Center

Savannah, GA

Annabel Ward

Pediatrics

University of Alabama Medical Center -

Birmingham

Birmingham, AL

Katherine Wells

General Surgery

University of Tennessee College of Medicine

Chattanooga, TN

Zachary T. White

Internal Medicine - ACT

HCA Memorial Health University Medical Center

Savannah, GA

Austin Wiggins

General Surgery

Florida State University College of Medicine

Tallahassee, FL

