



UNMCSM

COLLEGE
OF MEDICINE

Honors Convocation Ceremony

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA MEDICAL CENTER

May 8, 2025 | 3:00 P.M.

HOLLAND PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

CEREMONY

Bradley E. Britigan, MD
Dean, UNMC College of Medicine
Stokes-Shackelford Professor, Internal Medicine

***PROCESSIONAL:** Pomp and Circumstance
(*Please Stand)

***INVOCATION**

Madison Ann Han
Class of 2025

WELCOME

Bradley E. Britigan, MD
Dean, UNMC College of Medicine
Stokes-Shackelford Professor, Internal Medicine

GREETING

Frank Hawkins, MD
President, College of Medicine Alumni Council of the UNMC Alumni Association
Class of 1988

RECOGNITION OF FACULTY ACHIEVEMENT

Pranita Chetana Devaraju
President, Class of 2025

HIRSCHMANN PRIZE FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

RECOGNITION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Bradley E. Britigan, MD
Dean, UNMC College of Medicine
Stokes-Shackelford Professor, Internal Medicine

ALPHA OMEGA ALPHA

INTRODUCTION OF DEGREE CANDIDATES

READERS

Wendy J. Grant, MD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Student Affairs, UNMC College of Medicine
Professor, Department of Surgery-Transplant

Alan R. Erickson, MD
Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, UNMC College of Medicine
Associate Professor, Department of Internal Medicine - Rheumatology

HOODERS

Bennett J. Berning, MD
Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery – Acute Care Surgery

Amy C. Cannella, MD
Professor, Internal Medicine - Rheumatology

THE PHYSICIAN'S PLEDGE

Bradley E. Britigan, MD
Dean, UNMC College of Medicine
Stokes-Shackelford Professor, Internal Medicine

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Wendy J. Grant, MD
Associate Dean for Admissions and Student Affairs, UNMC College of Medicine
Professor, Department of Surgery-Transplant

CLASS PRESIDENT ADDRESS

Pranita Chetana Devaraju

***BENEDICTION**

Grace Luree Kelly
Class of 2025

***RECESSIONAL:** Pomp and Circumstance

CEREMONY MARSHALS

Nathan M. Anderson, MD
Assistant Professor, Department of Internal Medicine - General Medicine

Kimberly S. Latacha, PhD
Associate Professor, Department of Genetics, Cell Biology and Anatomy
Vice Chair for Medical Education, Department of Genetics, Cell Biology and Anatomy

SPRING 2025 GRADUATES

Josiah Adamson, Kearney, NE
Grant David Albers, Bennet, NE
Nicholas Joseph Amendola, Naperville, IL
Bailey Shea Anderson, Omaha, NE
Molly Catherine Antonson, Lincoln, NE
Patrick Dean Arnold, Gretna, NE
Anna Libby Barent, Lincoln, NE
High Distinction
Peyton Daniel Bash, Lincoln, NE
Logan Patrick Baumberger, Blair, NE
Jack Ryan Begley, Omaha, NE
Distinction
Lauren Elizabeth Bexten, Omaha, NE
Madison Maude Bierman, Omaha, NE
Camden Vanderhoof Bilyeu, Omaha, NE
Luke Christian Blomenberg, Norfolk, NE
Treyvon Kyle Thomas Bokoskie, North Platte, NE
Caroline Anne Boyd, Omaha, NE
Makayla Morgan Brockhaus, Creighton, NE
Will Steven Bruening, Union County, SD
High Distinction
Alyssa Lynn Bursott, Pine City, MN
Jay Justin Byrd, Omaha, NE
Distinction
Lauryn Elizabeth Caster, Papillion, NE
Brandon Scott Chelewski, Sutton, NE
Jordyn Childears, North Platte, NE
Cade Cody, Cody, NE
Tyler James Connely, Kearney, NE
Branden William Daro, David City, NE
Trevor Alan Daubert, Omaha, NE
Joseph Anthony David, Omaha, NE
Jacob Donald Denesia, Lincoln, NE
High Distinction
Aurora Eileen DePalma, Norfolk, NE
Pranita Chetana Devaraju, Omaha, NE
Max Daniel Devine, Hickman, NE
Haley Anne DeWitt, Papillion, NE

Danielle Dircks, Omaha, NE
Distinction

Sineah Ny-Chelle Donaldson, Omaha, NE
Anna Maria Dorhout, Omaha, NE
Alexander James Duncan, Gering, NE
Laura Ebers, Lincoln, NE
Paige Corrin Eicher, Elkhorn, NE
Brianna Lee Foley, Leawood, KS
Sophie Isabel Gart, Omaha, NE
Sydnee Gemar, Sutton, NE
Distinction

Matthew Jeffrey Gromowsky, Omaha, NE
Jessica Hack, Omaha, NE
Jarod Hamsa, Omaha, NE
Madison Ann Han, Omaha, NE
Cole Alden Herrin, Lawrence, KS
Stephen Edward Higgins Jr., Franklin, MA
Cole Jacob Homer, Lincoln, NE
Benjamin James Hynes, Lincoln, NE
Katie Lynn Hytrek, Fullerton, NE
Shane Michael Jacobs, Grand Island, NE
Corbin Scott Johnson, Chadron, NE
Kennedy Elizabeth Johnson, Kearney, NE
Kaili Marie Jorgens, Martell, NE
Marcus Lee Judah, Omaha, NE
Timothy John Kaftan, Omaha, NE
Sydney Ann Keckler, Weeping Water, NE
Grace Luree Kelly, Omaha, NE
Chase Ryan Kimberling, North Platte, NE
Joseph Gerald Kleinsmith, Omaha, NE
Distinction

Spencer Daniel Lau, Omaha, NE
Andrew Steven Leavitt, Omaha, NE
Distinction

Joseph George Levey, Sturgis, SD
Brenden Marlon Lofgren, Omaha, NE
Hannah Elizabeth Manoj, Papillion, NE
Rose Elizabeth McCoy, St. Petersburg, FL
Lauren Crockett McGill, Wahoo, NE
Distinction

William Patrick McGuire III, Omaha, NE
Mikayla Emily McKee, Malcolm, NE
Distinction
Maggie Jean Meyer, Omaha, NE
William Thomas Mitchell, Omaha, NE
Distinction
Caitlin Marie Molczyk, Columbus, NE
Jack Edward Mordeson, Omaha, NE
High Distinction
Nicholas James Mullen, Omaha, NE
Savana Victoria Nawojski, Omaha, NE
Kara Noelle Netz, Lincoln, NE
Kim Thien Nguyen, Lincoln, NE
Nam V Nguyen, Vietnam
Distinction
Ashlyn Morgan O'Leary, Omaha, NE
Distinction
Seth Richard Ostdiek, Sidney, NE
Garett Paul Ostdiek-Wille, Gretna, NE
Jacob L. Owens, Elkhorn, NE
Highest Distinction
Sunit Thakor Patel, Omaha, NE
Morgan Lynn Penry, Omaha, NE
Alicia Marie Phillips, Colorado Springs, CO
Matthew Stuart Pile, Wichita, KS
Alexandra Marie Hilliard Pool, Kearney, NE
Emma Bailey Poulas, Omaha, NE
Baylor Grant Price, Norfolk, NE
Dustin Steven Quinata, Miami, FL
Richard Maxwell Regester, Council Bluffs, IA
Karyssa Morgan Richardson, Lincoln, NE
Llicel Llaquelin Rodriguez Gurrola, Scottsbluff, NE
Morgan Ashley Rothanzl, Omaha, NE
Sarah Salam Sayed Ebrahim Salman Maki, Omaha, NE
Matthew Norris Schefcik, Omaha, NE
Samantha Jean Schindler, Fremont, NE
Distinction
Roarick Tathlyn Schollmeyer, Bismarck, ND
Rizwan Moin Siddiqui, Omaha, NE
Luke Robert Siedhoff, Crete, NE

Nathaniel Martineau Singh, Omaha, NE
High Distinction
Rachel Ellen Sisley, Omaha, NE
Austin Daniel Snyder, North Platte, NE
Jenny Jooeun Song, Lincoln, NE
Michael David Stage, Gretna, NE
Benjamin Gordon Stevens, Ord, NE
Alex Huston Stogdill, Lincoln, NE
Sarah Danielle Sutter, Charlotte, NC
Brawly Steven Taylor, Elkhorn, NE
Kaitlyn Crutchley Thompson, Arnold, MO
Macy Ann Thonen, Omaha, NE
Danielle Marie Tibbels, Omaha, NE
Diego Alfredo Trejo, Omaha, NE
Natalie Chantal Von Oldenburg, Omaha, NE
Austen David Washington, Detroit, MI
Katherine C. Weaver, Omaha, NE
Lauren Elizabeth Weis, Omaha, NE
High Distinction
Alyssa Wells, Grand Island, NE
Eva Joan Wetzel, Omaha, NE
Andrew Cole White, Omaha, NE
John Connor Woodard, Homer, NE
Alexander Wu, Papillion, NE
Jaime Tyler Yrastorza, San Diego, CA
Currey Michael Zalman, Lincoln, NE
Distinction
Lauren H. Ziegenbein, Omaha, NE

A candidate receiving the degree of Doctor of Medicine with **Highest Distinction** have distinguished themselves both academically, by ranking in the upper three-to-five percent of their class, and in independent study by receiving a “honors” designation on their M.D. thesis. Their medallion is identified by a combination of a white and red ribbon.

A candidate receiving the degree of Doctor of Medicine with **High Distinction** have distinguished themselves in course work by ranking in the upper five percent of their class or are in the upper ten-to-fifteen percent of their class and have also received a “honors” designation on their M.D. thesis. Their medallion is identified by a white ribbon.

A candidate receiving the degree of Doctor of Medicine with **Distinction** have distinguished themselves either in course work by ranking in the upper ten-to-fifteen percent of their class or in independent study by receiving a “honors” designation on their M.D. thesis. Their medallion is identified by a red ribbon.

STUDENT AWARDS

The students listed below previously received awards from local, regional, national or international organizations.

The **Alpha Omega Alpha (ΑΩΑ) Clinical Excellence Award** is presented to the senior student who completes medical school with the highest clinical grade point average. The recipient of the ΑΩΑ Senior Scholar Award is not eligible for this award.

Will Steven Bruening

The **Alpha Omega Alpha (ΑΩΑ) Gerald F. Moore Leadership Award** is given to a senior medical student for their outstanding service and leadership during medical school.

Kim Thien Nguyen

The **Alpha Omega Alpha (ΑΩΑ) Grissom Award** is presented to the senior student who completes medical school with the third-highest clinical grade point average.

Jacob Donald Denesia

The **Alpha Omega Alpha (ΑΩΑ) Senior Scholar Award** is presented to the senior student who completes medical school with the highest overall grade point average.

Lauren Elizabeth Weis

The **Alpha Omega Alpha (ΑΩΑ) Senior Thesis Award** is presented to the senior student who completes medical school with the highest ranked thesis as determined by the Research and Development Committee of the College of Medicine.

Jack Edward Mordeson

The **American Academy of Neurology Medical Student Prize for Excellence**

Eva Joan Wetzel

The **American Medical Women's Association (AMWA) Glasgow-Rubin Certification of Commendation** is given to the woman who graduates first in her medical school graduating class.

Lauren Elizabeth Weis

The **American Medical Women's Association (AMWA) Glasgow-Rubin Citation for Academic Achievement** is given to the women who graduate in the top ten percent of their medical school graduating class.

Anna Libby Barent

Ashlyn Morgan O'Leary

Sydnee Gemar

Samantha Jean Schindler

Mikayla Emily McKee

The **Association for Academic Surgery Student Research Award** is presented annually to a senior medical student anticipating a career in surgery. The purpose is to recognize an outstanding research effort by a medical student and to encourage student interest in academic surgery as a career. A committee, consisting of members of the Association for Academic Surgery at this institution, selects a student for this award based on a research report the student submits. The research must have been done primarily by the student during medical school.

Alexander Wu

The **Brad Paulson Memorial Award** is given by the Department of Anesthesiology to the senior student, pursuing a career in Anesthesiology, who best exemplifies the leadership, academic aptitude and personality of Dr. Brad Paulson. While scholarship is an important consideration in the selection of the recipient, equal consideration is given to leadership and character.

Trevor Alan Daubert

The **Donald Dunlop Award for Superior Academic Performance in Obstetrics and Gynecology** is presented to the graduating senior who has achieved the highest academic achievement in Obstetrics and Gynecology during medical school.

Macy Ann Thonen

The **Dr. James Leahy Memorial Award** is given annually in memory of Dr. Leahy who was an Assistant Professor of Family Medicine at the University of Nebraska College of Medicine. The recipient is an outstanding senior medical student who enters the Family Medicine Residency Program at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. The recipient is chosen by the faculty of the Department of Family Medicine.

Makayla Morgan Brockhaus

The recipient of the **Emergency Medicine Outstanding Student Award** was selected by the Emergency Medicine staff physicians. The award is presented to the graduating senior who is interested in pursuing a career in Emergency Medicine and has demonstrated the highest proficiency, interest and academic aptitude in treating the acutely ill.

Anna Libby Barent

The **Fay Smith Award for Outstanding Performance in Family Medicine** is given annually in the memory of Dr. Fay Smith by the Nebraska Academy of Family Physicians. Dr. Smith was appointed as the first Professor of General Practice in the nation in 1965. The recipient is an outstanding senior medical student who successfully completed a Family Medicine Ambulatory Clerkship at one of the three Family Medicine clinics prior to April 1 of their senior year and was accepted into a Family Medicine residency program. The recipient is chosen by the faculty of the Department of Family Medicine.

Anna Maria Dorhout

The **Frank J. Menolascino Outstanding Student in Psychiatry Award** is given each year to a graduating medical student who will be entering a Psychiatry residency. The selection is based on interest in the field of Psychiatry, excellent clinical skills demonstrated during the Psychiatry clerkship, commitment to caring for those with mental illness and demonstrated leadership among their peers.

Kaitlyn Crutchley Thompson

The **Iota Benefit/William Angle Memorial Scholarship** recognizes senior medical students who, as members in good standing of Iota Chapter, have demonstrated outstanding academic achievement by being named members of AΩA. These scholarships are named for Dr. William Angle, a long-time board member of Iota Benefit, whose investment strategies were in large part responsible for the ability of the board to award them.

Phi Rho Sigma is a national medical society founded over one hundred years ago. Iota Benefit functions as the alumni association for the Iota Chapter of Phi Rho whose home is the University of Nebraska Medical Center. The goals of Phi Rho are: 1) To promote good fellowship among students and alumni of medical schools. 2) To encourage a high standard of professional work and continuing improvement in the medical profession. 3) To assist, by every honorable means, the advancement of its members 4) To advance the interest of medical education and 5) To promote the concept of medicine as a profession of service.

Jay Justin Byrd
Trevor Alan Daubert
Sophie Isabel Gart
Madison Ann Han
Joseph Gerald Kleinsmith

Jacob L. Owens
Richard Maxwell Regester
Kaitlyn Crutchley Thompson
Jaime Tyler Yrastorza
Currey Michael Zalman

The **Jerald R. Schenken, MD Outstanding Achievement in Pathology and Microbiology Award** is presented each year to a senior graduating from the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Medicine. The student selected will have exemplified outstanding professionalism and achieved scholastic excellence in the areas of pathology and microbiology while attending school. Through the generosity of more than two hundred donors, this award was established to honor Jerald R. Schenken, MD, a highly respected member of the Omaha medical community. Dr. Schenken devoted more than 35 years to teaching medical students, physician trainees and practicing physicians in addition to pursuing a successful career in pathology. He was a strong advocate for the healthcare profession and played an important role in assuring skilled physicians and other healthcare professionals are available in Nebraska.

Michael David Stage

The **Kenneth M. Browne, M.D. Award in Neurosurgery**

Spencer Daniel Lau

Jack Edward Mordeson

The **LeeRoy Meyer Outstanding Student in Internal Medicine Award** is given annually to a senior medical student who has decided on a career in Internal Medicine. The recipient is selected by the Undergraduate Education Committee of the Department of Internal Medicine based on their performance on the junior clerkship and on senior electives, personal character, leadership and research initiative.

Sarah Salam Sayed Ebrahim Salman Maki

The **Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award** recognizes graduating students and faculty members who demonstrate both clinical excellence and outstanding compassion in the delivery of care and who show respect for patients, their families, and healthcare colleagues.

Grace Luree Kelly

The **Louise Nolan Scott Award** is given to a worthy candidate who will be pursuing residency training in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Nebraska Affiliated Hospitals.

Macy Ann Thonen

The recipient of the **Mark Husk Pediatric Scholar Award** is chosen by the faculty on the basis of distinguished scholastic and clinical performance in Pediatrics, as well as potential for a career in academic and investigative medicine.

Rose Elizabeth McCoy

The recipient of the **Michael Combs Award** is chosen by the College of Medicine Administration and is a senior student who exemplifies all or some of the following qualities: leadership demonstrated through participation in student organizations and governance; interest in literature and the arts; belief in the worth of fellow humankind and an optimistic outlook toward the future and scholastic achievement.

Katherine C. Weaver

The **Nebraska Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics Award to an Outstanding Student in Pediatrics** is given by the Academy to recognize medical students who are interested in the pursuit of a medical career in Pediatrics and have strong interest in establishing a private practice in the State of Nebraska. Selection by the faculty of the Department of Pediatrics is based on exceptional student performance evaluations, scholastic honors, and/or awards, research productivity and potential for being a good ambassador for UNMC.

Max Daniel Devine

The **Paul E. Hodgson Award in Surgery** is presented annually to a senior medical student anticipating a career in surgery. Selection is based upon scholarly performance in surgery, clinical evaluations, scholastic honors, research productivity and personal and professional traits and conduct.

Brianna Lee Foley

The **Service-Learning Community Engagement Award** recognizes senior students who exhibit active leadership in service learning with clear vision, innovation, and creativity. Awardees have demonstrated strong initiative with a clear impact, motivate others, and exhibit a high standard of integrity.

Sophie Isabel Gart

Emma Bailey Poulas

Grace Luree Kelly

Katherine C. Weaver

Joseph Gerald Kleinsmith

Andrew Cole White

The **Service-Learning Leadership Award** recognizes senior students who exhibit outstanding civic commitment, community awareness and personal development. Awardees have demonstrated incorporation of their experiences into their personal goals, perspectives, and values.

Molly Catherine Antonson

Jacob L. Owens

Aurora Eileen DePalma

Richard Maxwell Regester

Kim Thien Nguyen

Currey Michael Zalman

The recipient for the **Waldron Cassidy Award in Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery** is chosen by the departmental faculty. Selection is limited to a senior medical student who has been active in the departments' educational activities, clinical activities and research projects.

Joseph Gerald Kleinsmith

ALPHA OMEGA ALPHA

Alpha Omega Alpha (ΑΩΑ), founded in 1902, is the national medical honor society. Election to ΑΩΑ is an honor signifying a lasting commitment to professionalism, leadership, scholarship, research, and community service.

These students are distinguished with an ΑΩΑ honor cord. The ΑΩΑ honor cord is green, for medicine, with a mixed strand of white (the humanities) and gold (science) and has an ΑΩΑ charm.

**Elected to ΑΩΑ – Junior Student*

***Molly Catherine Antonson**

Jack Ryan Begley

Will Steven Bruening

Jay Justin Byrd

***Trevor Alan Daubert**

***Jacob Donald Denesia**

***Haley Anne DeWitt**

Danielle Dirks

Sophie Isabel Gart

Madison Ann Han

***Joseph Gerald Kleinsmith**

Mikayla Emily McKee

Jack Edward Mordeson

***Kim Thien Nguyen**

***Nam V Nguyen**

Ashlyn Morgan O’Leary

***Jacob L. Owens**

Richard Maxwell Regester

Sarah Salam Sayed Ebrahim Salman Maki

Nathaniel Martineau Singh

***Jenny Jooeun Song**

***Kaitlyn Crutchley Thompson**

***Lauren Elizabeth Weis**

Jaime Tyler Yrastorza

***Currey Michael Zalman**

ENHANCED MEDICAL EDUCATION TRACK SCHOLARS

The Enhanced Medical Education Track (EMET) is a scholarly concentration program that offers a limited number of medical students an opportunity to perform in-depth study of an interdisciplinary field of medicine. EMET scholars are selected based on their motivation to complete work above and beyond the basic M.D. curriculum and are required to maintain good academic standing. EMET scholars participate in Track activities such as seminars, preceptorships, or research throughout their first three years of medical school. During their M4 year, EMET scholars produced a capstone scholarly project.

EMET scholars are distinguished with a royal blue honor cord.

AGING AND INTEGRATIVE MEDICINE

Aurora Eileen DePalma

Haley Anne DeWitt

Lauren Crockett McGill

Morgan Ashley Rothanzl

Jenny Jooeun Song

Kaitlyn Crutchley Thompson

Natalie Chantal Von Oldenburg

AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES

William Patrick McGuire III

William Thomas Mitchell

Jack Edward Mordeson

Richard Maxwell Regester

Lauren H. Ziegenbein

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND POLICY

Pranita Chetana Devaraju

CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINE

Danielle Dircks

CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH

Bailey Shea Anderson

Morgan Lynn Penry

Anna Libby Barent

CLINICAL EDUCATOR

Tyler James Connely

Kim Thien Nguyen

Cole Jacob Homer

Currey Michael Zalman

Grace Luree Kelly

CLINICAL INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Camden Vanderhoof Bilyeu

Jay Justin Byrd

COMPREHENSIVE HIV MEDICINE

Jessica Hack

Nathaniel Martineau Singh

LGBTQ+ HEALTH ADVOCACY

Sarah Danielle Sutter

Eva Joan Wetzel

MEDICAL ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Hannah Elizabeth Manoj

Rachel Ellen Sisley

Sarah Salam Sayed Ebrahim Salman Maki

Lauren Elizabeth Weis

NEW AMERICAN HEALTH CARE

Llicel Llaquelin Rodriguez Gurrola

Alyssa Wells

Diego Alfredo Trejo

PREHOSPITAL MEDICINE

Roarick Tathlyn Schollmeyer

Katherine C. Weaver

Benjamin Gordon Stevens

PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

Caroline Anne Boyd

Alicia Marie Phillips

Kara Noelle Netz

UNDERSERVED HEALTH CARE

Andrew Steven Leavitt

Luke Robert Siedhoff

Rizwan Moin Siddiqui

GOLD HUMANISM HONOR SOCIETY

The Gold Humanism Honor Society is a national organization sponsored by the Arnold P. Gold Foundation for Humanism in Medicine. Membership is limited to fifteen percent of the senior class at UNMC. Students are selected who demonstrate outstanding interpersonal skills, compassion, empathy, respect, integrity, exceptional commitment to service, as well as leadership in these areas.

These students are distinguished with a gold and maroon honor cord. Gold represents the commitment to the practice of compassionate patient care while maroon represents the dedication to the teaching of humanistic care in all health professions. Both are of utmost importance for the improvement of patients' care and lives.

Nicholas Joseph Amendola
Molly Catherine Antonson
Logan Patrick Baumberger
Jay Justin Byrd
Anna Maria Dorhout
Laura Ebers
Jessica Hack
Madison Ann Han
Grace Luree Kelly
Joseph Gerald Kleinsmith

Kennedy Elizabeth Johnson
Joseph George Levey
Mikayla Emily McKee
Kim Thien Nguyen
Nam V Nguyen
Richard Maxwell Regester
Luke Robert Siedhoff
Kaitlyn Crutchley Thompson
Currey Michael Zalman

MD-PHD SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The MD-PhD scholars program provides training in both medicine and research, preparing students to become research physicians, also known as physician scientists.

Caitlin Marie Molczyk

Nicholas James Mullen

NEBRASKA AHEC SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The Nebraska Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Scholars Program is part of a national initiative that prepares medical students who want to serve in rural or urban underserved areas. AHEC scholars complete a culmination of 40 hours of didactic training hours and a culmination of 40 hours of community-based experiential or clinical training in a rural or urban underserved area each academic year in conjunction with their medical school curriculum.

Nebraska AHEC scholars are distinguished with an AHEC honor cord. The AHEC honor cord is royal blue, white, and kelly green and has an AHEC charm.

Lauren Elizabeth Bexten
Treyvon Kyle Thomas Bokoskie
Makayla Morgan Brockhaus
Jordyn Childears
Cade Cody
Joseph Anthony David
Jessica Hack
Savana Victoria Nawojski

Dustin Steven Quinata
Karyssa Morgan Richardson
Llicel Llaquelin Rodriguez Gurrola
Macy Ann Thonen
Katherine C. Weaver
Alyssa Wells
Andrew Cole White

POST-GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION APPOINTMENTS

Josiah Adamson

Surgery-Preliminary, Central Iowa Health System, Des Moines, IA

Grant David Albers

Emergency Medicine, Unity Health, Searcy, AR

Nicholas Joseph Amendola

Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, University of Louisville School of Medicine, Louisville, KY

Bailey Shea Anderson

Obstetrics and Gynecology, Detroit Medical Center/Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

Molly Catherine Antonson

Medicine-Preliminary / Dermatology, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Patrick Dean Arnold

Anesthesiology, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Anna Libby Barent

Emergency Medicine, Hennepin County Medical Center, Minneapolis, MN

Peyton Daniel Bash

Internal Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Logan Patrick Baumberger

Internal Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Jack Ryan Begley

Ophthalmology, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Lauren Elizabeth Bexten

Internal Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Madison Maude Bierman

Internal Medicine, Ohio State University Medical Center, Columbus, OH

Camden Vanderhoof Bilyeu

Internal Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Luke Christian Blomenberg

Family Medicine, Lincoln Medical Education Partnership, Lincoln, NE

Treyvon Kyle Thomas Bokoskie

Family Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Caroline Anne Boyd

Internal Medicine, Grand Strand Medical Center, Myrtle Beach, SC

Makayla Morgan Brockhaus

Family Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Will Steven Bruening

Ophthalmology, University of Missouri–Kansas City, Kansas City, MO

Alyssa Lynn Bursott

Pediatrics, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Jay Justin Byrd

Radiology-Diagnostic, Mayo Clinic School of Graduate Medical Education, Scottsdale, AZ

Lauryn Elizabeth Caster

Family Medicine, North Colorado Medical Center, Greeley, CO

Brandon Scott Chelewski

Psychiatry, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN

Jordyn Childears

Family Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Cade Cody

Emergency Medicine, Maine Medical Center, Portland, ME

Tyler James Connely

Otolaryngology, University of Kentucky Medical Center, Lexington, KY

Branden William Daro

Family Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Trevor Alan Daubert

Anesthesiology, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Joseph Anthony David

Internal Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Jacob Donald Denesia

Internal Medicine, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC

Aurora Eileen DePalma

Medicine-Psychiatry, ECU Health Medical Center, Greenville, NC

Pranita Chetana Devaraju

Internal Medicine, Legacy Salmon Creek Medical Center, Vancouver, WA

Max Daniel Devine

Pediatrics, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Haley Anne DeWitt

Internal Medicine/Pediatrics, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Danielle Dircks

Child Neurology, Phoenix Childrens Hospital, Phoenix, AZ

Sineah Ny-Chelle Donaldson

Family Medicine, Mercy Medical Center, Des Moines, IA

Anna Maria Dorhout

Family Medicine, Lincoln Medical Education Partnership, Lincoln, NE

Alexander James Duncan

Anesthesiology, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Laura Ebers

Surgery-General, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Paige Corrin Eicher

Pediatrics, Childrens Mercy Hospital, Kansas City, MO

Brianna Lee Foley

Surgery-General, Ochsner Clinic Foundation, New Orleans, LA

Sophie Isabel Gart

Medicine-Preliminary, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE
Dermatology, University Hospital, Columbia, MO

Sydney Gemar

Family Medicine, University of Oklahoma College of Medicine, Oklahoma City, OK

Matthew Jeffrey Gromowsky

Internal Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Jessica Hack

Internal Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Jarod Hamsa

Medicine-Preliminary, Billings Clinic, Billings, MT
Radiology-Diagnostic, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Madison Ann Han

Internal Medicine/Pediatrics, University of Kentucky Medical Center, Lexington, KY

Cole Alden Herrin

Emergency Medicine, UPMC Medical Education, Pittsburgh, PA

Stephen Edward Higgins Jr.

Surgery-Preliminary (OMFS), University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Cole Jacob Homer

Surgery-Preliminary, University of Kentucky Medical Center, Lexington, KY

Benjamin James Hynes

Surgery-Preliminary, Methodist Health System, Dallas, TX
Radiology-Diagnostic, Rochester General Hospital, Rochester, NY

Katie Lynn Hytrek

Family Medicine, University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine, Knoxville, TN

Shane Michael Jacobs

Pediatrics, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Corbin Scott Johnson

Otolaryngology, University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio, TX

Kennedy Elizabeth Johnson

Internal Medicine, University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio, TX

Kaili Marie Jorgens

Anesthesiology, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Marcus Lee Judah

Medicine-Preliminary / Radiology-Diagnostic, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Timothy John Kaftan

Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences Clinical Research, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Sydney Ann Keckler

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

Grace Luree Kelly

Pediatrics, Phoenix Childrens Hospital, Phoenix, AZ

Chase Ryan Kimberling

Emergency Medicine, Corewell Health, Royal Oak, MI

Joseph Gerald Kleinsmith

Otolaryngology, SSM Health/St. Louis University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO

Spencer Daniel Lau

Neurological Surgery, University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, MS

Andrew Steven Leavitt

Psychiatry, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Joseph George Levey

Psychiatry, Mountain Area Health Education Center, Asheville, NC

Brenden Marlon Lofgren

Internal Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Hannah Elizabeth Manoj

Psychiatry, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Rose Elizabeth McCoy

Pediatrics, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Lauren Crockett McGill

Anesthesiology, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

William Patrick McGuire III

Internal Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Mikayla Emily McKee

Pediatrics, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Maggie Jean Meyer

Internal Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

William Thomas Mitchell

Internal Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Caitlin Marie Molczyk

Psychiatry, Creighton University, Omaha, NE

Jack Edward Mordeson

Neurological Surgery, University of Illinois College of Medicine, Peoria, IL

Nicholas James Mullen

Transitional Year, Summerville Medical Center, Summerville, SC

Radiation Oncology, Stanford Health Care, Stanford, CA

Savana Victoria Nawojski

Psychiatry, Carilion Clinic-Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine, Roanoke, VA

Kara Noelle Netz

Internal Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Kim Thien Nguyen

Medicine-Preliminary, UC Irvine Medical Center, Orange, CA

Dermatology, University of Iowa Health Care, Iowa City, IA

Nam V Nguyen

Ophthalmology, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Ashlyn Morgan O'Leary

Internal Medicine, University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, Dallas, TX

Seth Richard Ostdiek

Family Medicine, Lincoln Medical Education Partnership, Lincoln, NE

Garett Paul Ostdiek-Wille

Urology, University of Oklahoma Health Science Center, Oklahoma City, OK

Jacob L. Owens

Internal Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Radiology-Diagnostic, University of Michigan Hospital, Ann Arbor, MI

Sunit Thakor Patel

Surgery-Preliminary (OMFS), University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Morgan Lynn Penry

Pediatrics, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Alicia Marie Phillips

Emergency Medicine, Creighton University, Phoenix, AZ

Matthew Stuart Pile

Anesthesiology, University of Kansas School of Medicine, Wichita, KS

Alexandra Marie Hilliard Pool

Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Kentucky Medical Center, Lexington, KY

Emma Bailey Poulas

Obstetrics and Gynecology, Virtua Health, Voorhees, NJ

Baylor Grant Price

Surgery-Preliminary, Creighton University, Omaha, NE
Radiology-Diagnostic, Sunrise Health Graduate Medical Education Consortium, Las Vegas, NV

Dustin Steven Quinata

Family Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Richard Maxwell Regester

Transitional Year, MacNeal Hospital, Berwyn, IL
Dermatology, Mayo Clinic School of Graduate Medical Education, Rochester, MN

Llicel Llaquelin Rodriguez Gurrola

Family Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Morgan Ashley Rothanzl

Surgery-General, Creighton University, Omaha, NE

Sarah Salam Sayed Ebrahim Salman Maki

Internal Medicine, Stanford Health Care, Stanford, CA

Matthew Norris Schefcik

Internal Medicine, Johnston Memorial Hospital, Abingdon, VA

Samantha Jean Schindler

Surgery-General, Mayo Clinic School of Graduate Medical Education, Phoenix, AZ

Roarick Tathlyn Schollmeyer

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

Rizwan Moin Siddiqui

Internal Medicine, Kettering Health Network, Kettering, OH

Luke Robert Siedhoff

Family Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Nathaniel Martineau Singh

Anesthesiology, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Rachel Ellen Sisley

Internal Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Austin Daniel Snyder

Internal Medicine, University of Utah Health, Salt Lake City, UT

Jenny Joeeun Song

Psychiatry, Charles R Drew University, Los Angeles, CA

Michael David Stage

Pathology-Anatomic and Clinical, University of Chicago Medical Center, Chicago, IL

Benjamin Gordon Stevens

Family Medicine, Martin Army Community Hospital, Fort Moore, GA

Alex Huston Stogdill

Internal Medicine/Pediatrics, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Sarah Danielle Sutter

Pediatrics, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Brawly Steven Taylor

Medicine-Preliminary, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Kaitlyn Crutchley Thompson

Psychiatry, Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis, MO

Macy Ann Thonen

Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Danielle Marie Tibbels

Internal Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Diego Alfredo Trejo

Pediatrics, University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School, Austin, TX

Natalie Chantal Von Oldenburg

Internal Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Austen David Washington

Radiation Oncology, Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN

Katherine C. Weaver

Emergency Medicine, University of North Carolina Hospitals, Chapel Hill, NC

Lauren Elizabeth Weis

Plastic Surgery, University of Texas Medical School, Houston, TX

Alyssa Wells

Family Medicine, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Eva Joan Wetzel

Neurology, University of Iowa Health Care, Iowa City, IA

Andrew Cole White

Orthopaedic Surgery, AdventHealth, Orlando, FL

John Connor Woodard

Surgery-General, Ochsner Clinic Foundation, New Orleans, LA

Alexander Wu

Surgery-General, University of Minnesota Medical School, Minneapolis, MN

Jaime Tyler Yrastorza

Otolaryngology, Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, CA

Currey Michael Zalman

Orthopaedic Surgery, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE

Lauren H. Ziegenbein

Internal Medicine/Pediatrics, Louisiana State University School of Medicine, New Orleans, LA

CLASS OF 2025 OFFICERS

President

Pranita Chetana Devaraju

Vice President

Aurora Eileen DePalma

Treasurer

Joseph Gerald Kleinsmith

Alumni Relations Chair

Garett Paul Ostdiek-Wille

Social Chairs

Brianna Lee Foley

Olivia Taylor

Currey Michael Zalman

Curriculum Chairs

Cole Jacob Homer

Grace Luree Kelly

Philanthropy Chairs

Madison Ann Han

Timothy John Kaftan

Richard Maxwell Regester

Wellness Chairs

Tyler James Connely

Kaitlyn Crutchley Thompson

Culture and Belonging Chair

Alyssa Lynn Bursott

FACULTY AWARDS

The Hirschmann Prize for Teaching Excellence is awarded annually to two outstanding faculty members, one clinical and one preclinical, who demonstrate a devotion to teaching. Each year fourth year medical students are asked to nominate and select recipients according to specific criteria. These guidelines include faculty members' use of innovative educational methods, professionalism and awareness of students' educational needs.

The Hirschmann Prize was created through the generosity of College of Medicine alumni Jerome H. Hirschmann, '41, a retired cardiologist, and his son Richard A. Hirschmann, '73, a pediatric anesthesiologist. In making this gift, the Hirschman's wanted to recognize outstanding educators and to express their appreciation for the quality of education they received at the College of Medicine. The prize provides funding for educational projects or continuing education.

Thomas L. McDonald, PhD

Professor, Department of Pathology, Microbiology, and Immunology

Ryan Mullane, DO

Assistant Professor, Department of Internal Medicine – Nephrology

DEPARTMENT CHAIRS

Anesthesiology

Andrew J. Patterson, MD, PhD

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Surinder K. Batra, PhD

Cellular and Integrative Physiology

Rebekah L. Gundry, PhD

Dermatology

Jennifer L. Adams, MD

Emergency Medicine

Michael C. Wadman, MD

Family Medicine

Jeffrey D. Harrison, MD

Genetics, Cell Biology and Anatomy

Vimla Band, PhD

Internal Medicine

Debra J. Romberger, MD

Neurological Sciences

Matthew Rizzo, MD

Neurosurgery

Aviva Abosch, MD, PhD

Obstetrics and Gynecology

Carl V. Smith, MD

Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences

Ronald R. Krueger, MD

Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation

Kevin L. Garvin, MD

Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery

Dwight T. Jones, MD

Pathology, Microbiology, and Immunology

Joseph D. Khoury, MD

Pediatrics

Kari A. Simonsen, MD

Pharmacology and Experimental

Neuroscience

Howard E. Gendelman, MD

Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

Samuel M. Bierner, MD

Psychiatry

Howard Y. Liu, MD

Radiation Oncology

Charles A. Enke, MD

Radiology

Matthew J. DeVries, MD

Surgery

David W. Mercer, MD

ADMINISTRATIVE FACULTY

Bradley E. Britigan, MD

Dean

Howard S. Fox, MD, PhD

Senior Associate Dean for Research and Development

James Linder, MD

Senior Associate Dean for the Health System

Michael R. McGlade, MPA

Senior Associate Dean for Administration

Chandrankanth Are, MBBS

Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education

Shirley F. Delair, MD

Associate Dean for Strategic Initiatives

Nada A. Fadul, MD

Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs

Wendy J. Grant, MD

Associate Dean for Admissions and Student Affairs

Geoffrey A. Talmon, MD

Associate Dean for Medical Education

Armando De Alba Rosales, MD

Assistant Dean for Student Programs

Alan R. Erickson, MD

Assistant Dean for Student Affairs

Kimberly J. Jarzynka, MD

Assistant Dean for Admissions

Alberto Marcelin, MD

Assistant Dean for Admissions

EXPLANATION OF THE PHYSICIAN'S PLEDGE

The Declaration of Geneva was promulgated by the World Medical Association (WMA) in 1948. It has roots in the great moral traditions that go back to ancient Greek Hippocratic medicine. It also seriously reflects the times in which it was written. That was immediately after World War II when the crimes of men against humanity were being revealed through such things at the Nuremberg Trial. The current version was amended by the 68th WMA General Assembly in 2017.

THE PHYSICIAN'S PLEDGE

(World Medical Association Declaration of Geneva)

AS A MEMBER OF THE MEDICAL PROFESSION:

I SOLEMNLY PLEDGE to dedicate my life to the service of humanity;

THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF MY PATIENT will be my first consideration;

I WILL RESPECT the autonomy and dignity of my patient;

I WILL MAINTAIN the utmost respect for human life;

I WILL NOT PERMIT considerations of age, disease or disability, creed, ethnic origin, gender, nationality, political affiliation, race, sexual orientation, social standing, or any other factor to intervene between my duty and my patient;

I WILL RESPECT the secrets that are confided in me, even after the patient has died;

I WILL PRACTICE my profession with conscience and dignity and in accordance with good medical practice;

I WILL FOSTER the honor and noble traditions of the medical profession;

I WILL GIVE to my teachers, colleagues, and students the respect and gratitude that is their due;

I WILL SHARE my medical knowledge for the benefit of the patient and the advancement of healthcare;

I WILL ATTEND TO my own health, well-being, and abilities in order to provide care of the highest standard;

I WILL NOT USE my medical knowledge to violate human rights and civil liberties, even under threat;

I MAKE THESE PROMISES solemnly, freely, and upon my honor.