





Commencement Program

Class of 2025

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine
Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

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MAYO CLINIC COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AND SCIENCE

The Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science is comprised of five schools:

- Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine
- Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
- Mayo Clinic School of Continuous Professional Development
- Mayo Clinic School of Graduate Medical Education
- Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences

Academic degrees are granted by the Mayo Clinic Board of Trustees on the recommendation of the deans and the faculty of Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science. The faculty is drawn from the clinical and scientific staff of Mayo Clinic and is augmented by area physicians. Faculty members participating in this graduation ceremony represent a total faculty of approximately 3,700.



Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine (MCASOM) matriculated its first class in 1972. For over 50 years, a world-class faculty has educated aspiring physicians in Mayo Clinic's unsurpassed model of team-based, patient-centered care. Our faculty work with students to develop the skills to be highly successful care providers as well as the compassionate hearts and inquisitive minds that change lives and innovate healthcare for generations to come.

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine holds the distinction of being one national medical school with three unique campuses — the original campus in Rochester, Minnesota; a four-year campus at Mayo Clinic in Phoenix, Arizona; and a third- and fourth-year program on Mayo Clinic's Jacksonville, Florida, campus. Our novel school configuration provides our students with a depth and breadth of learning experiences unlike any other institution.

We are proud that Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine is a top-ranked medical school with a stellar national and international reputation. Our integrated approach to clinical and research training means our students are instilled with an unrelenting quest to find and apply medical answers where none have been found before. We are constantly innovating curriculum so our students will be well prepared to handle the challenges of the nation's evolving healthcare environment.

The Class of 2025 will be part of the prestigious alumni of Mayo Clinic. Selected from 5,323 applicants, the Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine Class of 2025 consists of 93 graduates.

LEADERSHIP

Dean

Fredric B. Meyer, M.D.

Vice Deans

Jewel M. Kling, M.D., M.P.H., Arizona

Abba C. Zubair, M.D., Ph.D., Florida

Administrator

Brenda L. Sloan, MBA

Director of Education Operations

Melissa M. Lindsey, M.A.

Managers

Kevin W. Price-Majors, MBA, Arizona

Mar E. Sayo, MBA, Florida

Mary E. Stevens, M.H.S., Florida

Aliesha B. Bechly, M.S., Minnesota

JAY ALIX

In 2018, Mayo Clinic received a \$200 million gift from Mr. Jay Alix, noted philanthropist of Birmingham, Michigan. The endowment gift, the largest ever to Mayo Clinic, was designated to Mayo Clinic School of Medicine to expand scholarship opportunities and further innovation in the school's curriculum. In appreciation of his generous gift, the school is now known as Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine across all three campuses.

Jay is the founder of AlixPartners, the global advisory firm and industry standard for providing comprehensive transformation solutions for companies "when it really matters," involving complex corporate turnarounds as well as operating, financial, legal, restructuring and investigation challenges. Sought out by corporate and government leaders alike, Jay has led and advised on some of the largest and most complex restructurings and turnarounds of the past five decades, including leading the creation, design, and implementation of the highly successful restructuring and turnaround plan to bring General Motors in and out of bankruptcy in just 40 days. Today, he serves AlixPartners as an active board member and mentor to AlixPartners' leaders.

In addition to his past turnaround work and private equity investment experience, Jay has lectured widely, written many articles on turnaround management, co-authored two books on the financial issues facing companies in reorganization, and delivered many keynote speeches on various topics including corporate transformations, turnarounds, and the corporate revitalization process.

Former U.S. President Clinton appointed Jay to the National Bankruptcy Review Commission. He served as a strategic advisor to Dennis Archer, Mayor of Detroit. The Turnaround Management Association presented Jay with the Chairman's Award in recognition of his "pioneering leadership role" in helping to create and build the turnaround industry. The Japanese Association for Turnaround Professionals honored him as its Inaugural Foreign Member. He received the Harvey R. Miller Outstanding Achievement Award for Service to the Restructuring Industry. Jay was awarded Wayne State University's Michigan Executive of the Year award. He also received the Distinguished Service Award for Lifetime Achievement from Emory Law School's Emory Bankruptcy Developments Journal.



For more than a decade, Jay has focused on protecting the U.S. bankruptcy system, as well as on many creative and pro bono advisory activities, including producing six Tony-winning Broadway musicals and plays, award-winning documentary films, and Grammy-nominated music. He actively helped lead the restructuring of the Detroit Public School System and assisted the Norman Rockwell Museum to advance its mission nationally and internationally. Recently, Jay was a lead donor funding the building of a state-of-the-art indoor track and field facility at the University of Pennsylvania. He continues to donate his time and resources to projects he cares deeply about through the Alix Foundation.

Jay completed the YPO/Advanced Management Program at the Harvard Business School. He holds an MBA degree in accounting from Rutgers University and a B.S. degree in finance from The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. He began his career as a CPA with PriceWaterhouseCoopers in New York.



Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

The mission of the Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences is to develop the next generation of leaders in biomedical science and education. First established in 1915, Mayo's graduate degrees were initially awarded in partnership with the University of Minnesota. Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences became an independent degree-granting institution in 1983. For over a quarter century, our world-renowned faculty have worked within Mayo Clinic's unique three-shield environment of the clinic, research and education to recruit, empower and nurture future scientists (M.S. and Ph.D.) and physician scientists (M.S./M.D. and M.D./Ph.D.) to explore the world and innovate in order to rapidly develop cures and solutions that solve unmet healthcare needs. Integral to the goals of Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences is the creation of a workforce that is prepared to improve health equity through discovery and innovation.

Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences has also been a vital part of the expansion of Mayo Clinic into a three-site institution — from the original site in Rochester, Minnesota, to major graduate training program in Jacksonville, Florida, and both Phoenix and Scottsdale, Arizona. This novel configuration and nearly three-decade experience in distance graduate education has demonstrated both the global reach and substantive local impact at each campus.

This commencement articulates the critical nature of fundamental research in addressing major societal needs. Each of these graduates from the Class of 2025 represents new cutting-edge technology, innovations in healthcare delivery, public policy, regulatory science and new methods to make innovations more broadly available across the world through entrepreneurship, partnerships and novel ventures.

LEADERSHIP

Dean

Leigh G. Griffiths, MRCVS, Ph.D.

Associate Deans

Nhan L. Tran, Ph.D., Arizona

Evette S. Radisky, Ph.D., Florida

Administrator

Karen S. Nation, MBA/HCM

Managers

Kristen J. Krueger, M.A., Arizona

Caitlyn J. Gillen, M.S., Florida

Rachel L. Halsrud, MBA, Minnesota

Arizona Class of 2025

May 12, 2025

Scottsdale Resort and Spa
Scottsdale, Arizona



Arizona Commencement Program

MAY 12, 2025

Processional Bagpipers
Platform Participants
Faculty Representatives
Graduates

Welcome from the Executive Dean Fredric B. Meyer, M.D.

Remarks by the President and CEO, Mayo Clinic Gianrico Farrugia, M.D.

Commencement Address Ann M. Rusk, M.D.

Dean's Remarks and Awards Jewel M. Kling, M.D., M.P.H.

Remarks by the CEO, Mayo Clinic in Arizona Richard J. Gray, M.D.

Student Address Vikram Singh Gill

Conferring of Degrees Fredric B. Meyer, M.D.
Jewel M. Kling, M.D., M.P.H.
Jesse D. Bracamonte, D.O.
Keith J. Cannon, M.D.
Douglas E. Rappaport, M.D.
Nhan L. Tran, Ph.D.

Reading of the Physician's Pledge Fredric B. Meyer, M.D.
All M.D. attendees and graduates

Concluding Remarks Fredric B. Meyer, M.D.

Recessional

Please join us after the recessional for a reception at the Paradise Lawn Park.

Arizona Platform Participants

In order of appearance

FREDRIC B. MEYER, M.D.

Juanita Kious Waugh Executive Dean of Education,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science
Dean, Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine
Alfred Uihlein Family Professor of Neurologic Surgery,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

GIANRICO FARRUGIA, M.D.

President and CEO, Mayo Clinic
Professor of Medicine and Physiology,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

ANN M. RUSK, M.D.

Commencement Speaker
Assistant Professor of Medicine,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

JEWEL M. KLING, M.D., M.P.H.

Vice Dean,
Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine
Suzanne Hanson Poole Dean,
Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine – Arizona Campus
Professor of Medicine,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

RICHARD J. GRAY, M.D.

CEO, Mayo Clinic in Arizona
Professor of Surgery,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

VIKRAM SINGH GILL

Student Speaker

JESSE D. BRACAMONTE, D.O.

George M. and Kristen L. Lund Associate Dean for
Student Affairs, Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine –
Arizona Campus
Assistant Professor of Family Medicine,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

KEITH J. CANNON, M.D.

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs,
Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine – Arizona Campus
Assistant Professor of Medicine,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

DOUGLAS E. RAPPAPORT, M.D.

Assistant Dean of Career Advising,
Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine – Arizona Campus
Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

NHAN L. TRAN, PH.D.

Associate Dean, Mayo Clinic Graduate School of
Biomedical Sciences – Arizona Campus
Professor of Cancer Biology,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

“The best interest of the patient is the only interest
to be considered, and in order that the sick may
have the benefit of advancing knowledge,
union of forces is necessary.”

WILLIAM J. MAYO, M.D.

Arizona

Commencement Speaker

ANN M. RUSK M.D.

Ann M. Rusk, M.D. is a physician-scientist and adult pulmonary and critical care physician. She is an assistant professor of medicine at Mayo Clinic in Arizona.

Dr. Rusk graduated from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, in 2010, then attended medical school at the University of Minnesota Duluth, graduating in 2015. Following medical school, she completed her Internal Medicine residency at the Medical College of Wisconsin in 2018, where she served as chief resident of internal medicine from 2018-2019. She completed specialty training in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, in 2022. As a fellow, Dr. Rusk conducted research as a Robert D. and Patricia E. Kern Center Fellow Scholar, examining longitudinal smoking behaviors among Indigenous North Americans. Dr. Rusk is passionate about health equity for Indigenous people as an enrolled member of the Blackfeet Nation.

Since joining Mayo Clinic in Arizona in 2022, Dr. Rusk practices pulmonary and critical care medicine and is a Clinician Engaged in Research. Her research focuses on creating evidence-driven, community-engaged solutions to promote smoking cessation, reduce lung cancer risk and enhance screening among Indigenous North Americans. Dr. Rusk's research has been recognized for excellence by the Association of American Indian Physicians, the American Thoracic Society and the American College of Chest Physicians (CHEST). Her work has been showcased as the editor's choice in *Nicotine and Tobacco Research*, and she has served as a visiting professor at organizations including Yale and Mayo Clinic in Rochester. Her work is funded by support from the Robert D. and Patricia E. Kern Foundation, the Robert A. Winn Excellence in Clinical Trials Program and the American Thoracic Society.

In addition to her clinical and research responsibilities, Dr. Rusk serves as the Indigenous Health leader at Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine and chair of the Indigenous Health Initiative for Mayo Clinic. She serves as associate interim director of community outreach and engagement for the Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center and has been named an Emerging Leader in the Cancer Center. She is also the department belonging leader for the Department of Critical Care Medicine. Dr. Rusk has been recognized with multiple awards, including the American Thoracic Society Health Equity Fellowship,



the Blackfeet Nation Tribal Business Council Award, the Robert A. Winn Clinical Trial Excellence Program, the Association of American Physicians and the Mayo Clinic Arizona Researcher of the Year Award. Dr. Rusk serves on multiple national committees and advisory boards, including the American Thoracic Society Health Equity and Diversity Committee, the CHEST Health Equity Task Force and the Board of Directors for the Association of American Indian Physicians. She is also passionate about local and national advocacy and has advocated for Native health in Arizona with the Arizona Medical Association and represented the American Thoracic Society during Hill Days in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Rusk lives in Phoenix and enjoys spending time with her husband and two children. Her hobbies include running, biking, making regalia and finding new ways to enjoy the outdoors with her family.

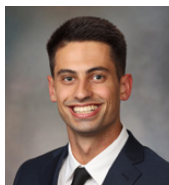
Arizona Doctor of Medicine



ISRA ABDULWADOOD

B.S., Neuroscience
University of Texas
Richardson, TX

**Residency, Plastic Surgery
(Integrated)**
University of Washington
Affiliated Hospitals
Seattle, WA



NICK ALLEN

**B.A., Molecular and Cell Biology;
Global Poverty**
University of California
Berkeley, CA

Residency, Internal Medicine
Mayo Clinic School of
Graduate Medical Education
Scottsdale, AZ



**JACQUELINE
KUNZELMAN ANDERSON**

B.S., Neuroscience
Brigham Young University
Provo, UT

M.S., Healthcare Administration
Northeastern University
Boston, MA

Residency, Diagnostic Radiology
University of Utah Health
Salt Lake City, UT



MYLAN RACHEL BLOMQUIST*

B.S., Applied Biological Sciences
Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ

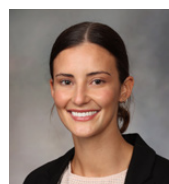
**Residency, Internal Medicine
Physician-Scientist**
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SAYI P. BODDU

B.A., Molecular and Cellular Biology
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Residency, Orthopedic Surgery
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San Diego Medical Center
San Diego, CA



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B.S., Biochemistry
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Mayo Clinic School of
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*Denotes M.D.-Ph.D. dual degree program

Arizona Doctor of Medicine



DONYA DERAKSHANI

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DESIREE' BRIONNE DILLARD

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B.S., Biological Sciences
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Phoenix, AZ

B.S., Biomedical Sciences
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Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law
Tucson, AZ

J.D.
Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law
Phoenix, AZ



SUMMER GHAITH

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Molecular Biology**
University of California
Davis, CA

B.A., Philosophy
University of California
Davis, CA

J.D.
Arizona State University
Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law
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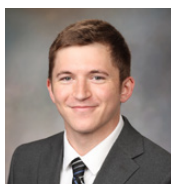
Residency, Emergency Medicine
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VIKRAM SINGH GILL

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University of Southern California
Los Angeles, CA

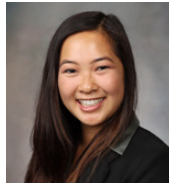
Arizona Doctor of Medicine



ANNA CELESTE HUGHES HOGE

**B.A., Computer Science;
Molecular Biology and Biochemistry**
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Residency, Internal Medicine
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Residency, Internal Medicine
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B.Mus., Flute Performance
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Arizona Doctor of Medicine



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B.S., Biology
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Durham, NC

M.S., Integrated Healthcare
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Tempe, AZ

**Residency, Plastic Surgery
(Integrated)**
Rutgers New Jersey Medical School
Newark, NJ



NING CHRISTINE MCKENZIE

**B.A., Mathematics;
Molecular and Cell Biology**
University of California
Berkeley, CA

Residency, Transitional
Sutter Health
Roseville, CA

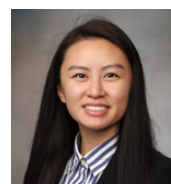
Residency, Dermatology
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MONET JOY MILLER

B.S., Biochemistry and Biophysics
Oregon State University
Corvallis, OR

Residency, Family Medicine
Common Spirit Health
Mountain Region
Westminster, CO



HANNAH PHUONG-UYEN NGO

**Sc.B., Ecology and
Evolutionary Biology**
Brown University
Providence, RI

Residency, Ophthalmology
University of New Mexico
School of Medicine
Albuquerque, NM

Arizona Doctor of Medicine



BRANDON A. NGUYEN

B.A., Liberal Arts and Life Sciences

Harvard University Extension School
Cambridge, MA

M.S., Clinical and Translational Sciences

Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
Rochester, MN

Residency, Neurological Surgery

Mayo Clinic School of Graduate Medical Education
Phoenix, AZ



ALEXANDRU STEFAN NICA

B.S., Biomedical Engineering

Northwestern University
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M.S., Computer Science

Northwestern University
Evanston, IL

Residency, General Surgery

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YIHUAI QU

B.S., Biomedical Engineering

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Residency, Otolaryngology

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B.S., Microbiology

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Residency, Emergency Medicine

University of California
San Diego Medical Center
San Diego, CA



JAY VASILEV

B.S., Biomedical Engineering

Saint Louis University
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M.M.Sc., Medical Education

Harvard Medical School
Boston, MA

Residency, Psychiatry

University of Arizona
College of Medicine
Phoenix, AZ



ERIK MATTHEW VERHEY

B.S., Preprofessional Studies;

Italian Literature and Culture

University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, IN

Residency, Preliminary Medicine

University of Nevada
Reno School of Medicine
Reno, NV

Residency, Diagnostic Radiology

University of California
San Diego Medical Center
San Diego, CA

Arizona Doctor of Medicine



CHARIS EMILY WANG

B.A., Cognitive Sciences

Rice University
Houston, TX

Residency, Preliminary Medicine

OhioHealth Riverside
Methodist Hospital
Columbus, OH

Residency, Diagnostic Radiology

Mount Auburn Hospital
Cambridge, MA



MADELINE ANN WHITNEY

B.A., Communication Studies

University of California
Los Angeles, CA

Residency, Transitional

HCA HealthONE Sky Ridge
Lone Tree, CO

Residency, Diagnostic Radiology

University of Utah Health
Salt Lake City, UT



CATHERINE HUNT WILLIAMS

B.S., Global Disease Biology

University of California, Davis
Davis, CA

Residency, Emergency Medicine

Loma Linda University
Loma Linda, CA



RENITA WILSON

B.S., Chemistry

University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, IN

Residency, General Surgery

Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, OH



ALEXIS WINFREY

B.S., Biology

University of North Dakota
Grand Forks, ND

B.A., Spanish

University of North Dakota
Grand Forks, ND

Residency, Anesthesiology

Mayo Clinic School of
Graduate Medical Education
Scottsdale, AZ



SARAH YUESHAN WU

B.S., Biology

University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, NC

Residency, Urology

Washington University
School of Medicine
St. Louis, MO

Arizona Doctor of Medicine

FAREWELL & THANK YOU FROM MAYO CLINIC ALIX SCHOOL OF MEDICINE IN ARIZONA

The Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine Class of 2025 would like to extend our sincere appreciation to all who have played a role in shaping and supporting us throughout our medical journey.

First, we are deeply grateful to the patients of Mayo Clinic, whose willingness to share their stories and experiences made our learning possible. Special recognition goes to those who patiently repeated their histories, allowed additional physical exams or devoted extra time to teaching moments with us. Your generosity has been invaluable to our growth as future physicians.

Next, we acknowledge the unwavering dedication of our faculty, preceptors, fellows and residents. To the basic science faculty, thank you for building our foundation in understanding disease and treatment. To our clinical mentors, your patience in guiding us through the transition from classroom learning to clinical practice strengthened our skills and confidence. You've shown us how to embody Mayo Clinic's primary value: "The needs of the patient come first." It is a lesson we will carry forth into our careers.

We would also like to thank the MCASOM deans, staff and administrators who worked tirelessly behind the

scenes to make our medical school experience possible. While much of their work may go unnoticed, their care for us as individuals — beyond just medical students — made an extraordinary difference.

To our families, friends and peers, we are incredibly grateful. Thank you for standing by us through difficult moments and understanding when we were anxious or unavailable. You've lifted us up when we needed it and shared in our joy. To our fellow classmates, thank you for shaping our learning experience and for the humor and camaraderie that got us through even the toughest times.

Finally, we appreciate the generosity of Mayo Clinic's benefactors, whose support has helped ensure that MCASOM remains a leader in medical education. Your contributions have helped provide us with unparalleled opportunities and resources.

With your encouragement, patience and support, today we graduate and officially step into the world as physicians. Thank you for being part of this journey with us.

*Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine
Arizona Campus Class of 2025*

“Knowledge of the past gave the foundation
upon which has been built the present,
and upon which we predict the future.”

WILLIAM J. MAYO, M.D.

Florida Class of 2025

May 14, 2025

**Cannaday Building, Kinne Auditorium
Jacksonville, Florida**



Florida Commencement Program

MAY 14, 2025

Processional	Bagpipers Platform Participants Faculty Representatives Graduates
Welcome from the Executive Dean	Fredric B. Meyer, M.D.
Remarks by the CEO, Mayo Clinic in Florida	Kent R. Thielen, M.D.
Commencement Address	Olayemi Sokumbi, M.D.
Remarks by the President and CEO, Mayo Clinic	Gianrico Farrugia, M.D.
MCGSBS Dean's Remarks and Awards	Leigh G. Griffiths, MRCVS, Ph.D.
MCGSBS Student Address	Stephanie Rose Oatman
Conferring of Ph.D. and Masters' Degrees	Fredric B. Meyer, M.D. Leigh G. Griffiths, MRCVS, Ph.D. Evette S. Radisky, Ph.D. Wilfried O. Rossoll, Ph.D. Nilufer Taner, M.D., Ph.D. Takahisa Kanekiyo, M.D., Ph.D.
MCASOM Dean's Remarks and Awards	Abba C. Zubair, M.D., Ph.D.
MCASOM Student Address	Kiyan Heybati Guozhen (Gordon) Xie
Conferring of Medical Degrees	Fredric B. Meyer, M.D. Abba C. Zubair, M.D., Ph.D. Elliot L. Dimberg, M.D. Brynn K. Dredla, M.D. Chris Fox, M.D.
Reading of the Physician's Pledge	Fredric B. Meyer, M.D. All M.D. Attendees and Graduates
Concluding Remarks	Fredric B. Meyer, M.D.
Recessional	

Please join us after the recessional for a reception at M Brothers at Mayo.

Florida

Platform Participants

In order of appearance

FREDRIC B. MEYER, M.D.

Juanita Kious Waugh Executive Dean of Education,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science
Dean, Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine
Alfred Uihlein Family Professor of Neurologic Surgery,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

KENT R. THIELEN, M.D.

CEO, Mayo Clinic in Florida
Professor of Radiology,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

OLAYEMI SOKUMBI, M.D.

Commencement Speaker
Professor of Dermatology; Laboratory Medicine
and Pathology, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine
and Science

GIANRICO FARRUGIA, M.D.

President and CEO, Mayo Clinic
Professor of Medicine and Physiology,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

LEIGH G. GRIFFITHS, MRCVS, PH.D.

Dean, Mayo Clinic Graduate School of
Biomedical Sciences
Professor of Medicine,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

STEPHANIE ROSE OATMAN

Student Speaker, Mayo Clinic Graduate School of
Biomedical Sciences

EVETTE S. RADISKY, PH.D.

Associate Dean, Mayo Clinic Graduate School of
Biomedical Sciences – Florida Campus
Professor of Cancer Biology; Pharmacology,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

WILFRIED O. ROSSOLL, PH.D.

Assistant Dean, Mayo Clinic Graduate School of
Biomedical Sciences – Florida Campus
Associate Professor of Neuroscience,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

NILUFER TANER, M.D., PH.D.

Roy E. & Merle Meyer Professor of Neuroscience,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science
Professor of Neurosurgery,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

TAKAHISA KANEKIYO, M.D., PH.D.

Associate Professor of Neuroscience,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

ABBA C. ZUBAIR, M.D., PH.D.

Vice Dean, Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine
Dean, Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine –
Florida Campus
Professor of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

KIYAN HEYBATI

GUOZHEN (GORDON) XIE

Student Speakers, Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine

ELLIOT L. DIMBERG, M.D.

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs,
Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine – Florida Campus
Assistant Professor of Neurology,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

BRYNN K. DREDLA, M.D.

Assistant Dean for Career Advising,
Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine – Florida Campus
Assistant Professor of Neurology,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

CHRIS FOX, M.D.

Associate Dean for Student Affairs,
Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine – Florida Campus
Professor of Neurosurgery,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

Florida Commencement Speaker

OLAYEMI SOKUMBI, M.D.

Olayemi (Yemi) Sokumbi, M.D., is a professor of dermatology and laboratory medicine and pathology at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science and a consultant in Dermatology, with a joint appointment in Laboratory Medicine and Pathology at Mayo Clinic in Florida. She received her medical degree from Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine in Rochester, Minnesota, where she also completed her preliminary year in internal medicine, her residency in dermatology, and served as chief resident in her final year. Following residency, she completed a fellowship in dermatopathology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, Texas.

Dr. Sokumbi currently serves as a member of the Mayo Clinic Florida Executive Operations Team, associate medical director for the Department of Business Development at Mayo Clinic in Florida, physician co-lead of the Mayo Clinic in Florida Discovery Coast Activation Team, director of clinical practice in the Department of Dermatology and a leader in belonging for the Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine in Florida. She is also the current president of the Mayo Clinic Dermatology O'Leary Society and an executive board member of the Mayo Clinic Alumni Association.

Dr. Sokumbi has an active practice caring for patients with hidradenitis suppurativa and complex inflammatory skin disorders. Her research interests include healthcare disparities in dermatology, quality improvement in dermatopathology, cutaneous lymphoproliferative disorders, and the use of deep neural network algorithms for diagnosis in dermatology and dermatopathology. She has chaired and/or served on numerous committees within dermatology and dermatopathology societies. Dr. Sokumbi is a director of the American Board of Dermatology and an inductee of the prestigious American Dermatological Association. She currently serves on the Board of Marani Health and Ronald McDonald House Charities.



Dr. Sokumbi has received numerous awards, including being honored as a recipient of the 2025 North Florida Women of Distinction Award by the Girl Scouts. She is actively engaged in the Jacksonville community, leading programs that provide healthcare access to underserved communities and create mentorship pipeline programs for young learners.

Dr. Sokumbi finds tremendous joy in spending time with her family. She has two children and an incredibly supportive husband, both of whom inspire her purpose to live a life of impact. Her family enjoys traveling and sampling cuisines from different cultures.

“Out of this composite education we finally accept the idea that man does not live for himself alone but as an integral part of society.”

WILLIAM J. MAYO, M.D.

Florida Doctor of Medicine



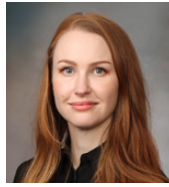
FARHA GABRIELLE DECEUS

B.S., Biology

University of Florida
Gainesville, FL

Residency, Internal Medicine

Mayo Clinic School of
Graduate Medical Education
Scottsdale, AZ



BEATRIX DUDZIK

B.A., Anthropology

University of Tennessee
Knoxville, TN

Ph.D., Biological Anthropology

University of Tennessee
Knoxville, TN

Residency, Anatomic Pathology

Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Nashville, TN



KIYAN HEYBATI

B.S., Health Sciences

McMaster University
Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

Residency, Internal Medicine

Mayo Clinic School of
Graduate Medical Education
Rochester, MN



DIANA A. HLA

**B.A., Biophysics, Molecular and
Cellular Biology**

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, MD

M.S., Management

Northeastern University
D'Amore-McKim School of Business
Boston, MA

Residency, General Surgery



CONNOR LENTZ

B.S., Biology

University of Florida
Gainesville, FL

Residency, Transitional

Icahn School of Medicine at
Mount Sinai
New York, NY

Residency, Ophthalmology

New York Eye and Ear Infirmary
New York, NY



KEITH A. MCCONN

B.A., Biology

Hunter College at
City University of New York
New York, NY

Residency, Internal Medicine

Florida International University
Miami, FL

Florida Doctor of Medicine



KESHAV POUDEL

B.S., Biology and Neuroscience
Ohio State University
Columbus, OH

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



AISHWARYA PRADEEP

B.S., Neuroscience
Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, MD

Residency, Internal Medicine
Mayo Clinic School of
Graduate Medical Education
Rochester, MN



JOHN EDWARD RICHTER JR.

B.S., Biochemistry
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL

Residency, General Surgery
HCA Florida Healthcare/
USF Morsani College of Medicine
Bayonet Point
Hudson, FL



ANDRÉS (DRE) SOMOZA

B.S., Biology
Virginia Commonwealth University
Richmond, VA

Residency, Emergency Medicine
New York-Presbyterian
Queens Hospital
Flushing, NY



KATHERINE LILY WANG

B.S., Biology
Marshall University
Huntington, WV

Residency, Dermatology
Mayo Clinic School of
Graduate Medical Education
Jacksonville, FL



GUOZHEN (GORDON) XIE

B.S., Biochemistry; Economics
The Ohio State University
Columbus, OH

Residency, Anesthesiology
University of Michigan Hospitals
Ann Arbor, MI

Florida Doctor of Medicine

FAREWELL & THANK YOU FROM MAYO CLINIC ALIX SCHOOL OF MEDICINE IN FLORIDA

The Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine Class of 2025 expresses our sincere gratitude to the countless individuals who have guided and supported us throughout our four years of medical education.

First, we thank the patients of Mayo Clinic who have graciously enabled us to continuously learn from them and strive to be the best possible physicians. They have played an integral role in our medical education, which would be incomplete without them. We appreciate those who have shared their histories with us, undergone multiple physical exams and spent additional time with us voluntarily.

Second, we thank the Mayo Clinic faculty and staff, who have spent invaluable time with us to ensure our learning and show us the essence of what it takes to be compassionate, diligent physicians who embody Mayo Clinic values. Our clinical preceptors have encouraged and empowered us to effortlessly navigate the transition from preclinical to clinical years, and we owe our utmost gratitude to their commitment and dedication.

Third, attending medical school would not have been possible without the unwavering support of our deans, staff and administrators. Their constant presence and support, whether at the forefront or in the background, have served as a strong foundation for us to smoothly navigate all the challenges of medical school. We also thank our fellow medical students, friends and family, who have enriched our lives and journeys through the countless hours of studying and working in the hospital.

Finally, we owe our world-class medical education to the generosity of the Mayo Clinic benefactors.

We have become compassionate physicians because of all of you, and we look forward to this next exciting chapter of our lives. As we enter residency, we carry with us the passion, dedication and utmost commitment to serve our patients.

*Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine
Florida Campus Class of 2025*

“Our father recognized certain definite social obligations. He believed ... that the important thing in life is not to accomplish for one’s self alone, but for each to carry his share of collective responsibility.”

WILLIAM J. MAYO, M.D.

Minnesota Class of 2025

May 16, 2025

Mayo Civic Center
Rochester, Minnesota



Minnesota Commencement Program

MAY 16, 2025

Processional	Bagpipers Platform Participants Faculty Representatives Graduates
Welcome from the Executive Dean	Fredric B. Meyer, M.D.
Remarks by the President and CEO, Mayo Clinic	Gianrico Farrugia, M.D.
Commencement Address	Saranya P. Wyles, M.D., Ph.D.
MCGSBS Dean's Remarks and Awards	Leigh G. Griffiths, MRCVS, Ph.D.
MCGSBS Student Address	Esther Pegge Byron Rodman
Conferring of Ph.D. and Master's Degrees	Fredric B. Meyer, M.D. Leigh G. Griffiths, MRCVS, Ph.D. Felicity T. Enders, Ph.D. J. Luis Lujan, Ph.D., M.S. Virginia M. Shapiro, Ph.D.
MCASOM Dean's Remarks and Awards	Fredric B. Meyer, M.D.
MCASOM Student Address	Steven A. Callori
Conferring of Medical Degrees	Fredric B. Meyer, M.D. Joseph J. Maleszewski, M.D. Megha M. Tollefson, M.D. Rochelle R. Torgerson, M.D., Ph.D.
Reading of the Physician's Pledge	Fredric B. Meyer, M.D. All M.D. Attendees and Graduates
Concluding Remarks	Fredric B. Meyer, M.D.
Recessional	

Please join us after the recessional for a reception in the West and South Ballroom Lobbies.

Minnesota Platform Participants

In order of appearance

FREDRIC B. MEYER, M.D.

Juanita Kious Waugh Executive Dean of Education,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science
Dean, Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine
Alfred Uihlein Family Professor of Neurologic Surgery,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

GIANRICO FARRUGIA, M.D.

President and CEO, Mayo Clinic
Professor of Medicine and Physiology,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

SARANYA P. WYLES, M.D., PH.D.

Commencement Speaker

LEIGH G. GRIFFITHS, MRCVS, PH.D.

Dean, Mayo Clinic Graduate School of
Biomedical Sciences
Professor of Medicine,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

ESTHER PEGGE BYRON RODMAN

Student Speaker,
Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

FELICITY T. ENDERS, PH.D.

Professor of Biostatistics,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

J. LUIS LUJAN, PH.D., M.S.

Associate Dean for Student Affairs,
Mayo Clinic Graduates School of Biomedical Sciences
Associate Professor of Neurosurgery and
Biomedical Engineering,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

VIRGINIA M. SHAPIRO, PH.D.

Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs,
Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
Professor of Immunology,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

STEVEN A. CALLORI

Student Speaker,
Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine

JOSEPH J. MALESZEWSKI, M.D.

Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs,
Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine
Professor of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

MEGHA M. TOLLEFSON, M.D.

Senior Associate Dean for Admissions,
Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine
Professor of Dermatology; Pediatrics,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

ROCHELLE R. TORGERSON, M.D., PH.D.

Associate Dean for Student Affairs,
Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine – Minnesota
Associate Professor of Dermatology,
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science

“Within its walls all classes of people, the poor as well as the rich, without regard to color or creed, shall be cared for without discrimination.”

WILLIAM J. MAYO, M.D.

Minnesota

Commencement Speaker

SARANYA P. WYLES, M.D., PH.D.

Saranya Wyles, M.D., Ph.D., is an assistant professor of dermatology and regenerative medicine at Mayo Clinic in Rochester. She serves as the director of the Regenerative Dermatology and Skin Longevity Laboratory, where she leads pioneering research focused on aging skin, cellular senescence and regenerative biotherapies. She is also a consultant in the Department of Dermatology, associate education director in the Center for Regenerative Biotherapeutics and the research chair of the Mayo Clinic Center for Aesthetic Medicine and Surgery.

Dr. Wyles earned her B.A. from Barnard College, Columbia University, where she studied neuroscience and art history. She subsequently completed a research fellowship at Harvard Stem Cell Institute. She then earned her M.D.-Ph.D. in biomedical sciences and clinical and translational science at Mayo Clinic, where she also completed her internal medicine internship and residency in advanced clinical dermatology.

As a physician-scientist, Dr. Wyles leads research in 3D bioprinting of skin models to study inflammatory skin conditions such as atopic dermatitis, or eczema. Her work also focuses on the science of skin aging, cellular senescence and wound healing, using regenerative medicine to counteract inflammation and age-related degenerative changes in the skin. She is actively involved in developing new regenerative therapies and clinical trials in dermatology to bridge basic science with clinical applications.

Dr. Wyles is also a leader in medical education. She pioneered the development of a regenerative medicine curriculum for medical and graduate students to prepare the next generation of healthcare professionals for advancements in regenerative clinical practice. She has delivered numerous national and international presentations and authored several peer-reviewed journal articles.

Throughout her career, Dr. Wyles has received multiple awards for her contributions to dermatology and regenerative medicine. These include the Women's Dermatologic Society Mentorship Award and the Richard K. Winkelman Research Award from the Mayo Clinic Department of Dermatology. She was a Kogod Scholar at the Mayo Clinic Robert and Arlene Kogod Center on



Aging and a Mayo Clinic Scholar. She also received the NIH R03 Grants for Early Medical/Surgical Specialists' Transition to Aging Research (GEMSSTAR) and was selected as an NIH Butler-Williams Scholar through the NIH National Institute on Aging.

Beyond her academic and clinical work, Dr. Wyles' expertise has been recognized in the media. She has been featured on SiriusXM Doctor Radio, Harper's Bazaar, Dermatology Times, NBC Today Show, the Washington Post, Rochester Magazine and the New York Times.

Outside of her career, Dr. Wyles enjoys spending time with her husband, Cody Wyles, a fellow Mayo Clinic alumnus, and their two children, Annika (4) and Luka (1). She finds fulfillment in balancing scientific discovery, patient care and mentorship while advancing the future of regenerative dermatology.

Doctor of Philosophy



MOHAMED ADDANI

B.S., Health Sciences
University of Minnesota
Rochester, MN

B.S., M.S., Islamic Studies
Islamic University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, MN

Ph.D., Clinical and Translational Sciences
Health Disparities in Regenerative
Medicine: A Mixed-Methods Analysis
of Platelet-Rich Plasma Access for
Knee Osteoarthritis Treatment
(Advisor: Felicity T. Enders, Ph.D.)

Research Fellow
Mayo Clinic
Rochester, MN



JOSEPH BARNETT*

B.S., Biology
Western Michigan University
Kalamazoo, MI

Ph.D., Neuroscience
Psilocybin Impact on Brain Signaling
Pathways (Advisor: John D. Fryer, Ph.D.)

Psychiatry/Research Resident
University of California
San Diego Medical Center
San Diego, CA



JOANA EFUA AGGREY-FYNN

B.S., Biochemistry
University of Ghana, Legon
Accra, Ghana

M.S., Molecular Biology and Genetics
Izmir Institute of Technology
Izmir, Turkey

**Ph.D., Biochemistry and
Molecular Biology**
Mechanistic Insights into MAPK and
NF- κ B Pathway Dynamics in
Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma
(Advisor: John R. Hawse IV, Ph.D.)

Research Fellow
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center,
Kugel Lab
Seattle, WA



ERIN FRAZEE BARRETO

Pharm.D.
Drake University
Des Moines, IA

M.S., Clinical and Translational Sciences
Mayo Clinic Graduate School of
Biomedical Sciences
Rochester, MN

Ph.D., Clinical and Translational Sciences
Beta Lactam Optimization and
Outcomes Management: The BLOOM
Project (Advisor: Andrew D. Rule, M.D.)

**Associate Professor of Medicine
and Pharmacy**
Mayo Clinic
Department of Pharmacy
Rochester, MN



IRENA GINTARE BALZEKAS*

B.S., Physiology
McGill University
Montreal, Quebec, Canada

**Ph.D., Biomedical Engineering
and Physiology**
Dynamics of Depression and Anxiety
Symptom Severity and Epileptiform
Activity in Temporal Lobe Epilepsy
(Advisor: Gregory A. Worrell, M.D., Ph.D.)

Neurology Resident
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA



KALPANA BETAGERI

B.S., Biomedical Engineering
University of Connecticut
Storrs, CT

M.S., Biomedical Engineering
Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, MD

Ph.D., Clinical and Translational Sciences
Nanoparticle Based Targeting of the Lung
Vasculature for Experimental Lung Fibrosis
(Advisor: Daniel J. Tschumperlin, Ph.D.)

**Biopharmaceutical Technology
Development Associate**
Mayo Clinic Ventures
Department of Business Development
Rochester, MN

*Denotes M.D.-Ph.D. dual degree program

Doctor of Philosophy



MYLAN RACHEL BLOMQUIST*

B.S., Applied Biological Sciences
Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ

Ph.D., Molecular Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics
Targeting Recurrence in Glioblastoma
(Advisor: Nhan L. Tran, Ph.D.)

Internal Medicine Physician-Scientist Resident

University of California
San Francisco, CA



MATTHEW A. COOLEY

B.S., Clinical Laboratory Sciences
University of North Dakota
Grand Forks, ND

M.S., Medical Laboratory Science
University of North Dakota
Grand Forks, ND

Ph.D., Clinical and Translational Sciences
Utility of Methylated DNA Markers for the Diagnosis of Malignant Biliary Strictures (Advisor: Lewis R. Roberts, M.B., Ch.B., Ph.D.)

Director, Diagnostic Systems Division
U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases
Fort Detrick, MD



ANGELA BRADY FLORIO

B.S., Microbiology and Cell Science
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL

A.S., Biotechnology
Palm Beach State College
Lake Worth, FL

Ph.D., Virology and Gene Therapy
The Systems Biology of Personalized Medicine
(Advisor: George Vasmatzis, Ph.D.)

Researcher

Mayo Clinic
Department of Molecular Medicine
Rochester, MN



XIAOZHI GAO

B.S., Biomedical Engineering
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Terre Haute, IN

M.S., Biotechnology
Northwestern University
Evanston, IL

Ph.D., Molecular Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics
SCN5A-Mediated Purkinje-Related Premature Contractions Syndrome (Advisor: Michael J. Ackerman, M.D., Ph.D.)

Fellow

Stanford University
Cardiovascular Institute
Palo Alto, CA



DARWIN A. GARCIA

B.A., Physics, Mathematics
Augustana University
Sioux Falls, SD

Ph.D., Biomedical Engineering and Physiology
Modeling the Acute Mucosal Tolerance to Fractionated Radiotherapy Combined with the ATM Inhibitor WSD0628 (Advisor: Nicholas B. Remmes, Ph.D.)

Therapeutic Medical Physics Resident
Mayo Clinic
Department of Radiology Oncology
Rochester, MN



ABDUL KARIM GHAITH

B.S., Neurobiology
Lebanese University
Beirut, Lebanon

M.D.
Lebanese American University
Beirut, Lebanon

Ph.D., Clinical and Translational Sciences
Effectiveness of Low-Intensity Focused Ultrasound in Improving Drug Delivery to the Chronic Spinal Cord Injury by Disrupting the Blood-Spinal Cord Barrier and Real-Time Super-Resolution Ultrasound Localization Microscopy for Enhanced Visualization of Blood Flow (Advisor: Mohamad Bydon, M.D.)

Senior Research Fellow

Johns Hopkins University
Department of Neurosurgery
Baltimore, MD

*Denotes M.D.-Ph.D. dual degree program

Doctor of Philosophy



CAROLINE GRANT

B.A., Neuroscience

Northwestern University
Evanston, IL

Ph.D., Molecular Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics

Analytical Approaches Towards
Multi-Modal Data Integration for
Precision Medicine: Case Studies in
Psychiatry and Gastroenterology
(Advisor: Arjun P. Athreya, Ph.D., M.S.)

Senior Clinical Pharmacologist

AbbVie
Department of Oncology
Chicago, IL



MELISSA ANNE HOPPER

B.S., Biological Sciences

University of the Pacific
Stockton, CA

M.S., Biological Sciences

University of the Pacific
Stockton, CA

Ph.D., Immunology

Genomic, Transcriptomic, and Biologic
Characterization of
Low-Grade B-Cell Lymphomas
(Advisor: Anne J. Novak, Ph.D.)

Senior Scientist

Bristol Meyers Squibb
Department of Cancer Immunology
Redwood City, CA



IRIS

B.S., Biotechnology

Forman Christian College
Lahore, Pakistan

M.S., Oncology

University of Oxford
Oxford, United Kingdom

Ph.D., Virology and Gene Therapy

Mechanisms of Measles Virus Brain
Tropism Acquisition and Spread
(Advisor: Roberto Cattaneo, Ph.D.)

Research Fellow

Mayo Clinic
Molecular Medicine
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AUGUST JAMES JOHN

B.S., Molecular Biology and Biochemistry

Rhodes College
Memphis, TN

Ph.D., Molecular Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics

Unbiased Identification of Correlated
Drug Class Response in Cancer
Reveals Role of Ferroptosis in
PARP and Aurora Kinase Inhibitor
Synergy in Prostate Cancer
(Advisor: Liewei Wang, M.D., Ph.D.)



EMILY KATE KOONS

B.S., Neuroscience and Cognitive Science

University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ

B.S.H.S., Physiology

University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ

B.A., Anthropology

University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ

Ph.D., Biomedical Engineering and Physiology

Ultra-High-Resolution Coronary Artery
Computed Tomography Imaging
(Advisor: Shuai Leng, Ph.D.)

Diagnostic Imaging Physics Resident

Oregon Health and Science University
Portland, OR



ETHAN LAW

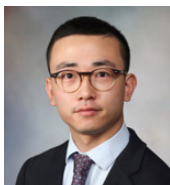
B.A., Biochemistry

DePauw University
Greencastle, IN

Ph.D., Clinical and Translational Sciences

Creating Safe, Potent, and Practical
Stem Cell Derived Pancreatic Cell
Therapies for Type 1 Diabetes
(Advisor: Quinn P. Peterson, Ph.D.)

Doctor of Philosophy



YUHAO MIN**

B.S., Chemistry
University of Illinois
Urbana, IL

Ph.D., Clinical and Translational Sciences
Translational Multiomics Analysis
as a Systems Approach to Decipher
Disease Pathways and Molecular
Targets in Progressive Supranuclear
Palsy and Related Tauopathies
(Advisor: Nilufer Taner, M.D., Ph.D.)

Research Fellow

Mayo Clinic
Department of Neuroscience
Jacksonville, FL



HALEY ELISE MUDRICK

B.A., Neuroscience
Macalester College
St. Paul, MN

**Ph.D., Molecular Pharmacology
and Experimental Therapeutics**
Mucosal Delivery of Genetic Therapies
(Advisor: Michael A. Barry, Ph.D.)

Senior Scientist

FuGENE
Middleton, WI



STEPHANIE ROSE OATMAN**

B.S., Biological Sciences
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO

**Ph.D., Biochemistry and
Molecular Biology**
Integration of Brain Endophenotypes
and Multi-Omic Measures Reveals
Distinct Molecular Signatures of
Amyloid and Tau Within Alzheimer's
Disease (Advisor: Nilufer
Taner, M.D., Ph.D.)

Postdoctoral Fellow

Mayo Clinic
Department of Neuroscience
Jacksonville, FL



ALEXANDER OLIVER

B.S., Biomedical Engineering
Michigan Technological University
Houghton, MI

**Ph.D., Biomedical Engineering
and Physiology**
Development of Endovascular
Devices Using Progressive
Materials: In Vivo Evaluations
of Bioresorbable and Magnetic
Cell Capture Enabling Devices
(Advisor: David F. Kallmes, M.D.)

Research Engineer

Mayo Clinic
Department of Radiology
Rochester, MN



DAVID RANDALL PEASE

B.S., Neuroscience
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, MN

**Ph.D., Biochemistry and
Molecular Biology**
Myosin Mediated Lamina Associated
Domain Assembly in Pancreatic
Cancer (Advisor: Martin E.
Fernandez-Zapico, M.D.)

Fellow

Whitehead Institute
Young Lab
Cambridge, MA



JULIAN SIMON RECHBERGER

B.A., Philosophy
Karl Franzens University
Graz, Austria

M.D.
Paracelsus Medical University
Salzburg, Austria

Ph.D., Virology and Gene Therapy
Integrated Pharmacokinetic and
Pharmacodynamic Paradigms of
Convection Enhanced Delivery in H3
K27-Altered Diffuse Midline Glioma
(Advisor: David J. Daniels, M.D., Ph.D.)

Neurologic Surgery Resident
Mayo Clinic School of
Graduate Medical Education
Rochester, MN

**Denotes participant of Florida Commencement ceremony

Doctor of Philosophy



SANTIAGO RESTREPO CASTILLO

B.S., Biomedical Engineering
EIA University
Medellín, Colombia

Ph.D., Virology and Gene Therapy
Unconstrained Mitochondrial
Base Editors
(Advisors: Patricia Devaux, Ph.D.;
Stephen C. Ekker, Ph.D.)

Fellow

University of Texas
Center for Rare Disease
Austin, TX



SKYLAR RIZZO*

B.S., Microbiology and Cell Science
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL

**Ph.D., Molecular Pharmacology and
Experimental Therapeutics**
Harnessing Extracellular Vesicles
to Modulate Angiogenesis in
Cardiopulmonary Disease
(Advisor: Atta Behfar, M.D., Ph.D.)

Internal Medicine/ CI Research Resident

Mayo Clinic School of
Graduate Medical Education
Rochester, MN



ESTHER PEGGE BYRON RODMAN

B.A., Biology
Macalester College
St. Paul, MN

**Ph.D., Biochemistry and
Molecular Biology**
JAK/STAT Signaling in Ovarian Cancer:
Novel Insights for Targeted Therapy
and Preclinical Modeling
(Advisor: John R. Hawse IV, Ph.D.)

Fellow

Mayo Clinic
Department of Biochemistry
and Molecular Biology
Rochester, MN



JASKANWAL DEEP SINGH SARA

M.B.B.S.
University of Birmingham
Birmingham, United Kingdom

M.S., Clinical and Translational Science
Mayo Clinic Graduate School of
Biomedical Sciences
Rochester, MN

Ph.D., Clinical and Translational Science
Novel Voice and Speech Biomarkers
for the Remote Detection of
Cardiovascular Disease
(Advisor: Amir Lerman, M.D.)



KYLEE MARIE SCHAFER

**B.S., Biomedical Engineering;
Mechanical Engineering**
Robert Morris University
Moon Township, PA

**Ph.D., Biomedical Engineering
and Physiology**
Biomechanics of Reaching in
Able-Bodied Adults and Adults
with Spinal Cord Injury
(Advisor: Kristin D. Zhao, Ph.D., M.S.)

Senior Biomechanist
ARCCA LLC
Penns Park, PA



DESTINY FAITH SCHULTZ

B.A., Biochemistry
University of Minnesota
Morris, MN

Ph.D., Immunology
Insane in the Membrane:
Modulation of Lipid Homeostasis
and Receptor Activation by
Endosomal Sorting Factor HD-PTP
(Advisor: Dan Billadeau, Ph.D.)

Scientist

Arrowhead Pharmaceuticals
Madison, WI

*Denotes M.D.-Ph.D. dual degree program

Doctor of Philosophy



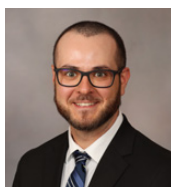
SHAFIQ SHAIKH

M.S., Cellular and Molecular Biology
University of New Haven
New Haven, CT

B.S., Biotechnology
Sathyabama University
Chennai, India

Ph.D., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Deciphering the interplay between SETD2 mediated H3K36me3 and N6-methyladenosine (m6A) mRNA modification in clear cell renal carcinoma (Advisor: Keith D. Robertson, Ph.D.)

Fellow
Medical College of Wisconsin
Obstetrics and Gynecology
Milwaukee, WI



NICHOLAS ANTHONY SHORTREED

B.S., Neuroscience
Northern Michigan University
Marquette, MI

Ph.D., Immunology
Healing a “Broken” Heart:
Characterization of the Recipient Graft-Specific Immune Response Against Xenogeneic Biomaterials to Engineer the Next-Generation of Biological Heart Valve Prostheses (Advisor: Leigh G. Griffiths, MRCVS, Ph.D.)

Fellow
Mayo Clinic
Department of Cardiovascular Diseases
Rochester, MN



SWIKRITI SHRESTHA

B.S., Biochemistry
Claflin University
Orangeburg, SC

Ph.D., Molecular Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics
Stem Cell Derived Alpha Cells as Model for Metabolic Health and Disease (Advisor: Quinn P. Peterson, Ph.D.)



FRANCIS SHUE **

B.S., Cell and Molecular Biology; Psychology
University of Texas
Austin, TX

Ph.D., Neuroscience and Regenerative Medicine
APOE, Brain, Immune Action, and Cerebrovascular Function in Age-Related Cognitive Impairment, and Alzheimer’s Disease (Advisor: Takahisa Kanekiyo, M.D., Ph.D.)

Clinical Fellow
University of Pennsylvania
Department of Pathology
Philadelphia, PA



OLIVIA LYNN SIRPILLA

B.S., Biomedical Sciences
Walsh University
North Canton, OH

Ph.D., Molecular Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics
Modulation of the Immune System through New Directions in Chimeric Antigen Receptor-Based Cell Therapies (Advisor: Saad J. Kenderian, M.B., Ch.B.)

Fellow
Mayo Clinic
Department of Hematology
Rochester, MN



NICHOLAS DE JIUN SUN

B.S., Biochemistry and Cell Biology
University of California
San Diego, CA

Ph.D., Immunology
TBK1 and IKKε Suppress IFNγ-Induced Inflammatory Apoptosis (Advisor: Adrian T. Ting, Ph.D.)

Fellow
Mayo Clinic
Department of Urology
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Doctor of Philosophy



JACK HENRY SWANSON

B.A., Biology

Pomona College
Claremont, CA

Ph.D., Immunology

Exploring APOBEC3 and Non-APOBEC3 Mediated Mechanisms for Escape from and Resistance to CAR-T Cell Challenge in Solid Tumors
(Advisor: Richard G. Vile, Ph.D.)

Researcher

University of Minnesota
Departments of Immunology and Pediatrics
Minneapolis, MN



JONATHAN MARCUS TREVATHAN

B.A., Mathematics and Physics

St. Olaf College
Northfield, MN

Ph.D., Biomedical Engineering and Physiology

Transversely Isotropic Inversion and Fiber Orientation Estimation for Brain Magnetic Resonance Elastography
(Advisor: Richard L. Ehman, M.D.)

Adjunct Faculty

Carleton College
Department of Physics and Astronomy
Northfield, MN



VIANCA VIANZON

B.S., Chemical Biology

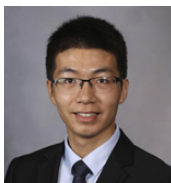
University of California
Berkeley, CA

Ph.D., Immunology

Promoting Intratumoral T cell Infiltration Using AAK1
(Advisor: Laura M. Rogers, Ph.D.)

Fellow

Mayo Clinic
Department of Immunology
Rochester, MN



LINGXIAO WANG

M.D.

Shandong University
Jinan, Shandong, China

Ph.D., Neuroscience

Macrophages in the Central Nervous System and Its Borders: A Focus on Microglia and Border-Associated Macrophages in Brain Diseases
(Advisors: Long-Jun Wu, Ph.D., Gregory A. Worrell, M.D., Ph.D.)



KEVIN L. WEBB

B.S., Biomedical Engineering

University of California
Davis, CA

Ph.D., Neuroscience

The Influence of High Hemoglobin-Oxygen Affinity on Oxygen Transport and Utilization During Exercise
Thesis Defense (Advisor: Michael J. Joyner, M.D.)

Medical Student

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine
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TAYLOR WEISKITTEL*

B.E., Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

University of Tennessee
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M.S., Bioinformatics and Computational Biology

University of Minnesota
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Ph.D., Molecular Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics

Single-Cell Systems Approaches to Reverse Engineer Transcription Factor Activity (Advisor: Hu Li, Ph.D.)

Preliminary Medicine and Radiation Oncology Resident

Mayo Clinic School of Graduate Medical Education
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Doctor of Philosophy



BAUSTIN MICHAEL WELCH

**B.S., Biotechnology
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North Dakota State University
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Ph.D., Immunology

Evaluation of the Immune Cell
Landscape in Untreated and Treated
Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia
Patients (Advisor: Kay L. Medina, Ph.D.)

Research Fellow

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ALLISON LYNN WELTER

**B.S., Biochemistry and
Molecular Biology**

University of Wisconsin
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Ph.D., Molecular Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics

Viral Proteins Inhibit the Serine
Protease FAM111A: Strategies to
Overcome Host Cell Defenses
(Advisor: Yuichi Machida, Ph.D.)



BRANDON ALEXANDER WILBANKS

**B.S., Chemical and
Biomolecular Engineering**

University of Tennessee
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Ph.D., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Selection of DNA Aptamers
Targeting Subcellular Compartments
(Advisor: Jim Maher III, Ph.D.)

Researcher

Mayo Clinic
Department of Biochemistry
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KATHERYN WININGER

B.S., Biology

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M.S., Neurobiology

Mayo Graduate School of
Biomedical Sciences
Rochester, MN

Ph.D., Neuroscience

Dissecting the Role of H-2Db Class I
Molecule in the Development of
Brain Atrophy During Theiler's Murine
Encephalomyelitis Virus (TMEV)
Infection (Advisor: Aaron J.
Johnson, Ph.D.)

Research Fellow

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B. A., Mathematics, Chemistry-Biology

Ripon College
Ripon, WI

Ph.D., Neuroscience

Contributions of Kallikrein 6 to
Neurobehavior and Disease
(Advisor: Isobel A. Scarisbrick, Ph.D.)

Neurology Resident

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STEPHANIE ZAWADA

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M.S., Electrical and Computer Engineering

University of Arizona
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Ph.D., Clinical and Translational Science

Development of Digital Phenotypes
for Real-World Monitoring in
Cerebrovascular Disease
(Advisors: Bart M. Demaerschalk, M.D.;
Bradley J. Erickson, M.D., Ph.D.)

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Molecular Biology**
(Advisor: Gina Razidlo, Ph.D.)



SAM S. ATLASI

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D.D.S.
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M.S., Periodontics
(Advisor: Cindy Zhou, D.M.D.)



NATHANIEL PATRICK BLACKWELL

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Science and Technology
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M.S., Regenerative Sciences
(Advisor: Hugo Guerrero
Cazares, M.D., Ph.D.)



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B.S., Cellular and Molecular Biology
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M.S., Clinical and Translational Science
Effect of Low Wavelength Blue
Light and Ultraviolet Light in Optically
Active Human Umbilical Cord
Mesenchymal Stem Cells and the
Effect of Spinal Cord Injury at the
Level of C3 to C5 in the Requirements
of Mechanical Ventilation
(Advisor: Mohamad Bydon, M.D.)

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KEVIN BROM

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**M.S., Biomedical Engineering
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Clinical and Quality Considerations
on the Use of Ultrasound-Based
Elastography to Assess Liver Fibrosis
(Advisor: Jaydev K. Dave, Ph.D.)

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(Advisor: Samuel J. Asirvatham, M.D.)

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Master in Biomedical Sciences



ANA SOFIA GARCIA MORENO

M.D.

Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara
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M.S., Clinical and Translational Science

The Role of the Interleukin -17 (IL-17)
Signaling Pathway in the Pathogenesis
of Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis:
A Patient-Derived Organoid Model
(Advisor: Gregory J. Gores, M.D.)

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Understanding the Role of Fatty Acid
Metabolism in Obesity-Related Diabetic
Cardiomyopathy and Describing Recent
Progress in Therapeutics
(Advisor: Jun Liu, M.D., Ph.D.)

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Nanoparticles to Target Asthma
(Advisor: Christina M. Pabelick, M.D.)

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From Fins to Ears: Evaluating Defective
Transcription-Coupled Nucleotide
Excision Repair as a Mechanism for
Sensorineural Hearing Loss in a
Zebrafish Model for Cockayne
Syndrome
(Advisor: Lisa A. Schimmenti, M.D.)

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Early Identification and Staging of
Shock in Intensive Care Unit Patients
(Advisor: Kianoush B. Kashani, M.D., M.S.)

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M.S., Clinical and Translational Science

Bioprosthetic Valve Leaflet
Immobility in the Atrioventricular
Positions: Incidence, Predictors,
and Impact on Survival
(Advisor: Hartzell V. Schaff, M.D.)

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CASSIE COLLEEN KENNEDY

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M.D.

University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, MN

M.S., Clinical and Translational Science

Exploring the Pre-Transplant Experiences
of Adult Candidates on the Thoracic
Transplant Waiting List and Their
Caregivers (Advisor: Roberto P.
Benzo, M.D.)

Professor of Medicine

Mayo Clinic
Pulmonary and Critical Care
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JOSHUA LABOTT

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Marquette University
Milwaukee, WI

M.D.

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine
Rochester, MN

M.S., Orthopedics

Reducing the Risk of Radiation
Associated Fractures
(Advisor: Matthew T. Houdek, M.D.)

Fellowship

Colorado Joint Replacement
Orthopedics
Denver, CO



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University of Perpignan
Perpignan, France

M.S., Biotechnology and Health Management

Université Joseph Fourier
Grenoble, France

M.S., Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare

Senoquant: A Versatile Napari
Plugin to Accurately Map Senescent
Cells Across Tissue Types in Both
Murine and Human Contexts
(Advisor: Joao Passos, Ph.D.)

Research Scientist

Mayo Clinic
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YINING LU

B.A., Chemistry; Economics

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M.D.

University of Illinois
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M.S., Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare

A Combined Framework for
Prognostication of Graft Failure and
Post-Traumatic Osteoarthritis Following
Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction
Using Machine Learning and Computer
Vision (Advisor: Christopher L. Camp, M.D.)

Orthopedic Surgery Resident

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SARAYNA MCGUIRE

B.S., Environmental Studies
American Military University
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Pennsylvania State University
College of Medicine
Hershey, PA

M.S., Clinical and Translational Science
Prehospital Workplace Violence:
Evaluating Prevalence, Impact,
and Risk Factors
(Advisor: Fernanda Bellolio, M.D., M.S.)

Senior Associate Consultant
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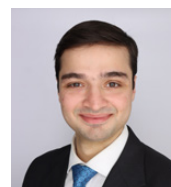
JOHN MATTHEW NATHAN

B.S., Biology
Baylor University
Waco, TX

M.D.
Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine
Rochester, MN

M.S., Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare
Machine Learning Model for Clinical
Decision Support System to Predict
Voided Computerized Physician
Order Entry in Oral and Maxillofacial
Surgery Patients
(Advisor: Vitaly Herasevich, M.D., Ph.D.)

Mayo Clinic Scholar
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KARIM RIZWAN NATHANI

M.B.B.S.
Aga Khan University
Karachi, Pakistan

M.S., Clinical and Translational Science
Machine Learning Model for Predicting
Neurosurgical Operative Time to
Optimize Operating Room Schedule
(Advisor: Mohamad Bydon, M.D.)

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B.A., Chemical Biology
College of St. Benedict
St. Joseph, MN

**M.S., Biochemistry and
Molecular Biology**
Precision Animal Models and
Drug Repurposing for Rare and
Undiagnosed Disease
(Advisor: Laura J. Lambert, Ph.D.)

Senior Research Technologist
Mayo Clinic
Functional Omics Resource
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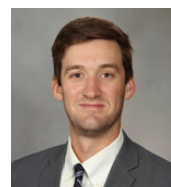


GABRIELA OJEDA VALENCIA

B.S., Psychology
Universidad de Guadalajara
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M.S., Neuroscience
Connectivity of the human
limbic system: structural and
effective network interactions
(Advisor: Prashanthi Vemuri, Ph.D.)

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DANIEL DAVID PENRICE

B.S., Marketing
Seton Hall University
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M.D.
University Of Nebraska
College Of Medicine
Lincoln, NE

M.S., Clinical and Translational Science
Remote Patient Monitoring for
Post-Hospital Management of
Decompensated Cirrhosis
(Advisor: Vijay Shah, M.D.)

Senior Associate Consultant
Mayo Clinic
Gastroenterology
Eau Claire, WI

Master in Biomedical Sciences



JASMINE SAINI

M.B.B.S.

Government Medical College
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M.S., Clinical and Translational Science

Impact of Adrenalectomy on Cognition
and Bone Metabolism in Patients with
Mild Autonomous Cortisol Secretion
(Advisor: Irina Bancos, M.D., M.S.)

Resident Physician

Yale University
Yale New Haven Hospital
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HAROLD I. SALMONS IV

B.S., Biology

Dickinson College
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M.D.

Sidney Kimmel Medical College at
Thomas Jefferson University
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M.S., Orthopedics

The Safety and Efficacy of ADIPOR1
and ADIPOR2 Peptide-Agonist
AdipoRon in Preventing Contracture
in a Rabbit Model of Arthrofibrosis
(Advisor: Matthew P. Abdel, M.D.)

Clinical Fellowship

Hospital for Special Surgery
Adult Reconstruction
New York, NY



JESSICA SELLE

B.S., Neurobiology

University of Wisconsin
Madison, WI

D.O.

Chicago College of Osteopathic
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M.S., Female Pelvic Medicine/ Reconstructive Surgery

(Advisor: John A. Occhino, M.D., M.S.)

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B.S., Neuroscience and Behavioral Biology

Emory University
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Rutgers Robert Wood
Johnson Medical School
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M.S., Gynecologic Oncology

Combination Therapeutics in the
Treatment of PARPi-Resistant High
Grade Serous Ovarian Cancer
(Advisor: John Weroha, M.D., Ph.D.)



RAINI ADAIR SORENSON

B.A., Biology

The College of St. Scholastica
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M.S., Immunology

(Advisor: Elizabeth Ann L.
Enninga, Ph.D.)



RASEEN TARIQ

M.B.B.S., Surgery

Nishtar Medical College
Multan, Pakistan

M.S., Clinical and Translational Science

Harnessing Technology in Medicine:
Predictive Models and AI Applications
for Clostridioides Difficile Infection
and Beyond
(Advisor: Sahil Khanna, M.B.B.S., M.S.)

Assistant Professor of Medicine

Virginia Commonwealth
University Medicine
Richmond, VA

Master in Biomedical Sciences



CHRISTINEIL THOMPSON

M.D.

St. George's University
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M.S., Clinical and Translational Science

Redefining Iron Deficiency:
An Evaluation of Iron Deficiency
In Student-Athletes Obtaining
Pre-Participation Hemoglobinopathy
Screening In The Upper Midwest
and Global Meta-Analysis
(Advisor: Paul J. Galaray, M.D.)

Pediatric Hematology- Oncology Physician

Government of Trinidad and Tobago
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RACHEL THORSTENSON

B.S., Biology

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M.S., Orthodontics

(Advisor: Ji Hyun Ahn, D.D.S.)



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Mahidol University
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M.S., Clinical and Translational Science

Exploring Clinical Challenges of
Myelin Oligodendrocyte Glycoprotein
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Characterization of Cellular
Senescence in Skin
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Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD)
Organoid Models: Current Knowledge,
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Clinical Mass Spectrometry Laboratory,
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Doctor of Philosophy & Master in Biomedical Sciences

FAREWELL & THANK YOU FROM MAYO CLINIC GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

As we transition beyond graduate school, we pause to truly thank those who have supported us along this journey.

We hail our families and friends who have provided a lifetime of love and support during our growth as scientists. Thank you so much for your patience and understanding as we navigated this challenging but amazing journey.

We are forever indebted to our mentors who are champions of education, beacons of optimism in the face of disappointment and brilliant examples of what we hope to become. We appreciate our lab partners, classmates, administrators and graduate school leadership who helped us to stay on track. We also thank

our gracious benefactors for their continued financial support for our truly unique educational opportunity.

We appreciate the support and encouragement from all of you; it truly takes a village to be successful and achieve our goals.

Our genuine and deep gratitude is extended to all who have helped us through the remarkable Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences experience. Please join us in celebration of this important time of transition. We did it!

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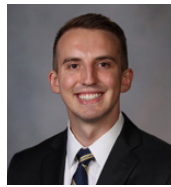
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Science and Engineering
Minneapolis, MN

Residency, Pediatrics

Mayo Clinic School of
Graduate Medical Education
Rochester, MN

Minnesota Doctor of Medicine



EVDOKIYA KNYAZHANSKAYA

B.A., Neurobiology and Psychology
Boston University
Boston, MA

**Residency, Obstetrics
and Gynecology**
University of Rochester-
Strong Memorial Hospital
Rochester, NY



**ALEXANDER BRYCE
CHRISTIAN KRUEGER**

B.S., International Business
Thomas Edison State University
Trenton, NJ

Residency, Internal Medicine
Kaiser Permanente
Santa Clara Medical Center
Santa Clara, CA



**CHARLOTTE EMILY
MICHAELCHECK**

B.S., Neuroscience
Middlebury College
Middlebury, VT

M.P.H., Public Health
Columbia University
Mailman School of Public Health
New York, NY

Residency, Neurological Surgery
Icahn School of Medicine at
Mount Sinai
New York, NY



IAN MCCREADIE MICHEL

B.A., Psychology
University of Wisconsin
Milwaukee, WI

Residency, Psychiatry
Mayo Clinic School of
Graduate Medical Education
Rochester, MN



MICHELLE THI NGUYEN

B.S., Biology
University of Oklahoma
Norman, OK

Residency, Preliminary Medicine
Mayo Clinic School of
Graduate Medical Education
Rochester, MN

Residency, Diagnostic Radiology
University of California
San Francisco, CA



TYLER ANH NGUYEN

B.A., Integrative Physiology
University of Colorado
Boulder, CO

Residency, VA Psychiatry
University of California-Los Angeles
Semel Institute for Neuroscience
and Human Behavior
Los Angeles, CA

Minnesota Doctor of Medicine



TREVOR JARED OLIVERSON

B.S., Biology

Utah Valley University
Orem, UT

D.D.S.

University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, NC

**Residency, Oral and
Maxillofacial Surgery**

Mayo Clinic School of
Graduate Medical Education
Rochester, MN



JASMINE MAGBUTAY PASCO

B.S., Biopsychology

University of California
Santa Barbara, CA

M.Ed., Curriculum and Instruction

University of Washington
Seattle, WA

D.M.D.

Boston University Goldman
School of Dental Medicine
Boston, MA

**Residency, Oral and
Maxillofacial Surgery**

Mayo Clinic School of Graduate
Medical Education
Rochester, MN



JUSTIN HAO-NHIEN PHAM

B.S., Neurobiology

University of California
Irvine, CA

Residency, Internal Medicine

Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
Los Angeles, CA



TIMOTHY RENGERS

B.S., Health Science

Oakland University
Rochester, MI

Residency, General Surgery

Duke University Medical Center
Durham, NC



JORDAN RICHARDSON

B.S., Neuroscience

Duke University
Durham, NC

Residency, Emergency Medicine

HealthPartners Institute-
Regions Hospital
St. Paul, MN



SKYLAR RIZZO*

B.S., Microbiology and Cell Science

University of Florida
Gainesville, FL

**Residency, Internal Medicine/
CI Research**

Mayo Clinic School of
Graduate Medical Education
Rochester, MN

*Denotes M.D.-Ph.D. dual degree program

Minnesota Doctor of Medicine



MATTHEW MICHAEL RODE

B.S., Molecular Genetics
The Ohio State University
Columbus, OH

M.S., Molecular Genetics
The Ohio State University
Columbus, OH

Residency, Neurology
Mayo Clinic School of
Graduate Medical Education
Rochester, MN

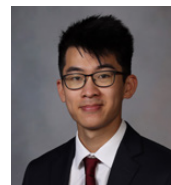


CLAYTON PRINTZ SIMINSKI

B.S., Biochemistry and Cell Biology
Rice University
Houston, TX

Residency, Transitional
Gundersen Lutheran
Medical Foundation
La Crosse, WI

Residency, Diagnostic Radiology
St. Luke's Hospital
Easton, PA



KENNY YO WANG

**B.S., Molecular, Cellular, and
Developmental Biology**
Yale University
New Haven, CT

**B.A., History of Science,
Medicine and Public Health**
Yale University
New Haven, CT

Residency, Ophthalmology
Mayo Clinic School of
Graduate Medical Education
Rochester, MN

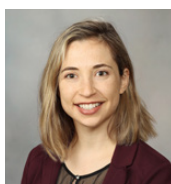


CLARE ANN WEBER

B.S., Biochemistry
Creighton University
Omaha, NE

M.P.H.
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg
School of Public Health
Baltimore, MD

Residency, Ophthalmology
University of Wisconsin
Madison, WI



TAYLOR WEISKITTEL*

**B.E., Chemical and
Biomolecular Engineering**
University of Tennessee
Knoxville, TN

**M.S., Bioinformatics and
Computational Biology**
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, MN

Residency, Preliminary Medicine
Mayo Clinic School of
Graduate Medical Education
Rochester, MN

Residency, Radiation Oncology
Mayo Clinic School of
Graduate Medical Education
Rochester, MN



LYDIA PATRICE WHEELER

**A.B., Ecology and
Evolutionary Biology**
Princeton University
Princeton, NJ

*Denotes M.D.-Ph.D. dual degree program

Minnesota Doctor of Medicine



LINCOLN ISAIAH WURTZ*

**B. A., Mathematics,
Chemistry-Biology**

Ripon College
Ripon, WI

Residency, Neurology
University of California
San Francisco, CA



RACHEL L. ZIEBART

B.S., Nursing
Liberty University
Lynchburg, VA,

M.S., Science of Healthcare Delivery
Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ

Residency, Preliminary Pediatrics
Mass General Brigham-
Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, MA

Residency, Dermatology
Geisinger Health System
Danville, PA

*Denotes M.D.-Ph.D. dual degree program

FAREWELL & THANK YOU FROM MAYO CLINIC ALIX SCHOOL OF MEDICINE IN MINNESOTA

The Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine Class of 2025 extends our heartfelt gratitude to the many individuals who have supported and shaped us throughout our medical school journey.

To our faculty, mentors, preceptors, residents, fellows and care teams: From our first days in the classroom to our final clinical rotations, you have challenged, guided and inspired us. You inspired us to set ambitious goals, and then challenged us to exceed them, helping us grow not only as future physicians, but as individuals. Your dedication to our education and well-being will have a lasting impact.

To the MCASOM deans, staff and administrators: We know that our education would not have been the same without your tireless efforts. Thank you for your commitment to ensuring that we received exceptional training and for creating an environment where we could thrive.

To our benefactors: Your generosity has opened the doors to an outstanding medical education. Thank you for believing in our potential and investing in our futures.

And finally, to our families, friends and loved ones: Your love, patience and encouragement have been the foundation of our success. You celebrated our milestones, comforted us through setbacks and listened (more often than you likely cared to) as we processed the highs and lows of medical school. We recognize the sacrifices you made — big and small — to help us reach this milestone, and we are deeply grateful for your unwavering support.

This moment would not be possible without each of you. Thank you for walking alongside us on this journey.

With gratitude,

*Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine
Minnesota Class of 2025*

2025 Awards

Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

Awards

Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

DEAN'S RECOGNITION AWARD

Dean's Recognition Award recipients are chosen by Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences leadership. Recipients exemplify exceptional service to graduate school education.

Recipients

Felicity T. Enders, Ph.D.
Nhan L. Tran, Ph.D.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Each year, the graduate students select faculty members to receive Teacher of the Year Awards. The awards are given to faculty members who have made significant contributions to graduate student education.

Recipients

Pam J. McLean, Ph.D.
Leigh G. Griffiths, MRCVS, Ph.D.

OUTSTANDING MENTOR AWARD

Outstanding Mentor Award recipients are chosen by the Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences predoctoral students to recognize effective mentors. Mentorship refers to the facilitation of individual student success and independence by providing appropriate tools and promoting skill learning in a mutually respectful environment with open communication. Effective mentors advise and help the mentee develop the numerous skills they need to be scientific leaders.

Recipient

Marina R. Walther-Antonio, Ph.D.



“Science knows no country.”

William J. Mayo, M.D.

Awards

Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences



DEAN'S RECOGNITION AWARD

Felicity T. Enders, Ph.D.

Dr. Felicity T. Enders is a professor of biostatistics at Mayo Clinic and the Program Director for the Clinical and Translational Sciences track for Ph.D. students. She holds degrees from Yale University and Johns Hopkins University, where she also completed a fellowship in biostatistics. Dr. Enders serves as the director of the Mayo Clinic Enterprise Office for Research Belonging, associate director for the Mayo Clinic Center for Clinical and Translational Science, and deputy director for People and Culture in the Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center. Her research interests include belonging, hidden curriculum for research and health equity engineering. She has received multiple awards for her contributions to education, including the Educator of the Year Award

from the Mayo Clinic Center for Clinical and Translational Science, the Distinguished Achievement Award from the American Statistical Association, and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion group in the Association for Clinical and Translational Science. Dr. Enders is a member of the Advisory Committee for the Encoding Equity Alliance, an elected fellow in the American Statistical Association, and a member of the board of directors for the Association for Clinical and Translational Science. In 2025, she was named president-elect for the Association for Clinical and Translational Science.



DEAN'S RECOGNITION AWARD

Nhan L. Tran, Ph.D.

Dr. Nhan L. Tran is a professor and consultant in Cancer Biology, Radiation Oncology, and Neurological Surgery at Mayo Clinic in Arizona. He is also the associate dean for the Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences in Arizona. With over 20 years of experience, Dr. Tran has mentored more than 50 individuals. His mentorship emphasizes rigorous scientific training, professional development and fostering independent thinking, leading many trainees to successful careers in academia, industry and clinical practice. He has served on mentoring committees for junior faculty and as a mentor for early-career investigators supported by National Institutes of Health (NIH) K awards. Dr. Tran is passionate about expanding training programs that promote belonging, ensuring trainees receive the mentorship and resources

needed to succeed in biomedical research. Dr. Tran's research focuses on uncovering molecular mechanisms driving invasion, tumor progression and therapeutic resistance. Dr. Tran is an active member of the scientific community, serving on several NIH and Department of Defense study sections and reviewing NIH training grants. His involvement reflects his commitment to supporting the next generation of cancer researchers by ensuring high-quality training opportunities. Through his leadership in education and training, he is dedicated to fostering an inclusive scientific workforce that drives innovation and excellence in cancer research.

Awards

Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences



TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Pam J. McLean, Ph.D.

Dr. Pam J. McLean is an associate professor in the Department of Neuroscience at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science. She holds a B.S. in biochemistry from the University of Glasgow and a Ph.D. in pharmacology from Boston University School of Medicine. She completed her postdoctoral training at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School. Dr. McLean's research focuses on the role of alpha-synuclein in neurodegenerative diseases, particularly Lewy body dementia and Parkinson's disease. Her lab uses cellular models and gene transfer techniques to understand the molecular pathogenesis of these diseases and develop novel therapeutic approaches. Her research is funded by NIH and the Michael J. Fox

Foundation. Dr. McLean has been training students and postdoctoral fellows for nearly 20 years, first at Harvard Medical School and now at Mayo Clinic in Florida since 2012. She has received numerous awards for her contributions to education, including the Mayo Clinic Excellence in Education Award and the Jacksonville Business Journal's Health Care Hero Award for Education.



TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Leigh G. Griffiths, MRCVS, Ph.D.

Dr. Leigh G. Griffiths is a veterinary cardiologist, cardiovascular surgeon and research scientist at Mayo Clinic. His research focuses on overcoming immunological barriers in organ transplantation, aiming to apply these insights in cardiovascular regenerative medicine and tissue engineering. His lab develops immunologically acceptable animal-derived tissue scaffolds for cardiovascular regenerative medicine and tissue engineering, aiming to create new replacement tissues and organs using the patient's own cells, eliminating the need for immunosuppressive therapy. Dr. Griffiths is passionate about modernizing educational curricula. He recently reformed the Biomedical Engineering and Physiology track core

curriculum and has served as a primary mentor for graduate students across various disciplines. In 2023, he was named dean of the Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. Before joining Mayo Clinic in 2007, Dr. Griffiths was a tenured faculty member at the University of California, where he led the reform of the professional veterinary school curriculum. His focus has been on student needs and developing collaboration among faculty leaders to implement cost-effective, practical solutions.

Awards

Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences



OUTSTANDING MENTOR AWARD

Marina R. Walther-Antonio, Ph.D.

Dr. Marina R. Walther-Antonio is an associate consultant in the Department of Surgery and Obstetrics and Gynecology at Mayo Clinic in Rochester. She is also an assistant professor in the Microbiome Program within the Center for Individualized Medicine. Dr. Walther-Antonio completed her undergraduate studies in biology at Universidade de Aveiro, Portugal, and joined the NASA Astrobiology Institute for a research internship with the Indiana-Princeton-Tennessee Astrobiology Initiative. She continued her astrobiology work with an M.S. in microbiology at Indiana University and a Ph.D. in environmental sciences at Washington State University. She then completed her postdoctoral training at Mayo Clinic as a research fellow in the Microbiome Program, transitioning the

evolutionary and ecological microbiome approaches and concepts to the medical field. Her research focuses on the microbiome's role in human health and disease. Additionally, she is involved in astrobiological research with NASA and the European Space Agency. Dr. Walther-Antonio has set up the OR and pathology microbiome collections, which are now used by multiple Mayo Clinic investigators, and she published the first microbiome study in endometrial cancer. She has filed multiple patents based on research discoveries and technology developments with patient care applications. Dr. Walther-Antonio currently serves as assistant dean for Belonging in the Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.

2025 Awards

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine

Awards

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine

DEAN'S RECOGNITION AWARD

Dean's Recognition Award recipients are chosen for each school by the leadership of Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine. Recipients exemplify exceptional service to medical education.

Recipients

Kelly J. Yardley, Arizona
Dana Herrigel, M.D., Florida
Kendall H. Lee, M.D., Ph.D., Minnesota

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Chosen by Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine leadership, Distinguished Service Award recipients are Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine educators or leaders who have exemplified outstanding service and dedication to the medical school over the course of their career.

Recipients

Mira T. Keddis, M.D., Arizona
Gerardo Colon-Otero, M.D., Florida
Rick A. Nishimura, M.D., Minnesota

DEAN'S AWARD FOR BELONGING

Belonging is important at Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine, which is committed to creating an environment that embraces this value for our students and faculty. The recipients of the Dean's Award for Belonging exemplify exceptional service to the medical school for their efforts related to fostering a sense of belonging.

Recipient

Dan J. Thompson

DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARD

Chosen by Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine leadership, Distinguished Teacher Award recipients are Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine educators or leaders who have demonstrated an exceptional commitment to medical education.

Recipients

Jeffrey B. Geske, M.D.
David J. Rosenman, M.D.

TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD

The Teaching Excellence Award is based on MedHub evaluations, and it celebrates the most effective educators as nominated by students. Award recipients scored the highest in the category of overall effectiveness of teaching and had the highest number of nominations for the award.

Recipients

Shaun D. Daidone, M.D., Arizona
Edward T. Haupt, M.D., Florida
Omar M. Ghanem, M.D., Minnesota

TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Each year, graduating medical students on each campus select one faculty member to receive the Teacher of the Year Award. This award is given in recognition of outstanding contributions to undergraduate medical education at Mayo Clinic.

Recipients

James Kelley, M.D., Arizona
Brian P. Shapiro, M.D., M.A., Florida
Ryan M. Giddings Connolly, M.D., Minnesota

GOLDEN STETHOSCOPE AWARD

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine third- and fourth-year students on each campus select up to three residents or fellow educators to receive the Golden Stethoscope Award. Students recognize these residents and fellows for their outstanding commitment to medical student education and for going above and beyond expectations during the students' clinical experiences.

Recipients

Cody A. Cunningham, M.D., Ph.D., Arizona Resident
Brian A. Parker, M.D., MBA, Arizona Resident
Christopher N. Kanaan, M.D., Arizona Fellow
Claire E. Wilson, M.D., Florida Resident
Eric C. Zuberi, M.D., Florida Resident
Kevin G. Tayon, M.D., Florida Fellow
Becky T. Brooks, M.D., Minnesota Resident
Jason K. Lee, M.D., Minnesota Resident
Bonnie C. Sohn, M.D., Minnesota Fellow

MAYO BROTHERS AWARD

Given in memory of William and Charles Mayo's service to the Army, this prestigious award is presented to graduating medical school students who embody the values of Mayo Clinic as well as the values of the United States Armed Forces: academic performance, leadership, service, integrity, dutifulness and dedication to patients. Recipients of this award have honorable military service and are chosen by Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine leadership.

Recipients

Robert J. Kelly III
James Youngsoo Kim

Awards

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine



ARIZONA DEAN'S RECOGNITION AWARD

Kelly J. Yardley

Raised in California, Kelly J. Yardley received a B.S. in business administration from Arizona State University. She has worked at Mayo Clinic for 14 years and has been at the Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine for nearly nine years. In her current position as education specialist for Academic Affairs, she is responsible for coordinating first-year courses, overseeing longitudinal programs, and helping to lead the pre-clerkship phase curriculum. Her greatest fulfillment comes from connecting with new medical students in their first year, whether by offering guidance, answering questions or simply being a friendly

presence. She maintains regular communication with students throughout their educational journey and celebrates their achievements from admissions to graduation. Outside of Mayo Clinic, Kelly stays busy with her husband of 30 years and their three children, the youngest of whom recently graduated from college. She is looking forward to more travel and home projects now that tuition fees are no longer an obligation.



FLORIDA DEAN'S RECOGNITION AWARD

Dana Herrigel, M.D.

Dr. Dana Herrigel is an assistant professor of medicine and currently serves as the director of clinical education for the Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine on the Florida campus. She received a B.Eng. in chemical engineering from the University of Delaware, where she graduated with honors. Prior to her career in medicine, she worked as a chemical engineer for Merck. She received an M.D. from Robert Wood Johnson Medical School at Rutgers University, where she remained to complete her residency and chief residency, and she served in faculty positions including course director and associate program director prior to joining Mayo Clinic in 2016. She practices hospital internal medicine, and her clinical interests include early recognition of clinical decompensation,

point-of-care ultrasound, experiential learning and simulation in medicine, aerospace medicine and training transitions in medical education. Her lifelong passion for learning led to achieving special competence in critical care echocardiography in 2025. Dr. Herrigel has received numerous accolades in recognition of her tireless advocacy of education at Mayo Clinic, including the 2023 Outstanding Emerging Educator from Mayo Clinic in Florida and three consecutive Teacher of the Year Awards from the Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine in Florida.

Awards

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine



MINNESOTA DEAN'S RECOGNITION AWARD

Kendall H. Lee, M.D., Ph.D.

Dr. Kendall H. Lee is a consultant in the Department of Neurologic Surgery at Mayo Clinic in Rochester with joint appointments in the Departments of Physiology and Biomedical Engineering as well as Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. He earned his B.A. in biology from the University of Colorado at Denver and received his M.D. and Ph.D. in neurobiology from Yale University. He completed internships and residencies at Yale University School of Medicine, Harvard Medical School and Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. Dr. Lee joined Mayo Clinic in 2006 and is a professor of neurosurgery and biomedical engineering. He founded Neural Engineering Laboratories and is currently a director at Mayo Clinic. Dr. Lee specializes in neurological disorders,

seeing patients with Parkinson's disease, Tourette syndrome, dystonia and other neurodegenerative diseases. His research focuses on developing deep brain stimulation for the treatment of Parkinson's disease, tremor, depression, obsessive-compulsive disorder and epilepsy. His team was awarded the Mayo Clinic Distinguished Team Science Award in 2015. He was a commander in the U.S. Navy Reserve, and in 2013, he served a six-month deployment in Germany, using his neurosurgery skills to treat soldiers wounded in the conflict in the Middle East. Dr. Lee serves as chairman of the board, chief medical officer and president of NaviNetics Inc., a medical device company.



ARIZONA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Mira T. Keddis, M.D.

Dr. Mira T. Keddis is a professor of medicine at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science. She holds several leadership roles, including enterprise director of education at the Mayo Clinic Center for Individualized Medicine, associate dean of faculty affairs, and course director for Nephrology at Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine in Arizona. She earned her B.S. in physics and Christianity from Houston Baptist University and her M.D. from the University of Texas Medical Branch. After medical school, she joined Mayo Clinic as a resident in internal medicine and later became chief medical resident. Dr. Keddis' research interests include nephrology, transplantation and kidney stones, with notable work on disparities in transplant rates among Indigenous Americans, cardiovascular biomarkers for

kidney transplant candidates, transplant nephrolithiasis and kidney donor outcomes for stone formers. She has received numerous accolades for her dedication to teaching and mentorship and is also recognized as a top faculty member by the Mayo Clinic School of Continuous Professional Development. Dr. Keddis is committed to providing high-quality, individualized care to her patients and is dedicated to improving the lives of those she serves. Her work in nephrology, education and research continues to make a significant impact on the medical community and beyond.

Awards

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine



FLORIDA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Gerardo Colon-Otero, M.D.

Dr. Gerardo Colon-Otero is a professor of medicine at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science. He earned a B.S. in mathematics and an M.D. from the University of Puerto Rico. After medical school, he joined Mayo Clinic as a resident in internal medicine and hematology, later completing a fellowship in medical oncology and hematology at the University of Virginia Medical Center. Most recently, he served as the vice dean at Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine. Dr. Colon-Otero focuses on treating patients with gynecological malignancies. His research aims to improve treatments for breast and gynecologic cancers, including ovarian, uterine and cervical cancers, and to eliminate disparities in cancer care outcomes. He collaborates with Mayo Clinic

scientists to develop new treatments and identify genetic differences that may affect outcomes. His team also works with community entities to ensure underserved populations have access to cancer screening and research programs. Dr. Colon-Otero is dedicated to training medical students, residents and fellows. He has received numerous awards, including the Mayo Clinic Distinguished Clinician Award (2019), the Mayo Clinic Florida Internal Medicine Mayo Brothers Clinical Excellence Award (2023) and multiple teaching awards. He holds master's faculty privileges in Clinical and Translational Sciences at the Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.



MINNESOTA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Rick A. Nishimura, M.D.

Dr. Rick A. Nishimura was a consultant in the Division of Structural Heart Disease, Department of Cardiovascular Medicine at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, and is the Judd and Mary Morris Leighton Professor in Cardiovascular Diseases and Hypertension. Dr. Nishimura attended Knox College for his undergraduate degree, subsequently receiving his medical degree from Rush Medical College. He then attended Mayo Graduate School of Medicine (now Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine) for his internship, residency and cardiovascular fellowship. Dr. Nishimura's practice in the field of cardiovascular diseases included subspecialty interests in cardiac hemodynamic valvular heart disease, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy and pericardial disease. He has written over 500 manuscripts and 50 book chapters in the

field of cardiovascular diseases. He is the recipient of the Plummer Distinguished Clinician Award and the Mayo Clinic Distinguished Clinician Award, as well as the Presidential Citation from the American College of Cardiology. Dr. Nishimura has a passion for education and was involved in educating medical students, fellows and practicing cardiologists, both at Mayo Clinic and through numerous medical meetings. He has been honored multiple times as Outstanding Cardiovascular Diseases Teacher at Mayo Clinic and was awarded the Golden Apple Award from the Mayo Medical School. He has also been recognized with the Mayo Clinic Distinguished Educator Award, the American College of Cardiology Gifted Teacher Award and the American Heart Association Laennec Award for Clinician Educator.

Awards

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine



DEAN'S AWARD FOR BELONGING

Dan J. Thompson

Dan J. Thompson, born and raised in Willmar, Minnesota, has dedicated his career to fostering student success and promoting inclusive environments within higher education. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in management from Saint John's University before pursuing a Master of Arts in higher education and student affairs from Bowling Green State University. Dan furthered his commitment to justice and equity through obtaining a Juris Doctor from William Mitchell College of Law and has been licensed to practice law in Minnesota since that year. Throughout his career, Dan has held significant leadership roles, including vice president for student affairs and dean of students at William Mitchell College of Law, senior vice president for enrollment

management and athletics at St. Catherine University, and associate vice president for academic and student affairs at Minneapolis Community and Technical College. He also served as vice president for student affairs and institutional advancement at Rochester Community and Technical College. Currently, Dan serves as administrator for Enrollment Management and Student Services at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science, where he provides strategic leadership across a broad range of areas spanning the entire learner life cycle. His extensive experience and deep commitment to creating equitable and supportive educational experiences have made him a valued leader in the field.



DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARD

Jeffrey B. Geske, M.D.

Dr. Jeffrey B. Geske received a B.S. in both biology and physiology from the University of Minnesota. He received his M.D. from Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine, followed by residencies and fellowships in internal medicine, cardiovascular disease and advanced cardiac imaging. Dr. Geske is currently a consultant in the Department of Cardiovascular Medicine at Mayo Clinic. He is interested in use of multimodality imaging to assess structural heart disease, including hypertrophic cardiomyopathy and valvular heart disease. Dr. Geske's education roles include serving as the Cardiology and Vascular Medicine course director of the Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine and as a co-director of the Mayo Clinic Cardiovascular Board Review. Dr. Geske's research focus is in hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. His clinical focus is on patients

with structural heart disease, including hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, pericardiocentesis and 3D echocardiographic guidance of interventions. Dr. Geske's multimodality research provides better understanding of the complicated hemodynamic interactions found in patients with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy and valvular heart disease. He has received numerous awards and honors, including Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine's Teacher of the Year and Golden Apple Awards.

Awards

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine



DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARD

David J. Rosenman, M.D.

Dr. David J. Rosenman came to Mayo Clinic in 2003 for fellowship training and has since served as a consultant in the Division of Hospital Internal Medicine in Rochester. Prior to studying medicine, he was a secondary school teacher. Dr. Rosenman developed and now co-leads the Transition to Clerkships course — a multidisciplinary journey from classroom learning to the clinical setting. He has mentored hundreds of medical students and residents, and received many teaching awards, including Teacher of the Year from three graduating classes of Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine. Over the years, he has organized international symposia on innovation in healthcare, collaborated on the design and building of healthcare systems overseas, and has

advised corporate, governmental, and nonprofit entities in the U.S. and abroad. He holds degrees in medicine from Indiana University Medical Center, business from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, clinical research from Mayo Clinic, biology from Ball State University, and communication from the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Rosenman likes to draw and to paint, and he says with confidence that the greatest joy he knows is being the dad of his daughter and son.



ARIZONA TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD

Shaun D. Daidone, M.D.

Dr. Shaun D. Daidone is a double-board-certified psychiatrist and senior associate consultant in the Division of Adult Psychiatry at Mayo Clinic Arizona, where he also serves as residency advisor director for Psychiatry at Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine. Dr. Daidone earned his medical degree from the Medical College of Wisconsin and completed his residency and fellowship at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, where he also served as chief resident in Adult Inpatient Psychiatry. Prior to joining Mayo Clinic in 2023, he served as medical director of Integrated Behavioral Health for a major health system in Colorado and later worked extensively with patients facing treatment-resistant mental illness in state hospital systems. Dr. Daidone's method of teaching centers on collaboration by approaching students as colleagues and teammates.

He aims to foster an environment that encourages growth through curiosity, autonomy and reflection, while empowering students to develop both professionally and personally as they find their own confidence as future physicians. Of his impact as a teacher, one student says, "Dr. Daidone was one of the best mentors I had the privilege of working with at Mayo Clinic. From day one, he went out of his way to ensure I was set up for success, providing helpful templates and clearly outlining expectations." In the words of another student, "... in all my clerkships and rotations, I've never encountered a more intentional or effective clinical mentor. Dr. Daidone was thoughtful and thorough in his teaching approach." Outside of work, Dr. Daidone enjoys spending time with his wife and son.

Awards

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine



FLORIDA TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD

Edward T. Haupt, M.D.

Dr. Edward T. Haupt is a senior associate consultant in the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at Mayo Clinic in Florida. He specializes in orthopedic ankle surgery, and he treats disorders of the lower leg, ankle and foot. Dr. Haupt earned his bachelor's degree in zoology and premedical curricula from the University of Florida, where he was an All-American football player and two-time national champion with the Florida Gators. He completed his M.D. degree with honors in research from the University of Florida, where he also received his orthopedic surgery training. He then completed a fellowship in foot and ankle reconstructive surgery at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. Dr. Haupt has authored over 20 scientific publications and has presented at more than

30 regional, national and international orthopedic surgery conferences. He serves on multiple committees with national specialty societies and educational groups for surgeons-in-training. As an educator, he is known for his nuanced approach to each student. As one student says, "Dr. Haupt is one of, if not the best, preceptor I have had yet. He taught extensively, provided ample opportunities for participation and gave as much latitude as he thought was appropriate ... Dr. Haupt was great to work with and demonstrated aspirational levels of commitment to patient care." Dr. Haupt is married to his wife, Gayle, and they live in Jacksonville with their three daughters. He enjoys swimming, diving, weightlifting, reading and watching his daughters excel.



MINNESOTA TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD

Omar M. Ghanem, M.D.

Dr. Omar M. Ghanem is the chair of the Metabolic and Abdominal Wall Reconstructive Surgery Division at Mayo Clinic in Rochester. He earned his B.S. at American University in Beirut and his M.D. at the University of Balamand in Lebanon. He completed his general surgery residency at Medstar Union Memorial Hospital in Baltimore, and a fellowship in minimally invasive and bariatric surgery at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, where he received the Fellow Teacher of the Year Award in 2017. Dr. Ghanem practiced as a bariatric surgeon at Mosaic Life Care for three years before returning to Mayo Clinic in 2020. His clinical interests include complex and re-operative bariatric revisions and minimally invasive median arcuate ligament release

surgeries. His research focuses on duodenal switch outcomes and revisions after Roux-en-Y gastric bypass procedures. He is the associate program director of the Mayo Clinic Minimally Invasive Surgery fellowship program. Additionally, he chairs the Communications Committee at ASMBS and co-chairs the Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Committee at The Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons Metabolic and Bariatric Committee. Dr. Ghanem is a committed educator at Mayo Clinic. Students say he "is excellent at getting every learner in the room involved in the surgery. He asks questions that keep (students) engaged ... he goes out of his way to have learners perform portions of the operation appropriate for their skill level."

Awards

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine



ARIZONA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

James Kelley, M.D.

Dr. James Kelley is a consultant in the Department of Emergency Medicine at Mayo Clinic in Arizona. He joined Mayo Clinic in 1998 and holds the academic rank of assistant professor of emergency medicine at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science. Dr. Kelley attended the University of Arizona for both his undergraduate education and medical degree. He completed his residency training in emergency medicine at the University of Pittsburgh. His academic interests include medical education, ultrasound and simulation. Students say that as an educator, Dr. Kelley "... goes out of his way to break down complex topics and explain his thought process no matter how busy his shift is.

His lectures are always well thought out and interactive. He is a supportive role model who makes students' learning of emergency medicine engaging and memorable." Outside of work, Dr Kelley enjoys time with his wife, Cathy, a clinical pharmacist, and his four children, Austin, Jacqueline, Cassandra and Evan.



FLORIDA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Brian P. Shapiro, M.D., M.A.

Dr. Brian P. Shapiro is a professor of medicine in the Department of Cardiology at Mayo Clinic Florida. He earned his degree in U.S. history from the University of Florida and attended medical school at the University of Miami. He also holds an M.A. in defense and strategic studies from the Naval War College. Dr. Shapiro completed his training at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, specializing in internal medicine, cardiology and cardiovascular diseases. As director of the Health Services Committee and medical director for Sulzbacher Center, he leads clinics for the underserved in Jacksonville. He is also a commander in the U.S. Navy Reserves. Dr. Shapiro is an enthusiastic educator, and in

the words of students, he "... has consistently inspired (us) to deeply reflect on the profound significance of a career in medicine ... medical students fortunate enough to (work with) him have gained invaluable insight into prioritizing patient-centered care." He currently serves as the Cardiology Program director and vice chair of Cardiovascular Education. Previously, he was the associate dean of academic affairs for Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine. Outside of work, he enjoys spending time with his wife, Jenny, an ICU nurse manager at Mayo, their two college-aged children and two puppies.

Awards

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine



MINNESOTA TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Ryan M. Giddings Connolly, M.D.

Dr. Ryan M. Giddings Connolly is a consultant in the Department of Community Internal Medicine at Mayo Clinic in Rochester. He graduated from New York University with a major in biology and a minor in history. He received his M.D. from Boston University School of Medicine. Upon receiving his medical degree, he completed his residency training in internal medicine at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, followed by a fellowship in hospice and palliative medicine at Yale-New Haven Hospital. As a testament to his passion as an educator, Dr. Giddings Connolly has received numerous awards, including Mayo Fellows' Association Teacher of the Year and multiple Excellence in Teaching Recognitions from

the Mayo Clinic School of Graduate Medical Education Department of Internal Medicine Residency Program. In the words of one student, Dr. Giddings Connolly "is one of the most brilliant, kind and engaging clinical educators I have ever interacted with. He empowered me to feel confident in my clinical skills, gave me unprecedented autonomy and ultimately inspired me to pursue a career in primary care."



ARIZONA RESIDENT GOLDEN STETHOSCOPE AWARD

Cody A. Cunningham, M.D., Ph.D.

Dr. Cody Cunningham is a third-year resident in internal medicine at Mayo Clinic in Arizona. He graduated with honors in microbiology from Arizona State University and then completed his Ph.D. in molecular microbiology and immunology at the University of Missouri. He received his M.D. from Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine in Arizona, where he cultivated an interest in emergency medicine. As a resident and former Mayo Clinic medical student, Dr. Cunningham is an insightful educator and lecturer for current medical students. Students say "he often takes the time to walk through teaching points with medical students and to help them improve clinically. He is consistently

approachable, kind, and an overall brilliant resident to learn from. Being on his clinical team is a fun and educational experience."

Awards

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine



ARIZONA RESIDENT GOLDEN STETHOSCOPE AWARD

Brian A. Parker, M.D., MBA

Dr. Brian A. Parker is a second-year internal medicine resident at Mayo Clinic in Arizona. Dr. Parker has a B.A. in Italian from Brigham Young University and an MBA from David Eccles School of Business at the University of Utah. He attended University of Utah School of Medicine where he was class co-president. As an educator, Dr. Parker is known for being approachable, kind and intelligent. Students say, "... he is a mentor who sets an outstanding example for patient care while prioritizing teaching and mentorship of medical students. He brings a positive attitude to each busy day. Students working with him consistently feel valued and they can always turn to him with questions." Outside of Mayo Clinic, Dr. Parker is an

entrepreneur. He is the CEO of Vitapul Inc. In this role, he invented the "uAir Mini" albuterol rescue inhaler, an early-stage drug/device combination focused on reinventing the rescue inhaler for the modern lifestyle. In this role, he has won several competitions, including the Utah Entrepreneur Challenge and the Baylor New Venture Challenge. He is also owner of the popular Duncan's Fireworks.



ARIZONA FELLOW GOLDEN STETHOSCOPE AWARD

Christopher N. Kanaan, M.D.

Dr. Christopher N. Kanaan is a rising third-year cardiovascular medicine fellow at Mayo Clinic in Arizona. He graduated summa cum laude from UCLA and attended Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine. He then completed his internal medicine training at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, where he was selected for the Clinical Scholar Research Program. He previously received Teaching Excellence awards from both the Cleveland Clinic Lerner and Case Western Schools of Medicine. He is invested in medical education and takes pride in ensuring every member of his team learns and contributes to the workflow. Students

comment that "Dr. (Kanaan) consistently demonstrates excellence in patient care while making teaching of medical students a priority. Despite leading a busy cardiology service, he always makes sure that medical students can capitalize on learning opportunities. When working with him, students feel like meaningful members of the team." Dr. Kanaan has plans to pursue a sub-fellowship in clinical cardiac electrophysiology. Outside of work, Dr. Kanaan enjoys spending time with friends and family, playing pickleball and dabbling in seafood cuisine.

Awards

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine



FLORIDA RESIDENT GOLDEN STETHOSCOPE AWARD

Claire E. Wilson, M.D.

Originally from LaGrange Park, Illinois, Dr. Claire E. Wilson is a third-year internal medicine resident. She graduated from Purdue University with honors in health sciences and a minor Spanish. She received her medical degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine. She is thrilled to be staying at Mayo Clinic in Florida for a rheumatology fellowship, where she hopes to complete further research in scleroderma and interstitial lung disease. During her time at Mayo, Dr. Wilson has been a popular educator. Students are inspired by her dedication to mentoring and supporting the next generation of physicians. As one student says, “Dr. Wilson is one of the most compassionate

and dedicated physicians at Mayo Clinic in Florida. This is evident in every relationship she has built with her trainees and patients. She is highly dedicated to advancing medical education, and her investment has been invaluable.” In her free time, Dr. Wilson likes to play with her Cavalier King Charles Spaniel puppy, Charlie, and her ragdoll cat, Leo; go to the beach with her husband, Ryan; and spend weekend trips at Disney World.



FLORIDA RESIDENT GOLDEN STETHOSCOPE AWARD

Eric C. Zuberi, M.D.

Dr. Eric C. Zuberi is a third-year internal medicine resident at Mayo Clinic in Florida. He completed medical school at the University of Louisville School of Medicine, where he served as the school’s first-ever chief tutor. Since coming to Mayo Clinic, Dr. Zuberi has continued to pursue his passion for medical education; he was part of the inaugural class of residents and fellows who completed the enterprise-wide clinician educator pathway and additionally has provided pro bono tutoring to Mayo Clinic students both in person and virtually. Students recognize this passion, and in their words, “He has tirelessly supported medical students, offering countless hours of tutoring, guidance and encouragement.

His ability to simplify complex concepts while creating a supportive and approachable learning environment has made him a beloved mentor.” Dr. Zuberi finds joy in helping others succeed and chase their personal goals. Next year, Dr. Zuberi will serve as chief resident, and he plans to pursue a career as an academic hospitalist. Outside of medicine, he is an avid chess and pickleball player and enjoys spending time with his fiancée, family and friends.

Awards

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine



FLORIDA FELLOW GOLDEN STETHOSCOPE AWARD

Kevin G. Tayon, M.D.

Dr. Kevin G. Tayon is the chief fellow in the General Cardiology Fellowship and an incoming advanced cardiac imaging fellow at Mayo Clinic in Florida. He holds a medical degree from Florida Atlantic University's Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine and an undergraduate degree in business administration with a specialization in medicine from the University of Florida. He completed his internal medicine residency at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Dallas, where he also served as chief resident before continuing his cardiology training at Mayo Clinic in Florida. Dr. Tayon is dedicated to medical education, particularly in integrating multimodality imaging into clinical practice

and mentoring future physicians. Students commend Dr. Tayon for his dedication to teaching, describing him as an approachable and humble mentor who makes complex cardiology concepts accessible and engaging. His enthusiasm for teaching extends beyond the wards through impactful lectures, research mentorship and community outreach. His medical interests include multimodality cardiac imaging, sports cardiology and exercise training as medicine. Outside of medicine, he enjoys endurance sports, surfing and painting.



MINNESOTA RESIDENT GOLDEN STETHOSCOPE AWARD

Becky T. Brooks, M.D.

Dr. Becky T. Brooks is a second-year internal medicine resident at Mayo Clinic in Rochester. She attended the University of Nebraska in Lincoln for her undergraduate education. She then received her medical degree from the University of Nebraska Medical Center. She will serve as a chief internal medicine resident for 2026-2027 prior to applying for a rheumatology fellowship. Dr. Brooks' primary teaching goal is to promote humanistic care of patients and help trainees find joy in the learning and art of medicine. Students are impressed by Dr. Brooks' dedication to all aspects of patient care and teaching. One student shares, "I credit much of my success in (my) third and fourth years to

Dr. Brooks' mentorship. She went above and beyond by showing me the brass tacks of taking histories, pre-rounding, patient admissions, presentations on rounds and goals of care conversations. (Furthermore, she) created the space to observe me practicing them and provided actionable feedback." Outside of medicine, Dr. Brooks enjoys participating in book clubs, cooking new recipes and running half marathons.

Awards

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine



MINNESOTA RESIDENT GOLDEN STETHOSCOPE AWARD

Jason K. Lee, M.D.

Dr. Jason K. Lee is a second-year internal medicine resident at Mayo Clinic in Rochester. He attended high school in Seoul, South Korea, before enrolling at Washington State University for his undergraduate education. He received his medical degree from the University of Hawaii's John A. Burns School of Medicine in Honolulu. Dr. Lee is interested in pursuing a career in critical care cardiology with additional interests in heart failure, pulmonary hypertension and multimodal imaging. He has additional interests in medical education and teaching, particularly in clinical settings and at the patient bedside, where he feels education is most valuable for learners. Dr. Lee is described by learners as the embodiment of compassionate care. As one student

says, "He consistently went out of his way to support the learning and interests of his team members (by) providing insightful pearls on psychiatric assessments and sharing research relevant to patient care." Another student notes that Dr. Lee "uses medicine to heal not only disease but also humanity. I'm so thankful I got to learn from him." Outside of the hospital, Dr. Lee enjoys sports, cooking, traveling and spending time with his loved ones.



MINNESOTA FELLOW GOLDEN STETHOSCOPE AWARD

Bonnie C. Sohn, M.D.

Dr. Bonnie C. Sohn is a graduate of the geriatric medicine fellowship at Mayo Clinic in Rochester. She served as an assistant professor of clinical medicine and hospitalist at the Ohio State University Medical Center for four years. After stepping down to care for an ill family member for a year, she transitioned to primary care medicine, where she practiced in Edina, Minnesota, for two years prior to her fellowship. She currently serves as an assistant professor of medicine in the Department of Community Internal Medicine in Rochester. She serves as Senior Sages Program co-director for Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine, where she is also a member of the Academic Affairs Subcommittee and a preceptor

of the Foundations of Reasoning and Application in Medicine and Science Program. She has a passion for medical education and has a dream to "geriatricize" the medical community. Students are inspired by Dr. Sohn's willingness to invest time in their education, often taking a break in her day to share coffee and discuss their goals and aspirations. One student comments that "I cannot think of a single fellow who surpasses the intellect, patient care commitment and kindness of Dr. Sohn. She totally changed the way that I think about geriatric patients. She was genuinely invested in students and cared about their interests and aspirations."

Awards

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine



MAYO BROTHERS AWARD

Robert J. Kelly III

Robert was born into a military family in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Both of his parents served in the Air Force, and he spent his childhood bouncing around the globe. While still in high school, he enlisted in the Marines four days before the Sept. 11 attacks, and he entered boot camp the week after graduation. As a light machine gunner, he was deployed to Fallujah and Al Taqadam, Iraq. He later served in Djibouti as both an infantry fireteam and squad leader. Inspired by the exceptional care his wounded comrades received, Robert decided to pursue a career in medicine. He attended the University of Arizona, where he earned a B.S. in physiology. After

graduation, he began his studies at Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine in Phoenix in 2021. He has recently matched into the emergency medicine residency program at Vanderbilt University.



MAYO BROTHERS AWARD

James Youngsoo Kim

James grew up in Southern California and joined the U.S. Air Force after graduating from high school, following in the footsteps of his older sister, who had enlisted six years earlier. James served as a weather specialist, first completing a year of technical training in Biloxi, Mississippi, before fulfilling the remainder of his four-year active-duty enlistment at the 25th Operational Weather Squadron in Tucson, Arizona. In this role, he was responsible for producing mission-essential forecasts, issuing weather warnings for military bases across the western United States, and briefing pilots on weather hazards critical to their missions. After completing his service, James used the GI Bill to attend the University of Arizona, where he earned a B.S. in physiology. Inspired to

pursue a career in medicine, he was accepted into Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine in Phoenix in 2021 — an opportunity made possible through generous tuition scholarships from the Colson, Roubos and Schoen families. He recently matched into his top choice for residency in internal medicine at Mayo Clinic in Arizona.

National, Regional and State Awards

2024–2025

Awards

National, Regional and State

We congratulate our graduating students on the following national, regional and state awards and honors received during their time in medical and graduate school.

ISRA ABDULWADOOD

Student National Medical Association Region II
Regional Medical Education Conference,
Social/Behavioral Sciences Best Poster (2022)

Sixth Annual Medical Student Ethics Conference,
Best Poster (2022)

American Society of Plastic Surgeons
“Plastic Surgery: The Meeting,” Top Poster in
Research and Technology (2023)

International Association of Medical Science Educators,
Student Travel Award (2023)

Kern National Network for Caring and Character in
Medicine, Invited Speaker (2023)

Gold Humanism Honor Society, Inductee (2024)

Harvard Medical School, Visiting Clerkship Program
Scholarship (2024)

American Council of Educators in Plastic Surgery,
Plastic Surgery Research, Education, and Preparation
Promoting Equity and Diversity Scholarship (2024)

JOANA EFUA AGGREY-FYNN

BioRender Figure/Model Design Competition,
Winner (2021)

German Pancreatic Cancer Research Meeting, Invited
Speaker (2024)

Gordon Research Conference and Research Seminar,
Invited Speaker (2024)

NICK ALLEN

Gold Humanism Honor Society, Inductee (2024)

International Street Medicine Institute, Invited
Speaker (2024)

GSK Cancer Prevention Grant (2024)

JACQUELINE KUNZELMAN ANDERSON

Brigham Young University-American Medical Women's
Association, Invited Speaker (2020)

Radiological Society of North America, Travel
Award (2021)

Radiological Society of North America Annual
Conference, Invited Speaker (2022-2025)

Society of Abdominal Radiology Medical Student
Outreach Annual Conference, Invited Speaker
(2022, 2024-2025)

GRACE PATRICE ANYETEI-ANUM

J.P. Morgan, Dolores Zohrab Liebmann Fund Fellowship
(2022-2025)

Stanford Cardiovascular Institute, Summer Research
Scholar (2023)

American Heart Association, Research Supplement to
Promote Diversity in Science Grant (2024)

Women In Thoracic Surgery, Colson Travel Scholarship
(2024)

Hoffman Fund for Global Health, Grant Recipient (2024)

Society of Thoracic Surgery, Looking to the Future
Scholarship (2024)

ERIN FRAZEE BARRETO

Society of Critical Care Medicine, Presidential Citation
(2022, 2023)

Association of Internal Management Consultants,
Project-Specific Honorable Mention Award (2023)

Society of Critical Care Medicine, Gold Snapshot Award
(2024)

Pediatric Pharmacy Association, Best Practice Award
(2024)

JOSEPH BARNETT

Klingenstein Third Generation Foundation, Student
Fellow (2019)

Society for Neuroscience, Trainee Professional
Development Award (2022)

AIMÉE-SANDRINE UMWALI BASINGA

Gold Humanism Honor Society, Inductee (2024)

MEGAN M.J. BAUMAN

Neurosurgery Research and Education Foundation
(NREF) Medical Student Summer Research Fellow
(2021)

NREF Medical Student Summer Research Fellowship,
Best Abstract Award (2021)

Awards

National, Regional and State

Association of Women Surgeons, Midwest Great Plains Research Competition Winner (2021)

Women's Health Research Center Grant (2021)

Congress of Neurological Surgeons, Best Basic Science Poster in Peripheral Nerve (2023)

Congress of Neurological Surgeons Foundation, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Abstract Award (2024)

Congress of Neurological Surgeons Foundation, Best Abstract in Medical Education and Training (2024)

North American Skull Base Society, Poster of Distinction Award (2025)

SAYI P. BODDU

American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons Annual Meeting, Best Poster Award (2023)

Current Concepts in Joint Replacement Annual Meeting, Thomas and Cynthia Sculco Research Award (2023)

British Association for Surgery of the Knee Annual Meeting, 1st Place Podium Presentation (2024)

Musculoskeletal Infection Society Annual Meeting, 1st Place Poster Award (2024)

ETHAN CRISPELL

Gold Humanism Honor Society, Inductee (2024)

Network for the Advancement of Patient Blood Management, Haemostasis and Thrombosis, Best Abstract (2025)

DONYA DERAKSHANI

American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologist Annual Congressional Leadership Conference, Travel Award (2025)

DESIREE' BRIONNE DILLARD

Arizona State University, Marketing Campaign and Scholarship Recipient (2021-2025)

Kern National Network (KNN) for Flourishing in Medicine Becoming Series, Selected Speaker (2022)

KNN National Conference Opening Plenary Session, Invited Speaker (2023)

Student National Medical Association (SNMA)-AstraZeneca Chapter, Grant Recipient (2023)

KNN Annual Student Conference, Planning Committee and Travel Grant Recipient (2023-2025)

Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University, Merit-Based Scholarship Recipient (2023-2025)

SNMA Annual Medical Education Conference, Delegate (2024)

American Medical Association National Conference, Delegate (2025)

LUQMAN MARZOUK ELLYTHY

Zumbro Valley Medical Society, Outstanding Leader Award (2023)

SAMANTHA ENGRAV

College of American Pathologists, Distinguished Medical Student Award (2025)

ELIZABETH KATHERINE FARKOUH

Minnesota Medical Association, Friedman-Bowen Primary Care Scholarship (2022)

Kern National Network, Research in Medical Education Grant (2023)

Zumbro Valley Medical Society, Outstanding Young Leader Award (2023)

American College of Physicians, Medical Student Research and Clinical Vignette Poster Competition Finalist (2024)

ABDUL KARIM GHAITH

American Association of Neurological Surgeons/Congress of Neurological Surgeons (AANS/CNS) Spine Section Research, Best Podium Presentation Award (2021)

World Neurosurgery Research, Editor's Choice Paper (2021)

AANS/CNS Spine Section Research, Stewart Dunsker Award for Best Clinical Spine Abstract (2021)

World Neurosurgery, Editor's Choice Article (2021)

Sigma Xi Honor Society, Inductee (2024)

State of Minnesota, Grant Recipient (2023)

AANS/CNS Spine Section Research, Kuntz Scholar Award (2023)

AANS/CNS Spine Section Research Spine Summit Oral Presentations, Benzel Award (2025)

AANS/CNS Spine Section Research Spine Summit Oral Presentations, Kuntz Award (2025)

Awards

National, Regional and State

SUMMER GHAITH

American Medical Student Association Curriculum Development and Educational Projects, 1st Place (2020)

Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society, Medical Student Service Leadership Project Grant Recipient (2022)

Arizona College of Emergency Physicians, Grant Recipient (2022)

Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University, Jessica and Michael Berch Scholarship (2022)

Annual Medical Education Conference, 1st Place Poster Presentation (2022)

American Medical Association Accelerating Change in Medical Education Health Systems Science Student, Resident, and Fellow Impact Challenge, Honorable Mention (2022)

Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University, Willard H. Pedrick Scholarship (2023)

Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University, Dean's Award (2023)

Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction, Excellence for the Future Award (2023)

Stanford University, SCORE Scholarship (2024)

Order of the Coif, Inductee (2024)

VIKRAM SINGH GILL

Arizona State University Venture Devils, MedTech Demo Day Winner, 2024

CAROLINE GRANT

American Society of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics (ASCPT), Student-Trainee Travel Award (2022, 2024)

ASCPT, Presidential Trainee Award (2025)

ASCPT, Top Poster Award (2025)

JEFFREY GRAVES

Combined Otolaryngology Spring Meeting Triological Society, 2nd Place Poster Award (2023)

National Otolaryngology Interest Group, Second Scholars in Oto Conference, 1st Place Presentation Research (2023)

Triological Society, Travel Award (2023)

North American Skull Base Society 33rd Annual Meeting, 2nd Place Poster Award Research (2024)

DANIEL JEREMIAH HARRISON

Gold Humanism Honor Society, Inductee (2024)

DEMIAN D. HERRERA-QUIROZ

Latino Medical Student Association, Outstanding Senior Award (2025)

KIYAN HEYBATI

Canadian Critical Care Conference, Top Abstract Oral Presentation (2021)

Sinai Health/University Health Network, Summer Research Scholarship (2023)

British Journal of Anaesthesia, Top Downloaded Studies (2023)

American Heart Association, Student Scholarship in Cardiovascular Diseases (2024)

American College of Physicians Minnesota State Chapter, Top Medical Student Clinical Vignette Winner (2024)

American Thoracic Society International Conference, Top Abstract Oral Presentation (2024)

Gold Humanism Honor Society, Inductee (2024)

DIANA A. HLA

American Medical Association (AMA), National Engagement in Advocacy Award (Jan 2023)

AMA Research Challenge, Semifinalist (2023)

AMA Medical Student Section, Recruitment and Engagement Grant (May 2023)

Bolivian International Emergency Medicine Conference, Invited Speaker (2023)

AMA Committee of Economics and Quality in Medicine Symposium, Invited Speaker (2024)

14th International Acute Care Conference by Medical Educators for Latin America, Invited Speaker (2023)

Beta Gamma Sigma International Business Honor Society, Inductee (2024)

ANNA CELESTE HUGHES HOGE

Gold Humanism Honor Society, Inductee (2024)

MELISSA ANNE HOPPER

American Society of Hematology, Abstract Achievement Award (2021)

University of the Pacific Science Seminar Series, Invited Speaker, (2021)

Awards

National, Regional and State

National Institutes of Health, T32 Training Program in Immunology Grant (2022-2024)

LINDSAY NICOLE HOWLETT

Western Association of Gynecologic Oncologists, Dr. D. Scott McMeekin Travel Scholarship (2023)

ANDERS CLIFTON JENSON

AmeriCorps, Segal AmeriCorps Education Award (2021)

EVDOKIYA KNYAZHANSKAYA

Zumbro Valley Medical Society, Outstanding Young Leader Award (2022-2023)

Gold Humanism Honor Society, Inductee (2024)

EMILY KATE KOONS

North Central Chapter American Association of Physicists in Medicine, Early Career Investigator Competition Award (2023, 2024)

Radiological Society of North America, Trainee Research Prize Recipient (2021, 2023)

International Society for Computed Tomography, Lightning Talk Award Recipient (2022)

ALEXANDER BRYCE CHRISTIAN KRUEGER

American Heart Association, Predoctoral Fellow

CONNOR LENTZ

VitreoRetinal Surgery Foundation, Research Award (2024)

CASEY JO MARTINEZ

Arizona Community Foundation, Guinn B. Burton Medical Scholarship (2021-2022, 2022-2023)

Dermatology Foundation, Diversity Research Supplemental Award (2022)

McDonogh School, Dunloggin Scholarship (2022-2023, 2023-2024)

The Art of Neurosurgery Conference, Attendance Scholarship (2022, 2024)

Robert A. Winn Clinical Investigator Pipeline Program, Selected Member (2022)

Honor Society, Graduate Achiever Scholarship (2023)

ElevateMed, Selected Scholar (2024-2025)

Harvard Visiting Clerkship, Program Participant (2024)

University of Colorado School of Medicine, PRS Elective Scholarship (2024)

Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Global Open Deep Cuts Podcast, Invited Speaker (2024)

NING CHRISTINE MCKENZIE

Nth Dimensions American Academy of Dermatology Meeting, Travel Grant (2022)

Arizona Medical Association Annual Meeting, 1st Place Poster in Medical Education, (2023)

University of California, HIV Dermatology Summer Research Fellowship (2023)

CHARLOTTE EMILY MICHAELCHECK

Gold Humanism Honor Society, Inductee (2024)

IAN MCCREADIE MICHEL

Kern National Network, Medical Student Grant for Research on Caring, Character, and Practical Wisdom in Medical Education (2023)

Gold Humanism Honor Society, Inductee (2024)

American Psychological Association Foundation, Ambassador (2024)

Minnesota Psychiatric Society, Gloria Segal Award (2025)

YUHAO MIN

Alzheimer's Association, Travel Fellowship (2022)

Tau Global Conference, Travel Fellowship (2024)

KARIM RIZWAN NATHANI

74th Southern Neurosurgical Society Annual Meeting, Augustus McCravey Clinical Science Award for Best Clinical Abstract (2024)

Journal of Neurosurgery: Pediatrics, Cover Feature (2023)

American Association of Neurological Surgeons/Congress of Neurological Surgeons (AANS/CNS) Spine Section Research Spine Summit, Kuntz Scholar Award (2023)

MICHELLE THI NGUYEN

Radiological Society of North America, Cum Laude Award (2024)

Society of Abdominal Radiology, Trainee Award (2025)

TYLER ANH NGUYEN

Gold Humanism Honor Society, Inductee (2024)

ALEXANDER OLIVER

American Heart Association, Predoctoral Fellow (2023-2024)

TREVOR JARED OLIVERSON

Omicron Kappa Upsilon National Dental Honors Society, Inductee (2022)

American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. Philip J. Boyne Scholarship (2023-2024)

JASMINE MAGBUTAY PASCO

Geistlich Biomaterials Dental Implant Conference, Scholarship (2023-2024)

DAVID RANDALL PEASE

National Cancer Institute, F99/K00 Predoctoral to Postdoctoral Fellow Transition Award (2023-2025)

AISHWARYA PRADEEP

Gold Humanism Honor Society, Inductee (2024)

YIHUAI QU

Gold Humanism Honor Society, Inductee (2024)

TIMOTHY RENGERS

Americas Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association Annual Meeting, Presidential Plenary Oral Presentation (2023)

American Medical Association Research Challenge, Poster Presentation Finalist (2023)

SANTIAGO RESTREPO CASTILLO

American Society for Cell Biology and International Federation for Cell Biology, International Training Scholarship (2022)

United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation (UMDF) and North American Mitochondrial Disease Consortium (NAMDC), Gateway Travel Award (2022)

UMDF and NAMDC, Gateway Travel Award (2022)

UMDF and NAMDC, Gateway to Mitochondrial Medicine Grant Recipient (2022, 2023)

UMDF and NAMDC, 1st Place Oral Presentation Award (2023)

American Society of Gene and Cell Therapy, Poster Abstract Travel Award (2023, 2024)

Human Gene Therapy (Vol. 35, Issues 19 & 20), Cover Feature (2024)

JORDAN RICHARDSON

Minnesota Medical Association Foundation, Friedman-Bowen Grant Recipient (2023)

SKYLAR RIZZO

Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology Early Career Annual Reception, Selected Abstract (2023)

ESTHER PEGGE BYRON RODMAN

Ovarian Cancer Midwest Focus, Invited Speaker (2023)

Biennial Ovarian Cancer Research Symposium, Invited Speaker (2024)

American Association for Cancer Research (AACR), June L. Biedler Scholar-in-Training Award (2024)

AACR National Meeting, Invited Speaker (2024)

FRANCIS SHUE

Society for Neuroscience (SfN), Early Policy Career Ambassador (2020)

LGBTQ Research Symposium/3MT®, People's Choice Award (2021)

SfN, Neuroscience Scholar's Program Associate (NSP) (2022)

SfN, Trainee Professional Development Award (2023)

SouthEastern NeuroDegeneration Conference, Travel Award Recipient (2023)

Alzheimer's Association International Conference, Fellowship Recipient (2024)

NICHOLAS DE JIUN SUN

National Institutes of Health, Ruth L. Kirschstein T32 Institutional National Research Service Award (2023-2024)

JACK HENRY SWANSON

National Institutes of Health, Ruth L. Kirschstein Predoctoral Individual National Research Service Award (2022-2024)

CHRISTINEIL THOMPSON

American Society of Hematology, Abstract Achievement Award (2021)

JAY VASILEV

SignatureCare Emergency Center, College Scholarship (2021)

Kern National Network for Flourishing in Medicine, Student Leader (2022-2025)

Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society, Medical
Student Service Leadership Project Grant Winner (2022)
Harvard Medical School, Dean's Scholarship (2023-2025)

KATHERINE LILY WANG

American Medical Association, Research Challenge
Semifinalist (2023)

TAYLOR WEISKITTEL

University of Minnesota Bioinformatics and
Computational Biology Program, Distinguished Alumni
Speaker (2022)

BAUSTIN MICHAEL WELCH

National Institutes of Health, T32 Ph.D. Training Grant
in Basic Immunology (2022)

CATHERINE HUNT WILLIAMS

Arizona College of Emergency Physicians, Seed Grant
(2024)

RENITA WILSON

Gold Humanism Honor Society, Inductee (2024)

ALEXIS WINFREY

Society of Teachers of Family Medicine, Blue Ribbon
Poster Award (2025)

KATHERYN WININGER

American Association of Immunologists (AAI), Travel
Award (2023, 2025)

LINCOLN ISAIAH WURTZ

National Institutes of Health, Ruth L. Kirschstein
Predoctoral Individual National Research Service Award
(2023-2024)

RACHEL L. ZIEBART

Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation, Hazelden Betty Ford
Scholar (2022)

Plastic and Aesthetic Nursing Journal Best Articles of
2022, 3rd Place (2022)

Innovations in Medical Education Abstract Submission,
"Best of Cool Ideas" Award (2023)

American Society for Dermatology Surgery, Top 10 Best
Cosmetic Abstract (2023)

Journal of Cosmetic Dermatology, Invited Associate
Editor (2025)

Physician's Pledge

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine

TO PATIENTS, COLLEAGUES AND SOCIETY

In the tradition of Hippocrates and the physicians who have come before me, I make the following pledge:

The needs of my patients come first. I will be a partner to improve the quality of their life through good health. I will not discriminate, I will protect the vulnerable and above all, I will do no harm.

It is my duty to care for the individual and the community. I will work to prevent disease and assure access to care for all who are in need.

The practice of medicine is both art and science. The wisdom of my patients and colleagues will guide me in the art. I will improve medicine through science and by increasing my knowledge and skills throughout my career.

I believe in the tradition that care is best delivered by health professionals working together in the best interest of the patient.

I will honor my teachers by freely sharing my knowledge and skill with patients, colleagues and successors.

My profession is an honored one, and I will not violate the trust society has placed in me. I will provide care that is ethical, moral and just and expect the same from my colleagues. I will be humble.

In the presence of my teachers, my family, my class and my friends, I make these promises solemnly and freely.

Adapted from the Hippocratic Oath by the Mayo Clinic School of Medicine Class of 2004

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Congratulations from the Mayo Clinic Alumni Association

The officers and Board of Directors of the Mayo Clinic Alumni Association welcome you as the newest members of the alumni association. The association's mission, "Connecting our alumni and bringing Mayo Clinic values to the world," is central to our purpose, nurturing mutually beneficial relationships between Mayo Clinic and the remarkable individuals who participate in its education programs. Formed in 1915 by alumni who wished to maintain scientific and social contacts with the people and programs of Mayo Clinic, you now join the ranks of esteemed Mayo Clinic alumni and alumnae. Your colleagues can be found in more than 80 countries, on the faculty of the world's leading medical schools and in leadership positions of national and international scientific organizations. We are proud to count you among our respected colleagues.

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