

Forty-First Annual

HONORS CONVOCATION

Friday, May 6, 2016 - 7:00 p.m.
Mitchell Center

Processional

Introduction.....Susan P. LeDoux, Ph.D.
Associate Dean for Medical Education and Student Affairs

Moment of Reflection.....Hattie M. Myles, Ph.D.
Assistant Dean for Educational Enrichment

Welcome.....Samuel J. Strada, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Medicine

Alumni Welcome.....Kit K. Outlaw, M.D.
President, Medical Alumni Association
Class of 1992

Address to the ClassCharles B. Rodning, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor
Department of Surgery

Response from the ClassWilliam Allen Cutchen

Presentation of Awards.....Susan P. LeDoux, Ph.D.

Hooding of GraduatesSusan P. LeDoux, Ph.D.
Samuel J. Strada, Ph.D.

Military Oath of Office..... Colonel Frank S. Pettyjohn
United States Army

Administration of the Hippocratic Oath..... Charles B. Rodning, M.D., Ph.D.

Acknowledgment of AΩA members, Gold Humanism Honor Society members,
and Scholarship Recipients.....Kelly Roveda, M.D.
Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology

Acknowledgment of Red Sash FacultySusan P. LeDoux, Ph.D.

Concluding Remarks.....Susan P. LeDoux, Ph.D.

Recessional

*A reception for students, guests, and faculty
will follow the program at the rear of the Arena*

Award Recipients

- Dean's Award Richard Lee Pearlman
Awarded to the graduating senior who has accumulated the highest scholastic grade-point average for the full four years of medical school.
- Merck Award..... Ryan James Dewitz
Gavin Tanner Reed
Awarded to senior students who have demonstrated superior academic achievement.
- Glasgow-Rubin Achievement Citations Madelyn Boqué King
Katherine Leigh Richards
Presented to those women students who graduate in the top ten percent of their class.
- The Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award Patty Wang
Haley Ballard, M.D.
Presented by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation to the senior student and to the faculty member nominated and selected by the senior class who have demonstrated outstanding compassion to patients and their families.
- Medical Alumni Leadership Award..... Dheepa Rachel Sekar
Awarded to the senior student by vote of classmates, in recognition of outstanding leadership of the graduating class.
- ProAssurance Award M. Caitlin Brown Marshall
Presented to a senior medical student who plans to remain in Alabama for residency and who excels in patient communication.
- Community Service Award..... Olivia Amanda Butters
Paul William Hixon
Presented by the Medical Society of Mobile County to two senior medical students whose classmates believe best fulfill the ideals of humanitarian public service as demonstrated by superior awareness of, and achievement in, civic and community programs.
- SNMA Leadership Award..... Anna Lauren Crutchfield
Awarded by the Student National Medical Association to a graduating senior who has demonstrated outstanding community, school, and organizational service and leadership qualities.
- Regan Robinson Young Scholarship Anna Lauren Crutchfield
Patty Wang
In memory of USA College of Medicine student, Regan Robinson Young, this award is presented to the medical student who has demonstrated exceptional compassion and caring for others and has demonstrated persistence and the ability to overcome obstacles.
- Ritha Baliga Memorial Medical Scholarship Brandon Thomas Finnorn
Awarded to an outstanding student who demonstrates a merit ranking within the top 25% of the class (junior or sophomore standing) preferably interested in pursuing a career in Pediatric Health Care.
- Christian Grinaker Memorial Scholarship Michael Andrew Hamer
In memory of USA College of Medicine 1996 graduate, Christian Grinaker, this award is presented to a senior medical student who has demonstrated leadership, dedication to work, and enthusiasm for life.

- Semple Family Endowed Scholarship Michael Wesley Honeycutt
This award is presented to a senior student who is a member of the Gold Humanism Honor Society and has exhibited a strong academic performance in the pre-clerkship curriculum and clinical clerkships.
- Dr. Richard William Gurich Memorial Endowed Scholarship.....Patrick Finley O'Brien
Awarded to a graduating senior student who has not only performed at the highest level during the third and fourth year, but has also demonstrated efficacy in patient relations and professionalism.
- John A. Desak AwardKatherine Leigh Richards
In honor of USA College of Medicine graduate Dr. Maryella Sirmon's father, this award is presented to the highest ranking female in the graduating class who has accepted a residency in Internal Medicine.
- Steven Karl Teplick, M.D., FARC Memorial AwardAaron Daniel Coleman
Awarded to a graduating senior student specializing in Radiology and committed to lifelong learning as exemplified by Dr. Steven Teplick.
- Outstanding Student in the Pre-clerkship Curriculum.....Richard Lee Pearlman
Awarded to a graduating senior student for outstanding performance in the pre-clerkship curriculum.
- Award for Excellence in the Interprofessional Education and Collaborative PracticeSarah Ellen Boyd
Sarita Arvind Wagle
The award serves to recognize graduating senior students who have demonstrated significant involvement and interest in promoting interprofessional activities and collaborative practice.
- Hollis J. Wiseman Award for Excellence in Pediatrics..... Rebekah Ann Frazier
Presented to the student who best exemplified Dr. Wiseman's outstanding scholarship, compassion for patients and families, involvement in the profession and community, enthusiasm for exploration and steadfast love of family, friends and colleagues.
- Samuel Eichold Award..... M. Caitlin Brown Marshall
Presented to the graduating medical student who through scholarship, patient care, interaction with faculty and housestaff, and motivation, has demonstrated outstanding achievement in Internal Medicine.
- Ralph Denny Wright Memorial Endowed Scholarship Kyndal Sonnier McKnight
Awarded to the senior student focusing on Internal Medicine/Family Practice, who strives to become a compassionate physician and skilled diagnostician as exemplified by Dr. Wright.
- The Meyer/Anderson Orthopaedic Excellence Award..... Michael Wesley Honeycutt
This award is presented to the graduating medical student who best personifies the compassion, selflessness, and tireless work ethic of Dr. Frederick Meyer and Dr. Lewis Anderson. This student has shown excellence above all peers during their Orthopaedic rotations. Furthermore, this student has exemplified the traits of lifelong learning, teamwork, and teaching which served as the foundation of the careers for each of these pillars of the Orthopaedic community.
- John W. Donald Memorial Award in Surgery.....Michael Wesley Honeycutt
Awarded to the senior student who best demonstrated clinical and academic excellence in the Surgery clerkship.

- H. C. Mullins, M.D. Award Gabrielle Lane Hood
Awarded by the faculty of the Department of Family Medicine to the graduating senior who demonstrated excellence in the ability to apply principles, practice, and philosophy of family medicine in caring for patients and their families. This award is given in honor of Dr. H. C. Mullins, Professor Emeritus and Founding Chair of the Department.
- Obstetrics and Gynecology Award Brittany Elizabeth Swartout
Presented to the graduating medical student who, through scholarship, patient care, interaction with faculty and housestaff, and motivation, has demonstrated excellence in Obstetrics and Gynecology.
- Excellence in Emergency Medicine Award Aaron Kyle Rasmussen
James Mark Shockley
The Excellence in Emergency Medicine Award is given by the faculty of the Department of Emergency Medicine and the Society of Academic Emergency Medicine to the student demonstrating outstanding clinical skills and proficiency in Emergency Medicine.
- American Academy of Neurology (AAN) Award Jarret Alan Curtis
Awarded to the medical student who exemplifies outstanding scientific achievement and clinical acumen in Neurology or Neuroscience, and outstanding personal qualities of integrity, compassion, and leadership.
- Excellence in Psychiatry Award Lindsey Alexandria Stewart
Presented to the graduating medical student who through scholarship, patient care, motivation, and interaction with faculty and housestaff, has demonstrated excellence in Psychiatry.

Candidates for the Degree of
DOCTOR OF MEDICINE
and
Their Residency Appointments



Molly McGraw Andrews
Family Medicine
St. Vincents East - Birmingham, Alabama

Kamil Arif
General Surgery
University of Kentucky Medical Center - Lexington, Kentucky

John Coleman Bahakel
Transitional (2016)
Baptist Health System - Birmingham, Alabama
Radiology-Diagnostic (2017)
University of South Alabama Hospitals - Mobile, Alabama

Matthew Alan Barnes
General Surgery
Medical Center Central GA/Mercer Univ. School of Medicine - Macon, Georgia

Allison Rankin Beckett
General Surgery
University of South Alabama Hospitals - Mobile, Alabama

Meghan Elizabeth Benak
Pediatrics
LSU School of Medicine - New Orleans, Louisiana

Jennifer Lindsay Black
Pediatrics
University of South Alabama Hospitals - Mobile, Alabama

Sarah Ellen Boyd
Obstetrics & Gynecology
University of Tennessee College of Medicine - Chattanooga, Tennessee

Kelly Elizabeth Buchanan
Psychiatry
University of Louisville School of Medicine - Louisville, Kentucky

Micah Benjamin Bucy
Family Medicine
David Grant United States Air Force MC - Fairfield, California

Matthew Alexander Burr
Transitional (2016)
Baptist Health System - Birmingham, Alabama
Radiology-Diagnostic (2017)
Virginia Commonwealth University Health System - Richmond, Virginia

Olivia Amanda Butters*
Pediatrics
University of Florida College of Medicine-Shands Hospital - Gainesville, Florida

Matthew Taylor Coghill
Pediatrics
Carolinas Medical Center - Charlotte, North Carolina

Aaron Daniel Coleman**
Transitional (2016)
Baptist Health System - Birmingham, Alabama
Radiology-Diagnostic (2017)
University of Alabama Medical Center - Birmingham, Alabama

Christopher Lee Cordes
General Surgery
Greenville Health System/University of South Carolina - Greenville, South Carolina

Anna Lauren Crutchfield
Family Medicine
Palmetto Health Richland - Columbia, South Carolina

Bryn Kristin Culpepper
Internal Medicine
Virginia Commonwealth University Health System - Richmond, Virginia

Jarret Alan Curtis
Neurology
Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center - Winston-Salem, North Carolina

William Allen Cutchen**
Surgery-Preliminary
Vanderbilt University Medical Center - Nashville, Tennessee

Austin Young Dennis
Radiology-Diagnostic
Baptist Health System - Birmingham, Alabama

Ryan James Dewitz**
Orthopaedic Surgery
LSU School of Medicine - New Orleans, Louisiana

Benjamin Westley Euwer
Surgery-Preliminary (2016)
University Hospitals - Columbia, Missouri
Radiology-Diagnostic (2017)
University of South Alabama Hospitals - Mobile, Alabama

*Arnold P. Gold Humanism Honor Society

**Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society

Brandon Thomas Finnorn**
Pediatrics
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Medical Education - Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Austin Roy Fox
Medicine-Preliminary (2016)
Ophthalmology (2017)
University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics - Iowa City, Iowa

Rebekah Ann Frazier*
Pediatrics
Tufts Medical Center - Boston, Massachusetts

Justin Terell Freeney
Anesthesiology
University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine - Knoxville, Tennessee

Michael Andrew Hamer**
Neurology
University of Alabama Medical Center - Birmingham, Alabama

Viney Kumar Hardit
Pediatrics
Tulane University School of Medicine - New Orleans, Louisiana

Mary Hong Harpen
Family Medicine
Hershey Medical Center/Pennsylvania State - Hershey, Pennsylvania

Sarah Sage Dolbear Harrison
Surgery-Preliminary
University of South Alabama Hospitals - Mobile, Alabama

Paul William Hixon*
Family Medicine
University of South Alabama Hospitals - Mobile, Alabama

Thomas Peter John Holcombe
General Surgery
Navy Medical Center - Portsmouth, Virginia

Michael Wesley Honeycutt* **
Orthopaedic Surgery
University of South Alabama Hospitals - Mobile, Alabama

Gabrielle Lane Hood*
Family Medicine
Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune - Jacksonville, North Carolina

Joshuah Duncan Jackson
Psychiatry
Palmetto Health Richland - Columbia, South Carolina

Timothy Lee Kennedy
Internal Medicine
University of South Alabama Hospitals - Mobile, Alabama

*Arnold P. Gold Humanism Honor Society

**Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society

Madelyn Boqué King**
Medicine-Preliminary (2016)
Dermatology (2017)
University Hospitals - Jackson, Mississippi

Monica Renu Kumar
Anesthesiology
University of Illinois College of Medicine - Chicago, Illinois

M. Caitlin Brown Marshall**
Internal Medicine
University of South Alabama Hospitals - Mobile, Alabama

Sarah Elizabeth Mayberry
Medicine-Pediatrics
University of Alabama Medical Center - Birmingham, Alabama

Kelly Alexander McCormick
Radiology-Diagnostic
Baptist Health System - Birmingham, Alabama

Kyndal Sonnier McKnight
Internal Medicine
University of Southern California - Los Angeles, California

Keri Danielle Metcalf
Psychiatry
University of North Carolina Hospitals - Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Zachary Davis Moore
Orthopaedic Surgery
University of South Alabama Hospitals - Mobile, Alabama

Charles Earling Munderloh
Medicine-Preliminary (2016)
University of South Alabama Hospitals - Mobile, Alabama
Radiology-Diagnostic (2017)
University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine - Knoxville, Tennessee

Brandon Colby Newsome
Psychiatry
Boston University Medical Center - Boston, Massachusetts

Patrick Finley O'Brien**
Neurological Surgery
Virginia Commonwealth University Health System - Richmond, Virginia

Courtney Rothrock Ochoa
Pediatrics
University of Texas Southwestern Medical School - Dallas, Texas

Colbert Andrew Parker
Internal Medicine
University of South Alabama Hospitals - Mobile, Alabama

Jay P. Patel
General Surgery
Palmetto Health Richland - Columbia, South Carolina

Shrey Patel
Medicine-Preliminary (2016)
University of South Alabama Hospitals - Mobile, Alabama
Radiology-Diagnostic (2017)
University of Texas Medical School - Houston, Texas

Richard Lee Pearlman**
Transitional (2016)
Baptist Health System - Birmingham, Alabama
Radiation-Oncology (2017)
Detroit Medical Center/Wayne State University - Detroit, Michigan

Mark Alan Prévost II
Orthopaedic Surgery
University of South Alabama Hospitals - Mobile, Alabama

Aaron Kyle Rasmussen
Emergency Medicine
Emory University School of Medicine - Atlanta, Georgia

Gavin Tanner Reed**
Transitional (2016)
Baptist Health System - Birmingham, Alabama
Ophthalmology (2017)
University of Florida - Gainesville, Florida

Katherine Leigh Richards**
Internal Medicine
Baylor College of Medicine - Houston, Texas

James Maeen Sahawneh
Surgery-Preliminary
University of South Alabama Hospitals - Mobile, Alabama

Timothy Maeen Sahawneh
General Surgery
East Tennessee State University - Johnson City, Tennessee

Dheepa Rachel Sekar*
Internal Medicine
University of Texas Southwestern Medical School - Dallas, Texas

James Mark Shockley
Emergency Medicine
University Hospitals - Jackson, Mississippi

Jeffrey Gaines St. John
Medicine-Preliminary/Ophthalmology
University Hospitals - Jackson, Mississippi

*Arnold P. Gold Humanism Honor Society

**Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society

Danisha Stevenson
Family Medicine
Forrest General Hospital - Hattiesburg, Mississippi

Lindsey Alexandria Stewart*
Psychiatry
University of South Alabama Hospitals - Mobile, Alabama

Angela Wade Strother
Anesthesiology
University Hospitals - Jackson, Mississippi

Brittany Elizabeth Swartout
Obstetrics & Gynecology
University of Texas Southwestern Medical School - Dallas, Texas

Hunter Bryant Upton
Surgery-Preliminary
University Hospitals - Jackson, Mississippi

Gretchen Hillary Vandiver*
Pediatrics
Greenville Health System/University of South Carolina - Greenville, South Carolina

Sarita Arvind Wagle
Pediatrics
Virginia Commonwealth University Health System - Richmond, Virginia

Patty Wang*
Family Medicine
University of Arizona College of Medicine at South Campus - Tucson, Arizona

Preston Palmer Warren*
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Medical Education - Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Katherine Nancy Weller
Internal Medicine
University of Illinois College of Medicine - Chicago, Illinois

Zhong Ye
Psychiatry
University of Florida College of Medicine-Shands Hospital - Gainesville, Florida

Maurice Michael Zayek
Internal Medicine
Texas A&M-Scott & White - Temple, Texas

Scholarship Recipients

COM Dean's Scholarship

Awarded to: Matthew Burr Mary Harpen Patrick O'Brien
Richard Pearlman Aaron Rasmussen Sarita Wagle

COM Enrichment Award

Awarded to: Anna Crutchfield Justin Freeny Viney Hardit
Brandon Newsome Danisha Stevenson Lindsey Stewart

Charlotte H. and Samuel Eichold Scholarship

Awarded to: Austin Fox Joshua Jackson Madelyn King
Gavin Reed Brittany Swartout Preston Warren

The Ernest G. DeBakey Charitable Foundation Scholarship

Awarded to: Molly Andrews
Allison Beckett
Gretchen Vandiver

Crampton Trust

Awarded to: Paul Hixon
Timothy Kennedy
Preston Warren

Dr. Thomas J. Wool Endowed Scholarship

Awarded to: Ryan Dewitz
Keri Metcalf

Thaddeus H. Waterman Scholarship

Awarded to: Brandon Finnorn
Katherine Richards

Ralph B. Chandler Scholarship

Awarded to: Courtney Ochoa
Mark Prévost

William S. McKnight Scholarship

Awarded to: Aaron Coleman
Ryan Dewitz

USA Medical Faculty Guild Mendenhall Scholarship

Awarded to: Richard Pearlman

Legacy Award

Awarded to: Kyndal Sonnier

Daniel F. Sullivan Memorial Scholarship in Pediatrics

Awarded to: Courtney Ochoa

Donna B. Ledet Memorial Scholarship

Awarded to: Rebekah Frazier

L. W. Cave Family Endowed Scholarship

Awarded to: Bryn Culpepper
Caitlin Marshall

Mark K. McDonald Memorial Fund

Awarded to: Austin Fox
Madelyn King

Mr. & Mrs. Mendel P. Goldstein Memorial Scholarship

Awarded to: Gabrielle Hood

Cope Memorial Scholarship

Awarded to: Hunter Upton

McGraw-Hill/Lange Medical Student Award Fund

Awarded to: Michael Honeycutt
Hunter Upton

Stephanie A. Marsh Medical Scholarship

Awarded to: Aaron Coleman
Austin Fox

Clyde G. "Sid" Huggins Endowed Scholarship

Awarded to: Anna Crutchfield

Lester Sockwell Scholarship

Awarded to: Sarah Mayberry

Barbara Corcoran Endowed Award

Awarded to: Sarah Harrison

Virginia Webb Endowment

Awarded to: William Cutchen

Drs. Ron & Vicky Franks Scholarship Endowment

Awarded to: Ryan Dewitz

ΑΩΑ Scholarship

Awarded to: Brandon Finnorn

The Honors Convocation Colors

Academic Colors

Faculty holding Doctoral level degrees wear a specific color on the front band of their hood (and sometimes the front band of their gown) denoting the type of doctoral degree they possess. Most College of Medicine faculty wear Green (Medicine), Dark Blue (Philosophy), or Light Blue (Education).

American universities followed the traditions of the European universities and adopted their own colors. As an example, the blue and crimson of the University of Kansas were chosen because the original faculty were divided equally between those wearing the blue of Yale and the crimson of Harvard. The gold and silver colors of the University of Colorado symbolize the mineral wealth which financed the university. The University of South Alabama is routinely referred to by its initials USA; consequently, the national colors of red, white, and blue were also adopted for our College. The University colors appear on the inside of each Doctoral hood, but can be clearly seen as the faculty pass in the aisle.

Honor Designations

Scarlet Sash - The seniors selected those members of the faculty who had the most meaningful input into their medical education. Faculty so honored wear a scarlet stole over their academic regalia. One extra special recognition was made from this group of faculty. The class selected Dr. Charles Rodning to give the farewell charge to the class during this Honors Convocation.

Gold Cord - Members of the class selected by their peers to the Arnold P. Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS) wear the gold cord. GHHS honors medical students, residents, role-model physician teachers and other exemplars for demonstrated excellence in patient care, compassion and dedication to service. The Society is committed to working beyond medical education to inspire, nurture and sustain lifelong advocates for patient-centered medical care.

Green and Gold Cord - Members of the class who were elected to Alpha Omega Alpha (ΑΩΑ), the national medical honorary scholastic society, wear a green and gold cord over their academic regalia. The Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society, founded in 1902, is the only honor society for medicine in the United States. The Alabama Beta Chapter of this organization elects members based on academic performance, character, leadership, professionalism and high attainment in medical science and the practice of medicine.