



Elson S. Floyd  
College of Medicine

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

# COMMENCEMENT

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2021





Elson S. Floyd  
College of Medicine

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

# COMMENCEMENT

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2021

# CONGRATULATIONS

---



## Congratulations on your accomplishments!

Congratulations, Class of 2021, on completing the requirements for an academic degree from Washington State University. It is an honor to celebrate the outstanding achievements that brought you to this pivotal moment.

I salute your efforts, as well as those of everyone who helped you reach this milestone. In the face of COVID-19, you demonstrated the resiliency and can-do attitude that Cougs are known for worldwide. You adapted, persevered, and stayed focused on the ultimate prize of earning a degree.

Today is a particularly historic day for the University and the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine. For the first time in our institution's 131-year history, we are conferring medical degrees, another step in advancing our land-grant mission of serving the public good.

From this day forward, you will be the guardians of the lives of some of society's most vulnerable. Remember that our communities need you in the dark places and in the quiet places. They need you where no one is listening and where others may not see.

I encourage you to remain involved with your alma mater in the years ahead. As you know, 'Once a Cougar, always a Cougar.' You'll find that the University, your WSU friends and colleagues, and Cougar alums always have your back—both professionally and personally.

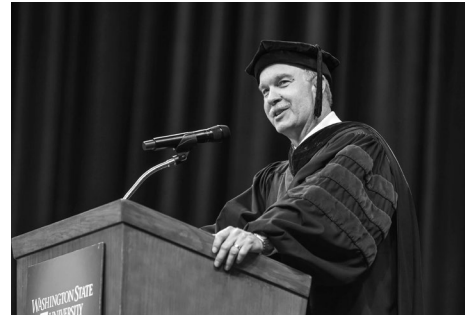
Best wishes, and Go Cougs!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kirk H. Schulz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kirk H. Schulz, PhD  
*President,*  
*Washington State University*

# BEST WISHES

---



It is a tremendous privilege to share with you today this exciting and well-deserved transition in your life. It is a day for you to be proud of your accomplishments and to reflect upon what you have learned and how you have changed.

Our mission is to focus your intellectual, creative and practical abilities and help you build upon them. We are here to share wisdom, expertise, and guidance as you move forward along your path.

As graduates of Medicine, Nutrition & Exercise Physiology and Speech & Hearing Sciences, you are all contributing significantly toward the mission of solving problems in challenging health care environments.

You are entering into health care at a time when our communities need you more than ever, bringing your expertise to serve rural and underserved populations across the state and beyond.

To the graduates of the inaugural class of medical students, this is a proud moment for the Spokane community and the many leaders and community members who helped bring the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine to fruition.

Remember, you will always have a home and family here at Washington State University. In your future, I hope you will stay connected to the University, to the faculty and staff who have mentored you, and to the friends with whom you have shared during this time.

Every year we build on past successes that lay a foundation for new opportunities. I challenge each of you to take his or her educational experiences and seize the opportunity to make a difference in the world.

This is your moment, and no one deserves it more. You have earned it.

Daryll B. DeWald, PhD

*Vice President and Chancellor, Washington State University*

*Health Sciences Spokane*

# MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

---



Four years ago, the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine opened its doors to the inaugural class of medical students, marking the historic beginning of countless first-time moments and experiences for our faculty, staff and students, and the resolve to build a reputation as a first-class College of Medicine.

Today, as we collectively celebrate the achievements of 121 students across our three programs – Medicine, Nutrition & Exercise Physiology, and Speech & Hearing Sciences – at the first ever Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine Commencement, I am in awe of the immense amount of work, sacrifice and commitment by so many that has culminated in this celebratory first for our college.

To our students: Congratulations on becoming the health care leaders of the future. You have spent thousands of hours studying and training, enduring many challenges and setbacks along the way as a global pandemic raged around you, yet you've remained steadfast in your resolve to serve with passion and compassion the communities across Washington and beyond that need you most. We look forward to following you on your journey and watching you make an enduring difference in the patients, clients and communities you will serve in the years ahead.

To families and friends: Thank you for your continued patience, guidance, support, encouragement and love for your student during their educational journey. Through smiles, tears, major milestones and major setbacks, you have served as the true north to help your student navigate their years of study and training. We

are honored to have been a part of helping your student hone their unique skills and talents to become the health care professionals our communities need.

To faculty and staff: Thank you for bringing your passion and expertise to the classroom, the clinic and the office every day to ensure our students receive a first-class educational experience. You have stretched yourselves professionally and made great sacrifices personally to build the College of Medicine from the ground up, yet you continue to strive for excellence and find new and innovative ways to increase our impact on students and our state.

To community members, legislators, donors and supporters: Thank you for your generosity of time, resources and expertise to help us reach this major milestone. You have championed our story and remained steadfast in your commitment to increasing first class health care education and health care access to the state of Washington.

While there are thousands of individuals who have made this milestone possible, it's important to remember that it first began with Dr. Elson S. Floyd. His vision for creating this College of Medicine lives on in all of us who serve as the torchbearers for this bold, audacious and visionary endeavor.

**Congratulations to the Class of 2021 and Go Cougs!**

John Tomkowiak, MD, MOL  
*Founding Dean*

# WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY REGENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

---

## WSU Board of Regents

**Brett Blankenship**  
*Chair*

**Marty Dickinson**  
*Vice Chair*

**Arliegh Cayanan**  
*Student Regent*

**Enrique Cerna**

**Lura J. Powell**

**Heather Redman**

**Lisa K. Schauer**

**John Schoettler**

**Ron Sims**

**Jenette Ramos**

## University Administration

**Dr. Kirk Schulz**  
*President*

**Dr. Elizabeth Chilton**  
*Provost and Executive Vice President*

**Dr. Daryll DeWald**  
*Vice President and Chancellor,  
WSU Health Sciences Spokane*

## College Administration

**Dr. John Tomkowiak**  
*Founding Dean*

**Dr. John Roll**  
*Vice Dean for Research*

**James Zimmerman**  
*Chief Operating Officer*

**Mary Ann Clemens**  
*Special Advisor to the Dean for  
Accreditation, Assessment &  
Evaluation, and Compliance*

**Dr. Leila E. Harrison**  
*Senior Associate Dean for Admissions  
and Student Affairs*

**Dr. Jim Hupp**  
*Senior Associate Dean for Policy and  
Compliance*

**Dr. Dawn Elise DeWitt**  
*Professor & Senior Associate Dean,  
Center for InterProfessional Health  
Education Research & Scholarship  
(CIPHERS)  
Inaugural Director Year 4*

# ELSON S. FLOYD COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

---

## Mission

To solve problems in challenging health care environments across the state of Washington.

## Vision

Washingtonians living longer, better.

## About the College

The Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine is Washington's community-based medical school. Named after Washington State University's late president, Dr. Elson S. Floyd, the college was created to expand medical education and health care access in communities across the state.

The college is also home to the departments of Nutrition and Exercise Physiology, Speech and Hearing Sciences, Biomedical Sciences and Medical Education and Clinical Sciences.

As the state's land-grant university, WSU's mission is rooted in accessibility and service to diverse communities across the state. By training physicians to deliver health care to Washington's underserved communities, the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine embodies the University's mission—and will improve countless lives.



## The Elson S. Floyd Legacy

Elson S. Floyd was the 10th president of Washington State University, serving from May 21, 2007, until his passing on June 20, 2015.

During his tenure, Floyd garnered bipartisan support in the Washington state legislature to approve WSU to start a medical school.

Recognized for his transformative and visionary leadership, Floyd's pursuit to create WSU's own separately accredited, four-year medical school led to the university naming the medical school the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine.



# VIRTUAL CELEBRATION PROGRAM

---

WELCOME	John Tomkowiak, MD, MOL <i>Founding Dean</i>
PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS	Kirk Schulz, PhD <i>President</i>
VICE PRESIDENT AND CHANCELLOR'S ADDRESS	Daryll DeWald, PhD <i>Vice President and Chancellor</i>
ELSON S. FLOYD COMMEMORATION	
REMARKS	Carmen Floyd
REMARKS	Governor Jay Inslee
REMARKS	Regent Marty Dickinson
REMARKS	Rich Hadley
STUDENT SPEAKERS	Tina Dobrowski, MS CPD <i>Nutrition &amp; Exercise Physiology</i>
	Kyle Geiger, MD <i>Medicine</i>
	Melissa Lyness, MS SHS <i>Speech &amp; Hearing Sciences</i>
COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER	Bechara Choucair, MD
RECITING OF THE PHYSICIAN'S OATH	Jeffrey Haney, MD <i>Interim Chair, Department of Medical Education and Clinical Sciences   Clinical Education Director, Family Medicine</i>
CONFERRAL OF DEGREES	John Tomkowiak, MD, MOL <i>Founding Dean</i>
	Kirk Schulz, PhD <i>President</i>
DEAN'S ADDRESS & CLOSING REMARKS	John Tomkowiak, MD, MOL <i>Founding Dean</i>
"A THOUSAND FIRSTS" VIDEO	

Share your commencement memories at [#WSUMedGrad](#)

# MEDICINE

---

## Doctor of Medicine

### Morgan Black

Residency: *Emergency Medicine*  
Oregon Health & Science  
University  
Portland, Oregon

### Sam Bloomsburg

Residency: *General Surgery*  
U North Dakota SOM  
Grand Forks, North Dakota

### Addie Burtle

Residency: *Emergency Medicine*  
Barnes-Jewish Hospital  
St. Louis, Missouri

### Bryce Cedarquist

Residency: *Radiology—Diagnostic*  
Stony Brook Teaching Hospital  
Stony Brook, New York

### Carly Celebrezze

Residency: *General Surgery*  
U Kentucky Medical Center  
Lexington, Kentucky

### David Choi

Residency: *Psychiatry*  
Samaritan Health Services  
Corvallis, Oregon

### Brent Conrad

Residency: *Family Medicine*  
Providence Sacred Heart  
Medical Center  
Spokane, Washington

### Keely Coxon

Residency: *Pathology—Anatomic  
and Neuropathology*  
University of Washington  
Seattle, Washington

### Charlotte Cronenweth

Residency: *Internal Medicine*  
Oregon Health & Science University  
Portland, Oregon

### Ryan De Leon

Residency: *Orthopaedic Surgery*  
St. Lukes Hospital  
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

### Martha Dickinson Matson

Residency: *Internal Medicine/  
Pediatrics*  
Loma Linda University  
Loma Linda, California

### Michael Durrant

Residency: *Radiology—Diagnostic*  
Maine Medical Center  
Portland, Maine

### Christina Eglin

Residency: *Family Medicine*  
Central WA Family Medicine  
Yakima, Washington

### Michaela Fallon

Residency: *Family Medicine*  
Swedish Medical Center  
Seattle, Washington

### Julian Fohrman

Residency: *Surgery—Preliminary*  
Virginia Mason Medical Center  
Seattle, Washington

### Alex Franke

Residency: *Emergency Medicine*  
University of Utah Health  
Salt Lake City, Utah

### Kyle Geiger

Residency: *Orthopaedic Surgery*  
U Iowa Hosps and Clinics  
Iowa City, Iowa

### Alaina George

Residency: *Pediatrics*  
U New Mexico SOM  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

### Becky Gold

Residency: *Obstetrics and Gynecology*  
Adventist Health White Memorial  
Los Angeles, California

### Emily Gray Robillard

Residency: *Pediatrics*  
UCLA Medical Center  
Los Angeles, California

### Taylor Hale

Residency: *Family Medicine*  
Cahaba Medical Care  
Birmingham, Alabama

### Michelle Hedeem

Residency: *Family Medicine*  
Harrison Medical Center  
Bremerton, Washington

### Chad Heflick

Residency: *Urology*  
UMass Medical School  
Worcester, Massachusetts

### Kimberly Huynh

Residency: *Obstetrics and Gynecology*  
Harbor-UCLA Medical Center  
Torrance, California

### Sahir Sabah Jabbouri

Residency: *Orthopaedic Surgery*  
Yale-New Haven Hospital  
New Haven, Connecticut

### Ashlyn Jimenez

Residency: *Pediatrics*  
UC Irvine Medical Center  
Orange, California

### Sam Josephsen

Residency: *Internal Medicine*  
Providence Sacred Heart  
Medical Center  
Spokane, Washington

**Jackson King**

Residency: *Otolaryngology*  
UC Davis Medical Center  
Sacramento, California

**Christie Kirkpatrick**

Residency: *Internal Medicine*  
Virginia Mason Medical Center  
Seattle, Washington

**Andrew Liechty**

Residency: *Surgery-Preliminary*  
University of Washington  
Seattle, Washington

**Jamie Mackiewicz**

Residency: *Pediatrics*  
Childrens Hospital—LA  
Los Angeles, California

**Patrick Miller**

Residency: *Emergency Medicine*  
Oregon Health & Science  
University  
Portland, Oregon

**Yoga Mukkamala**

Residency: *Pediatrics*  
Childrens Hospital—LA  
Los Angeles, California

**Meghan Olson**

Residency: *Obstetrics and Gynecology*

**Josh Pahang**

Residency: *Anesthesiology*  
UC San Francisco  
San Francisco, California

**Gunnye Pak**

Residency: *Radiology—Diagnostic*  
Maimonides Medical Center  
Brooklyn, New York

**Ethan Payton**

Residency: *Family Medicine*  
Providence Sacred Heart  
Medical Center  
Spokane, Washington

**Auddri Rahman**

Residency: *Internal Medicine*  
Mt. Auburn Hospital  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

**Ekra Rai**

Residency: *Pediatrics*  
UCLA Medical Center  
Los Angeles, California

**Nick Randall**

Residency: *Otolaryngology*  
Mayo Clinic School of  
Grad Med Educ  
Rochester, Minnesota

**David Riesberg**

Residency: *Radiology—Diagnostic*  
University of Utah Health  
Salt Lake City, Utah

**Trevor Roush**

Residency: *General Surgery*  
Danbury Hospital  
Danbury, Connecticut

**Georgia Schafer**

Residency: *Family Medicine*  
Central WA Family Medicine  
Yakima, Washington

**Katie Schmidt**

Residency: *Family Medicine*  
Swedish Medical Center—First Hill  
Seattle, Washington

**Megan Short**

Residency: *Family Medicine*  
Sea Mar Community  
Health Center  
Marysville, Washington

**Erik Stiles**

Residency: *General Surgery*  
Virginia Mason Medical Center  
Seattle, Washington

**Christina Street**

Residency: *Anesthesiology*  
Virginia Mason Medical Center  
Seattle, Washington

**Kiah Sullivan**

Residency: *Pediatrics*  
Phoenix Childrens Hospital  
Phoenix Arizona

**Phoebe Tham**

Residency: *Anesthesiology*  
University of Washington  
Seattle, Washington

**Chayle Turner**

Residency: *Family Medicine*  
Providence St. Peter Hospital  
Chehalis, Washington

**Kendal Vann-Campbell**

Residency: *Obstetrics and Gynecology*  
Orlando Health  
Orlando, Florida

**Amanda Yelle**

Residency: *Internal Medicine*  
Providence Sacred Heart Medical  
Center  
Spokane, Washington

**Andy Zhu**

Residency: *Internal Medicine*  
Oregon Health & Science  
University  
Hillsboro, Oregon

**Annie Yi**

Residency: *Family Medicine*  
Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic  
Yakima, Washington

# NUTRITION AND EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY

---

## Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Exercise Physiology

Gunnar Blankenship  
Cecilia Guajardo  
Natalie Hayes  
Briannia Ladson  
Michaela Long  
Peter Luu  
Victoria Magrum  
Melissa Poe  
Christopher Schafer  
Rachel Schmaltz  
Olivia Tung  
Maddie Weiler

## Master of Science Coordinated Program in Dietetics

Mikalah Barem  
Carly Dietsche  
Christina Dobrowski  
Anne Gorsek  
Brianna Hooks  
Matthew Kokos  
Abbey Roberts  
Sabrina Samuelson  
Taylor Schutzenhofer  
Katherine Stutz  
Laura VanderStarre  
Ben Wolff

## Master of Science in Nutrition and Exercise Physiology

Kellie Anderson

---

## Undergraduate Academic Honors

### SUMMA CUM LAUDE

*GPA 3.90–4.00*

Cecilia Guajardo

### MAGNA CUM LAUDE

*GPA 3.70–3.89*

Michaela Long

### CUM LAUDE

*GPA 3.50–3.69*

Natalie Hayes  
Briannia Ladson  
Melissa Poe  
Christopher Schafer

# SPEECH AND HEARING SCIENCES

---

## Bachelor of Arts in Speech and Hearing Sciences

Jennifer Biedebach  
Nicole Coppersmith  
Viivi Fellin  
Jordan Gravatt  
Emily Jernigan  
Hayli Johnson  
Alissa Ludeman  
Danielle Lund  
Lindsey McBride  
Shaelyn Moracco  
Madeline Schmidt  
Chadelle Smith  
Gabrielle Tibbitts  
Mia Villarreal  
Taylor Westphal  
Delaney Williams

## Master of Science in Speech and Hearing Sciences

Judith Alvarez	Melissa Lyness
Alyssa Bathurst/Peterson	Tristin Moreland
Shannon Beebe	Sarah Morin
Anna Bollinger	Elizabeth Petrich
Jessica Bradshaw	Julie Marie Ramsey
Emilyanne Bray	Kayla Roberson
Alexandra Bredy	Melissa Rocha
Karen Brown	Lauren Sanford
Leann Cozza	Allison Saur
Rachel Duty	Tashina Smith
Madeleine Goldsmith	Megan Stephenson
Danielle Greger	Sarah Wahlroos
Justyna Hjeltness	

---

## Undergraduate Academic Honors

### SUMMA CUM LAUDE

*GPA 3.90–4.00*

Shaelyn Moracco  
Delaney Williams

### MAGNA CUM LAUDE

*GPA 3.70–3.89*

Nicole Coppersmith  
Emily Jernigan  
Chadelle Smith

### CUM LAUDE

*GPA 3.50–3.69*

Viivi Fellin  
Hayli Johnson  
Alissa Ludeman  
Danielle Lund  
Jessica Mendoza  
Gabrielle Tibbitts

# PHYSICIAN'S OATH

---

AS A MEMBER OF THE MEDICAL PROFESSION:

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

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

I WILL RESPECT the autonomy and dignity of my patient;

I WILL MAINTAIN the utmost respect for human life;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

---

*Adopted by the 2nd General Assembly of the World Medical Association, Geneva, Switzerland, September 1948  
and amended by the 22nd World Medical Assembly, Sydney, Australia, August 1968  
and the 35th World Medical Assembly, Venice, Italy, October 1983  
and the 46th WMA General Assembly, Stockholm, Sweden, September 1994  
and editorially revised by the 170th WMA Council Session, Divonne-les-Bains, France, May 2005  
and the 173rd WMA Council Session, Divonne-les-Bains, France, May 2006  
and amended by the 68th WMA General Assembly, Chicago, United States, October 2017*

# THANK YOU

---

## To Our Graduates

Thank you for joining the Cougar family. It has been our privilege to take this journey with you over the past few years. From this moment on, you are forever part of Washington State University. And wherever you go from here, part of WSU Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine goes with you.

Go Cougs!

## To Our Attendees

Thank you for supporting your students! Washington State University enthusiastically welcomes all who are joining us virtually to honor the graduating class of 2021. We're proud of the growing family of Cougar alumni and are honored that you have chosen to celebrate the achievements of our newest alumni with us.

## To Washington

Thank you for helping make every experience possible for our first graduating class of WSU doctors. One first has the power to lead to thousands of other firsts. The first time to save a life, to welcome new life, and to provide care where care is hard to access. Thank you for the thousands of firsts we've shared with you, and the thousands more to come.

## To Our Standardized Patients

Thank you for helping create opportunities for physician-patient relationships for our future doctors.

Alex Anderson	Heather Nicole	Kristi Sciuchetti	Rosalie Simon
Alicia Haider	Lampersberger	Laura Cox	Rosanna Gray
Ashley Frey	Jacquelyn Mills	Lilli Glock	Sarajoy Van Boven
Boris Kwok Zhang	Jamie Renae Bollinger	Margaretta Ross	Shannon Scheffel
Braden Edward Thole	Jane Slater	Marian P. Corrigan	Sophie A. Sciuchetti
Brenda B. Colvin	Janet Niederstadt	Mary Ann Clute	Stacey L. Munoz
Carla Winchar	Jarely Lily Aragon-Ramirez	Mary E. Stockinger	Susan Esco
Carly Dietsche	Jason Beine	Maryllynn Bernard	Suzanne Heutmaker
Cassandra Kay Carpenter	Jauna Cabbage	Michelle Lundy	Timothy Jaeger
Christina Curry	Jean Martin	Michelle Rose Oresky	Tonya Parrish Lampersberger
Christina Lynn Dobrowski	Jerry Dykeman	Michelle Schweikert	Warren Rust
Christine H. White	John Johnston	Mikaya Raskell	William Bancroft
Christine Welch	John Stewart	Molly Robbins	Zaira Rohn
Dalton Lee Carter	Julie Berghammer	Nathan Beine	
Danielle Newman	Katherine A. Bray	Pamela Kellogg	
Darlene Ramirez Arnold	Kathryn Alderson	Paul D'Arienzo	
Donald A. Coerver	Kimberly Dofelmire	Phyllis Silver	

# MESSAGES FROM FACULTY & STAFF

---



Dear Medicine graduates,

Chairing the Admissions committee for you—the inaugural cohort—was one of my greatest honors, second only to helping you to learn clinical skills. I can only say we are all so proud of how far you have come and all that is yet to come. I am excited to welcome you back as faculty and as OUR DOCTORS.

Be an awesome WSU Doc—listen to your patients, take care of yourselves, and go that extra mile, as you always do. I wish you successful journeys, and hope to follow your exciting careers!

All the best!

— Radha Nandagopal, MD, FAAP

*Clinical Education Director,  
Art and Practice of Medicine/Clinical Skills  
Associate Professor,  
Department of Medical Education and Clinical Science*



**Congratulations Class of 2021!** You were welcomed as incoming students. We were privileged to spend time teaching you in class and on the wards. Now we proudly welcome you as colleagues! Advocate for your patients. Words you say to them can be powerful. But the words patients say to you have even more power, so be a good listener. Never let your white coat get so thick as to create a barrier to listening. Always make time for a good story; it's what keeps us human. And at the heart of everything you've learned, always embrace the magic of renal physiology.

— Henry Mroch, MD, FACP

*Clinical Associate Professor,  
Department of Medical Education and Clinical Sciences*



*You'll spread your wings 'cuz you've learned how to fly.  
Though it's not easy to tell us "goodbye".  
Take a stand, make change and breakaway.*

Dave Conley was my first professor in medical school. Now I'm a surgeon in my home state. Over a quarter of you are heading to futures where you'll find joy in the operating room, caring for humankind at their most vulnerable moments.

*Out of the classroom and into a job,  
Always remember this place you come from.  
Make a wish . . . and breakaway!*

We're so proud of you today.

Tomorrow, we'll welcome you back as faculty.

— Anjali Kumar, MD, MPH, FACS, FASCRS

*Director,  
Clinical Education – Surgery*



To the graduating Class of 2021,

Whether I taught you in the MD or NEP program, I want you to know I truly appreciated spending time with you. Hopefully, you now realize that biochemistry is all around you. I have a favor to ask—the first time you run across the TCA cycle in your practice, clinic, or institution, please contact me. I'm sure it will happen \*almost\* daily.

Best wishes in all your future endeavors.

— Theodore Chauvin, PhD

*Clinical Associate Professor,  
Department of Biomedical Sciences*





Your personal and professional career paths will be an exciting adventure for you to embrace.

Follow your passion and you will go far in life.

Congratulations and best wishes to you.

— **Janet Beary, PhD, RDN, CHES**

*Clinical Associate Professor; Program Director, MS CPD*



Dear Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine graduating Class of 2021,

As I write this note, I see on my wall the thank you card so many of you signed and gave me in the spring of 2018. I consider it among the most wonderful experiences of my career to have been involved in your education. It has been an honor to teach you. It has been a pleasure to get to know you. It has been a thrill to see you develop into physicians. Go Cougs!

— **Jonathan Wisor, PhD**

*Professor,*

*Department of Biomedical Sciences*

*Sleep and Performance Research Center*



Sincere congratulations to our graduates. We are proud of you and truly excited for your futures—you are all going to do great!

— **Hans Christian Haverkamp, PhD**

*Associate Professor,*

*Department of Nutrition and Exercise Physiology*



Congratulations to the Class of 2021!

I wish you all the very best. Cheers!

— **Glen Duncan, PhD, RCEP**

*Professor and Chair,*

*Department of Nutrition and Exercise Physiology*



Graduates,

The persistence and grace you have demonstrated throughout this past year is extraordinary. Celebrate your launch into a global society that has never been in greater need of your talent and dedication. We will be rooting you on as you put your stamp on the world.

GO COUGS! Cheers,

— **April D. Davis, MS, RDN, CEP**

*Associate Professor,*

*Department of Nutrition and Exercise Physiology*



To our SHS graduate students,

It has been such a pleasure to be a part of your graduate program. Your dedication to the program and resilience to learn over the last two years has been impressive to witness. I have no doubt that you will do great things for the individuals and families you serve moving forward. I wish you the very best moving forward and hope you stay in touch! Sending you virtual hugs and high-fives.

— **Laurie Thompson, PhD CCC-SLP**

*Assistant Professor,*

*Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences*



BA graduates,

Finally, the time has arrived to celebrate your achievement with your family and friends. We send our best wishes for success in your future endeavors. Congratulations!

— **Gail Chermak, PhD**

*Professor and Chair,*

*Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences*



Dear SHS graduating seniors of 2021,

Congratulations on completing your degree during a pandemic! When transitioning from in-person to online, you never skipped a beat. You demonstrated grit, resilience, grace and flexibility. You navigated moves, jobs, family, and spotty Wi-Fi. Many of you even managed to continue reaching out to communities to spread the word about speech language pathology and audiology via Zoom. Others organized cultural and educational events and even a talent show for our Health Sciences campus. Your ability to adapt was amazing! You can now handle anything!

Go Cougs!

— Amy Meredith, PhD, CCC-SLP

*Clinical Professor, Director of Graduate Studies,  
Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences*



Dear former G2s and now colleagues,

As you accept your diploma your professors become your colleagues and we move to a first name basis. We, as a faculty, and I, as your early morning companion for much of grad school, wish you fulfillment in your career and happiness in your life. Remember that life is a series of chapters. Some are happy, some are not. Some last for years, others are short. In the good times, rejoice. In the tough times, don't despair, Allow yourself to always be a "work in progress". No one was born with all knowledge or the skills to accomplish a task. If others could master this difficult knowledge or skill, so can you. After all, you survived an abrupt transition to online learning while simultaneously passing the MBSImP. Keep in touch, (but be warned that I might tag you to be the next guest speaker).

Wishing you the best,

— Nancy Potter, PhD, CCC-SLP

*Professor,  
Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences*



Master of Science graduates,

We are so happy for you! We know how hard you have worked to reach this milestone. Now it is time to celebrate your achievement with your family and friends. Welcome to the profession! Congratulations!

— Gail Chermak, PhD

*Professor and Chair,  
Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences*



Congratulations on your amazing accomplishment! There was no way to predict the roller coaster ride you would be embarking on when you arrived to campus on orientation day. But here you are, just two years later, ready to greet the next chapter, prepared for anything. Your ability to adapt and grow with grace and grit throughout the changes brought on by the pandemic was nothing short of impressive. This graduating class is like no other. You now have the skills deliver services on-line, in-person, in teams, and individually. Your creativity and problem solving allowed your patients to progress no matter what barriers got in the way. We know you will all make us proud.

Go Cougs!

— Faculty and Staff

*Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences*

---

Names in this program include only those students who have applied for a May 2021 or August 2021 graduation date. Names are not necessarily representative of those attending the spring commencement ceremony.

Appearance of a name in this program is presumptive evidence of graduation and graduation honors, but it must not in any manner be regarded as conclusive. The diploma of the University, signed and sealed by its proper officers, remains the official testimony of the degree awarded.



