

May 20, 2022

2022 Commencement Ceremony



Commencement 2022 Program

Rhonda McIntyre, MBBS, FAAP, FRCP(C) Introductions

Associate Dean of Medical Sciences

Processional Graduates & Stage Party

Heidi Chumley, MD, MBA Welcome Address

Dean

Selwyn O. Rogers, Jr., MD, MPH, FACS **Commencement Address**

Board of Trustee

Heidi Chumley, MD, MBA **Conferral of Degrees**

Dean

Presentation of Graduates

Panagiotis Galanopoulos, MD **Recitation of the Modified**

Former RUSM Alumni Council President **Declaration of Geneva** Current RUSM Alumni Council Member

Jessica Shepherd, MD, MBA, FACOG **Alumni Council Address**

President of Alumni Council

Student Commencement Uzoma Dike, MD

Speaker Class of 2022

Closing Remarks Heidi Chumley, MD, MBA

Recessional Graduates & Stage Party

Conferral of Degrees for Ross University School of Medicine

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Modified Declaration of Geneva

The Physician's Pledge

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 PRACTISE my profession with conscience and dignity and in accordance with good medical practice;

I WILL FOSTER the honour 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 honour.

Keynote Commencement Speaker



Selwyn O. Rogers, Jr., MD, MPH, FACS RUSM Board of Trustees Member

A member of the RUSM Board of Trustees, Selwyn O. Rogers Jr., MD, MPH, FACS, is a widely respected surgeon and public health expert. As founding director of the University of Chicago Medicine Trauma Center, Dr. Rogers is building an interdisciplinary team of specialists to treat patients who suffer injury from life-threatening events, such as car crashes, serious falls and gun violence. His team works with leaders in the city's trauma network to expand trauma care on the South Side.

Dr. Rogers has served in leadership capacities at health centers across the country, including most recently as vice president and chief medical officer for The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. Dr. Rogers has also served as the chair of surgery at Temple University School of Medicine and as the division chief of trauma, burns and surgical critical care at Harvard Medical School. While at Brigham and Women's Hospital (BWH), he helped launch the Center for Surgery and Public Health to understand the nature, quality and utilization of surgical care nationally and internationally.

Additionally, as executive vice president for community health engagement, Dr. Rogers works with faculty across the University of Chicago as well as members of the community to develop a multidisciplinary approach to trauma care and health disparities. His work will help enhance the understanding of social factors that affect victims of violence and underserved populations, in addition to identifying approaches necessary to achieving better outcomes for trauma victims.

Dr. Rogers' clinical and research interests focus on understanding the healthcare needs of underserved populations. He has published numerous articles relating to health disparities and the impact of race and ethnicity on surgical outcomes.

Alumni Council Commencement Speaker



Jessica Shepherd, MD, MBA, FACOG

Class of 2005
President of Alumni Council

Dr. Jessica Shepherd is a board certified OB/GYN, women's health expert and minimally invasive surgeon. She is the chief medical officer of Verywell Health and also the founder and CEO of Sanctum Med + Wellness, a wellness concierge practice and is affiliated with Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas, Texas.

Dr. Shepherd is an engaging and well known media personality that is seen regularly as an expert on Good Morning America, The Today Show, Dr. Oz, CNN, MSNBC and CBS News. She is on the Advisory Board for Women's Health Magazine, Women's Health.org, It's August and has written in other various journals including Vogue, Cosmopolitan, Teen Vogue, Essence, and Self.

Her passion for women's health, from minority health disparities to reproductive justice issues, has allowed her to be an advocate for women and she has been a speaker at various health and wellness events such as Blog Her, Well Summit and Chronicon.

Dr. Shepherd strives to educate people on their bodies and how to address their physical, sexual, emotional health in addition to the incorporation of wellness. She currently sits on the advisory board for Ro Medicine, Women's Health Magazine, Abbvie, Myovant, Responsum, Hologic, Healthy Women.org and Healthline.

As an expert in her field, she has now expanded her reach to keynote talks and her national appeal has allowed her to work on women's health issues with celebrities including Sheryl Crow, Halle Berry, Ciara, Brooke Burke, Erin Andrews, Dr. Jackie Walters from Married to Medicine, Catt Sadler and Laila Ali.

Her involvement with various foundations as a board member has allowed her to actively make decisions in the women's health realm. She serves as the president of the Ross University Medical School Alumni Council, and is engaged with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra Board, AAGL Diversity and Inclusion Committee and the Texas Women's Foundation.

She lives in Dallas. Texas with her husband and two sons.

Letter to Graduates



Dear Class of 2022,

Today marks the end of medical school, but the beginning of your life as a physician. Congratulations! You have worked hard to earn the privilege of becoming a physician and this is a time to honor yourself and embrace your passions.

We each have familiar stories detailing our individual medical journeys. It can be a long, bumpy, and sometimes lonely road, but resiliency is essential.

As a proud Ross graduate and president of the Alumni Association, we welcome you to the esteemed group of 15,000+ alumni that are waiting to welcome you into open arms.

My first and most important piece of advice is to take time now to reflect on and celebrate your achievements. Be proud of what you have accomplished, and excited for the opportunities ahead. The experience and support of the Alumni Association will help you to create connections all over the US and around the world. The energy and enthusiasm you experience during residency will help you embrace the art and science of healing and provide compassionate care for your patients.

You will form a special bond with other alumni based on your shared triumphs, victories, and obstacles. As president, this year I am focusing on maintaining that bond by supporting both our collective alumni efforts and the medical students following in our footsteps.

As we look to the future, our mission is to help advance the interest of our alumni, to support current medical students on their journey to becoming physicians, and to provide opportunities for alumni to connect with each other. Active engagement in the Alumni Association is an easy and effective way to ensure our association remains strong.

Alumni support and vision make us the wonderful institution we are, and the enthusiasm and participation of our more than 15,000 alumni are integral to shaping and realizing our goals. We are excited for you to be a part of this amazing group of individuals.

Communication is vital for a robust relationship between alumni and their alma mater. I encourage you to visit the alumni website at https://medical.rossu.edu/alumni/stay-connected to ensure your contact information is updated. This is where you can learn about upcoming Ross University School of Medicine alumni events to connect with other members, get the latest in RUSM news, as well as other valuable information.

Medicine is the greatest profession that exists. Through your education, training, and interactions, you will have the ability to heal the minds, bodies, and spirits of others. Congratulations to the class of 2022!

To find more information or to get involved with the RUSM (Ross University School of Medicine) Alumni Association, visit our website, or contact the Office of Alumni Relations at rusmalumni@rossu.edu.

Sincerely,

Jessica Shepherd, MD, MBA, FACOG

Class of '05 President of Alumni Council



Welcome to our Alumni Family Class of 2022





754-707-5549





@RUSMalumni



@RossMedAlumni

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- Dr. Mohamad Talal Hamade
- Dr. Chukwuemeka Igwe
- Dr. Muad Mohammad Khallad
- Dr. Sanoara Mazid
- Dr. Areeba Nasir Zamar
- Dr. Nguyễn Võ Bảo Đoàn
- Dr. Beverly Nyokabi
- Dr. Semeon Tadesse
- Dr. Nguwah Tun

Class of 2021

Degree Candidates

- Dr. Dre Barnachea
- Dr. Mara Nicole Bryan
- Dr. Maria Fernanda Dominguez Bermeo
- Dr. Ashley Shepperd Faye
- Dr. Armin Hojjat
- Dr. Brigette Annette Mocan
- Dr. Sydney Lee Read

Class of 2022

Degree Candidates

- Dr. Rabab Samir Abdalla
- Dr. Jehann Hussein Abdallah
- Dr. Hassan Ali Haji Abdinur
- Dr. Nourelhoda Abouhamra
- Dr. George Abuaita
- Dr. Rodolfo Acosta
- Dr. Ayowumi Andrew Adekolu**
- Dr. Christopher Olutomi Adereti
- Dr. Amna Afreen**
- Dr. Jose Luis Aguayo Herrera

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- Dr. Sofiah Ali***
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- Dr. Omar Mohammad Allauddin
- Dr. John Kervin Allonce

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- Dr. Abdel Rahman Mohammad Alnaji
- Dr. Sandra Al-Sakkal
- Dr. Alberth Alvarado
- Dr. Karla Georgina Alvarez
- Dr. Jordan Michael Stuart Michael Stuart Alvia**
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- Dr. Omar Amro
- Dr. Erika Anderson
- Dr. Kara Anderson**
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- Dr. Kafiya Arte***
- Dr. Kevin Asady
- Dr. Sana Tazeen Ashraf
- Dr. Raja Pratap Atchutuni
- Dr. Niki Tyler Augustine***
- Dr. Adam A. Awad
- Dr. Yonael Ayinalem
- Dr. Constance Cherokee Baker
- Dr. Kevin Daniel Balderrama
- Dr. Brittany Barba
- Dr. Aerin Julian Bard***
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Dr. Heather Meesook Wynne

Dr. Mai Lee Xiong

Dr. Mia Yasonova

Dr. Stuart Ryan Yee

Dr. Sujanan Yogananda

Dr. Aron Yonas

Dr. Asal J Yousif

Dr. Daniel Young Yun

Dr. Jay Zawaideh

The 2022 Commencement Ceremony Program was printed prior to the clearance of all eligible graduates. The Honors distinction has therefore only been noted for graduates who were cleared prior to Friday, April 29, 2022. Students cleared on, or after Friday, April 29, 2022 may participate in the 2022 Commencement Ceremony without the Honors distinction noted. However, the Honors distinction will be noted for these students in the 2022 Commencement Ceremony, should they qualify for it.

Student Commencement Speaker



Uzoma Dike, MD '22

As the second oldest of six brothers, Dr. Uzoma Dike was born and raised in Houston, Texas, by two Nigerian immigrants. His interest in becoming a physician was sparked at an early age. Fascinated by the human body and instilled with an appreciation for the patient-physician relationship, it was a natural decision for Dr. Dike to pursue a career in medicine. He earned his bachelor's degree in biology from The University of Texas at Austin before enrolling at Ross University School of Medicine (RUSM).

While at RUSM, Dr. Dike has demonstrated a passion for learning as well as a commitment to leadership and professional development. He served on Student Government Association and was the president of Phi Delta Epsilon, Fraternity Incorporated. Dr. Dike showed his dedication to enhancing diversity, equity and inclusion while sitting on the RUSM Diversity & Inclusion taskforce—a team of students, faculty, colleagues and alumni leading a holistic review of diversity and inclusion at the University.

Dr. Dike will be starting his family medicine residency at The University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston this June. Following completion of his residency, he is interested in pursuing a sports medicine fellowship, with aspirations of becoming the team physician for a professional sports franchise while also maintaining his own private clinic.



Empower Scholarship Fund Award

A blue and green cord worn over the neck is recognition of a recipient who has shown academic achievement and a dedicated desire to succeed. The cords represent commitment and perseverance in overcoming obstacles on the path to completing their degree. A minimum grade point average of 3.0 or higher must have been maintained to receive this scholarship award. The Empower Scholarship Fund Board of Directors and donors send their sincere congratulations to these remarkable graduates, and wish them continued success in their future endeavors.

Ascend Learning Ross University School of Medicine Scholarship

Dr. Christopher Adereti

Dr. Tadele Berisa

Dr. Biagio Collura

Dr. Erik Rappa

Ross University School of Medicine Scholarship

Dr. Elizabeth Armenis

Dr. Harmeet Dhaliwal

Dr. George Fan

Dr. Gloria Fernandes

Dr. Mehwish Kishore

Dr. Jonathan Magloire

Dr. Mirwais Mahmoud

Dr. Nwamaka Merah

Dr. Dynora Pierre-Louis

Dr. Erik Rappa

Dr. Antonio Santana Veliz

Dr. Vishwajit Tuchscherer

Dr. Moon Usman

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You can learn more by visiting www.empowerscholarshipfund.org.

Our Mission

is to deliver an innovative and experiential medical education program in an inclusive environment of scholars that fosters professional growth and leadership for a diverse pool of students to become ethical, compassionate, patient-centric, and culturally competent physicians who advance healthcare in local and global communities.













Walden University

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