



May 16, 2020

A Virtual Commencement



ROSS UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Commencement 2020 Program

Processional

Pomp and Circumstance, Edward Elgar

Welcome

Rhonda McIntyre, MBBS, FAAP, FRCP (C)
Associate Dean, Medical Sciences

Message from RUSM Board of Trustees

Susan Groenwald, PhD, RN, ANEF, FAAN
Chairman of the RUSM Board of Trustees

Message from Provost

James M. Record, MD, JD, FACP
*Chief Academic Officer and Provost
Ross University School of Medicine*

Commencement Address

Claire Pomeroy, MD, MBA, *President,
Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation*

Conferral of Degrees for Ross University School of Medicine

James M. Record, MD, JD, FACP
*Chief Academic Officer and Provost
Ross University School of Medicine*

Presentation of Graduates

Recitation of the Modified Oath of Geneva

Raquel Dardik, MD, MsEd, FACOG
Professor & Chair, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Hedda Dyer, MB CHB Ed, MRCS Ed, MBA
*Associate Professor, Department of
Clinical Foundations*
Ricardo Hood, MD *Chair,
Department of Clinical Foundations*
Sarvotham Kini, MD, FACS, FACEP
Professor & Director of Senior Electives
Eric Neilson, MD, Assistant Professor,
Department of Clinical Foundations
Michael Rosenblum, MD, FACP
Professor & Chair, Internal Medicine

Alumni Council Address

Panagiotis "Taki" Galanopoulos, MD,
MSc, FAAFP *RUSM Class of 2007*
President RUSM Alumni Council

New Graduate Address

Rida Jamal, MD, *RUSM Class of 2020*

Closing Remarks

James M. Record, MD, JD, FACP
*Chief Academic Officer and Provost
Ross University School of Medicine*

Recessional

Triumphal March, Giuseppe Verdi

Conferral of Degrees for Ross University School of Medicine

RUSM Board of Trustees



SUSAN GROENWALD, PHD, RN, ANEF, FAAN
Chairman



THOMAS G. HOLLINGER, PHD
Chair Emeritus
Emeritus Associate Professor Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology University of Florida, College of Medicine



RICHARD CARMONA, MD, MPH, FACS
17th Surgeon General of the United States
Distinguished Professor, University of Arizona



GLEN F. HOFFSIS, DVM, MS, DACVIM



JOHN B. PAYNE, MBA
CEO and Founder, Pet Health Innovations



AMY E. POLLACK, MD, FACOG, FACPM
Director, Maternal, Newborn & Child Health Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation



SHARON THOMAS-PARROTT
Retired Senior Vice President External Relations and Global Responsibility DeVry Education Group Founding President, The DeVry Foundation

Modified OATH OF GENEVA

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 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

Claire Pomeroy, MD, MBA

President, Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation



Claire Pomeroy is president of the Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation. She serves as chief executive officer of the Foundation and is responsible for advancing the Foundation's mission to "improve health by accelerating support for medical research through recognition of research excellence, education and advocacy."

An expert in infectious diseases, Dr. Pomeroy is a long-time advocate for patients, especially those with HIV/AIDS, and public health. She passionately supports ongoing investment in the full range of research. She has a special interest in health care policy, with a focus on the importance of the social determinants of health. She has published more than 100 articles and book chapters and edited three books.

Dr. Pomeroy serves on the Board of Trustees for the Morehouse School of Medicine and the Board of Directors for the Science Philanthropy Alliance; the Sierra Health Foundation; the Foundation for Biomedical Research; iBiology, Inc.; New York Academy of Medicine; Haemonetics Corporation; and for Becton Dickinson & Company. Dr. Pomeroy was inducted into the National Academy of Medicine in 2011.

Dr. Pomeroy received bachelors and medical degrees from the University of Michigan and completed her residency and fellowship training in internal medicine and infectious diseases at the University of Minnesota. She earned an MBA from the University of Kentucky. She received an honorary Doctor of Science degree from University of Massachusetts Medical School in 2016. She has held faculty positions at the University of Minnesota, University of Kentucky and University of California (UC) Davis. Dr. Pomeroy was chief of infectious diseases and associate dean for research and informatics at the University of Kentucky. She joined UC Davis in 2003 as executive associate dean and served as vice chancellor and dean of the School of Medicine from 2005 through 2013. She became president of the Lasker Foundation in June 2013.



Alumni Council Commencement Speaker



Panagiotis “Taki” Galanopoulos

**MD, MSc, FAAFP, RUSM Class of 2007
President RUSM Alumni Council**

Dr. Panagiotis (Takis) Galanopoulos is a dedicated family physician operating Blue Water Medical, his multi-provider outpatient family medicine practice, located in Vancouver, Canada. In addition to running his clinic, he currently serves as a clinical instructor in the Department of Family Practice at the University of British Columbia School of Medicine (UBC). He also teaches nurse practitioner students from both the University of Victoria and UBC.

Dr. Galanopoulos began his journey in medicine with the completion of both an undergraduate and a master’s degree from the School of Kinesiology at Simon Fraser University (SFU). His passion for science and teaching led him to be an instructor at various academic institutions, including SFU, the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) and the Open Learning Agency.

When he decided that medical school was his next goal, Dr. Galanopoulos flew to Dominica to poll students about their experience at Ross University School of Medicine (RUSM), and likely was one of very few prospective students who requested to be interviewed on the island. His unorthodox approach ultimately landed him back on Dominica in 2003, when Dr. Galanopoulos began his first semester at Ross University School of Medicine.

Following his graduation from RUSM, Dr. Galanopoulos completed his residency at the University of Louisville Department of Family and Geriatric Medicine and served as co-chief resident during his final year. Throughout his time at U of L, he was the U.S. resident representative on the board of the North American Primary Care Research Group (NAPCRG), a research-oriented organization, which allowed him to combine his interests in clinical and research medicine.

Hopkinsville, Kentucky, was his next destination. Where, in 2011, Dr. Galanopoulos helped to start a hospital-owned, hybrid primary care practice and walk-in clinic. During this time, he also participated in the primary care arm of a community mental health center, working alongside psychiatry colleagues in a team-based, patient-centered health clinic. This experience opened an opportunity for him to serve as the Chief Medical Officer of a new federally-qualified health center.

After over a decade of experience in serving community health care needs in many parts of the United States, Dr. Galanopoulos made the decision to return back home to Vancouver, Canada. He transitioned to the Canadian medical system in primary care and also as lead physician at the BCIT student health center for a number of years before opening a practice of his own.

Throughout his academic and professional careers, Dr. Galanopoulos has maintained a strong and active relationship with Ross University School of Medicine. He has served as junior faculty, as well as medical director on Campus. He has been a proud Alumni Association member since graduation and has been President of the Alumni Association since the fall of 2019.

Letter to Graduates



ROSS UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Alumni Association

Dear Graduates,

Congratulations to you all, our graduating class of 2020, and welcome to the Ross University School of Medicine Alumni Association.

There are few moments in your life such as this one. Today is a day to recognize and acknowledge the tremendous effort that you have made to achieve this remarkable goal. It is a time to reflect on the choices that brought you here. To hold space for both the challenging and exciting moments throughout your journey. It is also an occasion to thank all the people in your world who supported you every step of the way. Today is truly a day of celebration. You deserve it.

This graduating class is unique in many ways. Together you experienced first-hand, the devastating effects of hurricane Maria. You were relocated and thrust into a new learning environment, multiple times. And now, you are about to graduate from medical school in the middle of a global pandemic outbreak, the likes of which have not been seen for over a century. Your ability to focus and persevere under extraordinary circumstances will serve you well. The adaptability and resiliency you have demonstrated will be invaluable in your tomorrow.

Tomorrow is a new day. Tomorrow you begin the next part of your journey. There will be new challenges, new exciting moments and a renewed effort to reach your next goal. As you ready yourself for residency, your relationship with the Ross University School of Medicine changes. You are now a member of the Alumni Association and are instantly a part of a global network of highly skilled, intelligent, and compassionate physicians.

The Alumni Association will be an invaluable resource for you as you continue on your journey. For nearly four decades, the Association has fostered and continues to grow a network of Alumni members who take great pride in being Ross University School of Medicine graduates. Through our programs and events, we aim to provide opportunities to forge strong relationships among alumni, students, faculty and friends.

I encourage you to be active in the Alumni Association through both participation in events and programs, and also through the many ways to volunteer. For more details on what the Alumni Association can provide you and how you can get involved, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations or visit our website at <https://medical.rossu.edu/alumni/>.

As Alumni members, we are ambassadors of our alma mater, strengthening its reputation with all of our collective professional achievements and accolades. I invite you to continue the Ross University School of Medicine legacy as an educational leader through your active participation as an Alumni Association member. Tomorrow marks the start of the next chapter in your story. But for today, let me once more give you enthusiastic congratulations.

Sincerely,

Panagiotis (Taki) Galanopoulos, MD MSc FAAFP CCFP

President, Ross University School of Medicine Alumni Association

**Welcome to our
Alumni Family
Class of 2020**



rusmalumni@rossu.edu



754-707-5549



[@RUSMalumni](https://twitter.com/RUSMalumni)



[@RossMedAlumni](https://www.instagram.com/RossMedAlumni)

Doctor of Medicine

Dr. Nikka Isabella Abaricia
Dr. Kalkidan Abebe
Dr. Roux Barron Abubakar
Dr. Jerma Caren Adams
Dr. Nana Afua Akyaa Addo
Dr. Manar Toum Adem
Dr. Monisola Adesanya
Dr. Oluwadamilola Adedoyin Adeyemo
Dr. Akua Awuku Adinkrah
Dr. Yonatan Adler with High Honors
Dr. Marwa Afridi with High Honors
Dr. Syed Muhammad Azeem Afzal
with Highest Honors
Dr. Adelaide Afua Agyepong
Dr. Syed Zubair Ahmad
Dr. Adeel Ahmed with Honors
Dr. Faraaz Ahmed with Highest Honors
Dr. Amir Ahmed
Dr. Hoda Haydari Ahwazi
Dr. Destiny Aighobahi
Dr. Ehiwe Akhigbe
Dr. Fadi Albahra
Dr. Awad Alboga
Dr. Eric Raymond Alcorn
Dr. Sunu Alexander
Dr. Ayman Shabib Alhadheri
Dr. Syed Numahair Ali
Dr. Hyder Ali
Dr. Madiha Amjad Ali
Dr. Klaudio Alla
Dr. Omar Mohammad Allauddin
Dr. Anasheh Almasi
Dr. Ahmed Alnahhas
Dr. Lubna Aman
Dr. Darnelle Nimalka Ambo
Dr. Shyam Amin with Honors
Dr. Raha Amini
Dr. Samia Amjad
Dr. Kristianne Marie Amurao with Honors
Dr. Derrick Anannab
Dr. Steven Blaine Anderson
Dr. Torri C Anderson with Highest Honors

Dr. Ryan Paul Anderson with Highest Honors
Dr. Pamela Annetta Angelo
Dr. Glory Chioma Ani
Dr. Kofi Ntowa Ansah with High Honors
Dr. Dubem Fernandez Anumba
Dr. Anna Axentiev with High Honors
Dr. Rojin Arefi
Dr. Ilesha Arfeen
Dr. Victoria Lynn Arsenault
Dr. Sheikh Iqbal Arshad
Dr. Tamara Avezbadalov
Dr. Diego Alonso-Dulkis Aviles
Dr. Chady Awad
Dr. Raheel Awan
Dr. Oyinkansola Chelsea Awodiya with
High Honors
Dr. Marco Ayad with Honors
Dr. Victoria Ayala
Dr. Monazza Azam
Dr. Kirandeep Kaur Bains with Highest Honors
Dr. Mandeep Kaur Bajwa
Dr. Atlee Tyler Baker with Highest Honors
Dr. Elnaz Balashi
Dr. Matthew Philip Balatbat
Dr. Amarah Baluch with Highest Honors
Dr. Jasira Barrientos
Dr. Samariah Bautch with Highest Honors
Dr. Blirjon Baxhija with Honors
Dr. Victoria Beata
Dr. David Thomas Bell
Dr. Brian Victor Bender
Dr. Bryan Andrew Bennett
Dr. Melanie Bernardes
Dr. Meera Bhalani
Dr. Kishley Bhalla with Highest Honors
Dr. Mohit Bhalla
Dr. Kaamyia Bhandari with High Honors
Dr. Neal Kumar Bharadwaj
Dr. Sahebjit Singh Bhasin
Dr. Naren Bhupatiraju with High Honors
Dr. Samay Bhushan with High Honors
Dr. Peter John Biggane

Dr. Ahmad Bilal
 Dr. Francesca Helena Blazekovic with High Honors
 Dr. Andrew Bleinberger with Highest Honors
 Dr. Vera Boateng
 Dr. Alexander McDonell Boaz
 Dr. Stephen Rupert Bocarro
 Dr. Barisere Bodo with High Honors
 Dr. Elizabeth Joyce Bogaty
 Dr. Arinze Nelson Bosah with Highest Honors
 Dr. Julia Bottoni
 Dr. Samantha Boustani with High Honors
 Dr. Ty Alexander Bowman
 Dr. Robin Anna Marie Boyer
 Dr. Preeti Brar
 Dr. Amanda Renee Brenner
 Dr. Evan Daniel Brochin
 Dr. Zachary Thomas Brown with High Honors
 Dr. Naomi Safiya Brown
 Dr. Marcus Tyler Brown
 Dr. Kayla Michelle Brubaker
 Dr. Mara Nicole Bryan
 Dr. Faith Buchanan with High Honors
 Dr. Brandon Christopher Buchel
 Dr. Taylor Howell Buck
 Dr. Hubby Buehler
 Dr. Nadara Kimberly Ann Bunch
 Dr. Alexandra Nicole Burkich
 Dr. Nimerta Kaur Burmhi
 Dr. Cassandra Terri-Lynn Butt with Highest Honors
 Dr. Andres Camacho
 Dr. Christiam Campero
 Dr. Etny Candelario
 Dr. Stephanie Jean Carro-Kowalczyk
 Dr. Nicklaus Carrothers
 Dr. Leonardo Vidal Cartagena-Mendez
 Dr. Bradley Casey III
 Dr. Krystal Castaneda
 Dr. Alexander Nguyen Castillo
 Dr. Alvaro Castro with Highest Honors
 Dr. Francesca Maria Ceci with Highest Honors
 Dr. Carmen Stephanie Ceron Velasquez
 Dr. Lia Nadine Cesar
 Dr. Grant Champlin Chambers
 Dr. Alan Chan with High Honors
 Dr. Kipson Richard Charles
 Dr. Alix Jr Charles
 Dr. Giovanni Charles with High Honors
 Dr. Akriti Chaudhry
 Dr. Hunza Chaudhry
 Dr. Zubair Rafiq Chaudry
 Dr. Raul Enrique Chavarria
 Dr. Ayesha Sarfraz Cheema
 Dr. Miao Chen
 Dr. Deepvansh Chandradeep Chopra
 Dr. Manik Bir Chowdhry
 Dr. Felix Chuang
 Dr. Lindsey Clark
 Dr. Edwin Efren Climaco Feliciano
 Dr. Jonathan Martins Coelho
 Dr. Lee Thomas Colaianni with Highest Honors
 Dr. Jason Alexander Cooper Honors
 Dr. Nicholas Cooper
 Dr. Terrell Deandre Coring
 Dr. Matthew Alexander Cornacchia with High Honors
 Dr. Ronald Owen Crandall
 Dr. Alben Eli Cuevas Gonzalez
 Dr. Jared Ray Curtis with High Honors
 Dr. Denise Sarah Dailey
 Dr. Jordan Daloya
 Dr. Laurene Adjoa Dampare
 Dr. Zaki Krishan Dard
 Dr. Yoness Mark Darouichi
 Dr. Jeremy Allen Davis
 Dr. Carolyn Davis
 Dr. Polly Ann Davis
 Dr. Samantha Maria D'Costa
 Dr. Patricia De La Cabada
 Dr. Juan Carlos De La Cruz Mayhua
 Dr. Anthony G De Leon
 Dr. Peter De Mola with Highest Honors
 Dr. Nathalie De Paz
 Dr. Benjamin Johnny Delgado
 Dr. Chardiel Janice Delgado Miranda
 Dr. Adriana Lynn Delmonico
 Dr. Tervicine Delva
 Dr. Zoe Demarest with High Honors
 Dr. Jennifer Kate Demuro
 Dr. Michael Derogatis with Highest Honors
 Dr. Krutika R Desai
 Dr. Taylor Renee Desormeaux
 Dr. Mahdi Diab
 Dr. Cem Dikengil
 Dr. Jacob Kiley Dixon
 Dr. Soraya Djadjo
 Dr. Ashley Renee Dohman
 Dr. Serena Meighan Donahue
 Dr. Christina Marie Donath with High Honors

Dr. Thai Tosakul Donenfeld with High Honors
 Dr. Christopher Dong
 Dr. Laurena Nelly Dongmo Fotsing
 Dr. Laxmi Priya Dongur with High Honors
 Dr. Miriam Donis-Garcia with High Honors
 Dr. Jesse Doyle
 Dr. Molly Ann Drlik
 Dr. Rachel Danielle Ducote
 Dr. Derek Stephen Duey
 Dr. Shadrack Kwaku Dugbatey
 Dr. Martin Dukaj
 Dr. Sandi Nichole Dunn
 Dr. Sophie Thu Thuy Duong
 Dr. Patrick Alain Duplan with High Honors
 Dr. Jazmine Socorro Duran
 Dr. Chanelle Durand
 Dr. Javon Joshua Durley
 Dr. Jessica Lynn Eastwood with
 Highest Honors
 Dr. Jeffrey Ebin
 Dr. Jeremy A Eckes
 Dr. Ihinosen Lydia Edgal
 Dr. Joel Nathaniel Edwall with Honors
 Dr. Peter N Egwom
 Dr. Kimberly Nichole Eide
 Dr. Zachary Thomas Einwechter with
 Highest Honors
 Dr. Chibuzor Chika Ejike
 Dr. Meriam Elahmad
 Dr. Letty John Elenigical with Highest Honors
 Dr. Sarah Ayman El-Halees with High Honors
 Dr. Miguel Andres Elizondo
 Dr. Afroditi D. Emporelli
 Dr. Christopher Endres
 Dr. Mattie Larae Erby
 Dr. Rex Kelechukwu Esochaghi
 Dr. Daniel Ayomidotun Fadare with
 Highest Honors
 Dr. Sarah Faheem with Highest Honors
 Dr. Michael Falahat
 Dr. Alyssa Lee Farina
 Dr. Elie Fegahli
 Dr. Brittany Ciera-Denise Fields
 Dr. Sean Patrick Fitzmorris
 Dr. Kathryn Amalia Fivelstad with
 Highest Honors
 Dr. Julia Flum-Stockwell
 Dr. Brian James Foster with Honors
 Dr. William Read Founds
 Dr. Cody Keith Fox
 Dr. Nicole T Francis
 Dr. Michele Yvette Frates
 Dr. Thomas Lance Fulghum
 Dr. Sebastian Gallego
 Dr. Nithya Gandham
 Dr. Fabian Garcia with Highest Honors
 Dr. Ishan Garg
 Dr. Kristoff Jerome Gayle
 Dr. Ayomide Omolayo Gbenle
 Dr. Garrick David Geesey
 Dr. Ramir Cayanan Geluz
 Dr. Gabrielle Gerbino
 Dr. Maria Gabriella Gerew with Highest Honors
 Dr. Samuel Ghencian with High Honors
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 Dr. Michael George Gindi
 Dr. Joshua Matthew Gleason
 Dr. Jaskaren Gohal
 Dr. Ariana Candace Goldstein
 Dr. Jonathan Gomez
 Dr. Jonathan Gomez
 Dr. Ashley Summer Goodwin with
 Highest Honors
 Dr. Natalie Danielle Gordon with High Honors
 Dr. Salvatore Anthony Grasso
 Dr. Jehovany Edward Gratia
 Dr. Andrea Green with High Honors
 Dr. John Thomas Greenfield
 Dr. Gilda-Rae Grell
 Dr. Christopher John Grenz
 Dr. Christopher Eric Grippo with Honors
 Dr. Yana Davidovna Gristan with High Honors
 Dr. Merna Guirguis
 Dr. Siddhant Gupta with High Honors
 Dr. Elvis Emil Guzman with High Honors
 Dr. Mena Fayez Habib Morcos
 Dr. Aarash Habibi with Highest Honors
 Dr. William Louis Hall with High Honors
 Dr. Erin Elizabeth Hall
 Dr. Rewaida Hall with High Honors
 Dr. Mohamad Talal Hamade
 Dr. Michal Leigh Hammond with
 Highest Honors
 Dr. Christopher Paul Hammond
 Dr. Vincent Najah Hannosh
 Dr. Jaclyn Marie Hansen
 Dr. Mitchell Dean Hare with Honors
 Dr. Abishek Hariharan

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Dr. Sarah Louise Harper
Dr. Ryan Hartle with High Honors
Dr. Farhad Ahmad Hashmi
Dr. Shawn Wesley Haynes
Dr. Akash Dayasagar Hazari with High Honors
Dr. Travis Carl Helberg with Highest Honors
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Dr. Nathan Alexander Hicks
Dr. Brian James Hillary
Dr. Brett Carl Hinsley
Dr. Su Myat Hlaing
Dr. Raymond Elliot Ho
Dr. Ryan Anthony Holbrook
Dr. Timothy Eugene Hollowed
Dr. Justin Alvarez Holmes
Dr. Jennifer Lydia Horawski
Dr. Bobby Terrell Houston
Dr. Timothy Hsu
Dr. Eric S Hsu
Dr. Maria Elizabeth Huaranga
Dr. Jessica Kate Hudson with Highest Honors
Dr. Eric Blaine Hummel
Dr. Jonathan David Hund
Dr. Rahbia Hussein
Dr. Thanh Cong Huynh
Dr. Caleb Alan Hyde with Highest Honors
Dr. Chukwuemeka Igwe with High Honors
Dr. Fady Ikladious
Dr. Oludolapo Oyetola Ilori
Dr. Farwa Ilyas with Honors
Dr. Marialla Inoyatov
Dr. Kerelos Magdy Isac
Dr. Lincoln Islam
Dr. Osman Ismaeel
Dr. Saat Imade Itaman-Gallien
Dr. Karishma Iyer with High Honors
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Dr. Roshan Jacob
Dr. Rachel Ivey Jacobs
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Dr. Abhijeet Joshi
Dr. Marek Jucovic
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Dr. Amira Sneha Kamboj
Dr. Joshua James Kaminski with High Honors
Dr. David Young Kang
Dr. Habibullah Karimi
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Dr. Sarah Michelle Kaufman
Dr. Gurwinder Kaur
Dr. Jasmine Kaur
Dr. Lakhvir Kaur with Highest Honors
Dr. Chelsae Patricia Keeney
Dr. Akinwunmi Michael Kehinde
Dr. Noor M Ketana with High Honors
Dr. Mustafa Hani Khalaf with Honors
Dr. Amir Arshad Khalil with Highest Honors
Dr. Amrit Kaur Khalsa
Dr. Navid Khamooshi with High Honors
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Dr. Faraad Khan
Dr. Muzaffar Mohammed Khan
Dr. Noreen Amber Khan
Dr. Irfan Khan
Dr. Manisha Khanal
Dr. Sonya Khimani
Dr. Nida A Khokhar with High Honors
Dr. Waleed Shaheen Khokher with
Highest Honors
Dr. Nakisa Chantel Acosta Kiai
Dr. Cheyenne Kidder with Highest Honors
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Dr. Christian Roberto Leurinda
Dr. Brian Ting-Cheung Li
Dr. Autumn Lindsay
Dr. Daniel Yang Liu
Dr. Kuang Chuen Liu
Dr. Amina Lleshi with High Honors
Dr. Madeline Elaine Lodeiro with
Highest Honors
Dr. Rabeea Rafiq Lodhra
Dr. Angela Briyanka Lowe
Dr. Kenneth Luberic
Dr. Bea Sheridan Lucas
Dr. Sparghai Sahar Ludin
Dr. Sabra Simindra Luke
Dr. Ariana Marie Lundquist with Honors
Dr. Bailin Luo
Dr. Hillery Anna Lutzow
Dr. Rafael Vidal Rosacia Macaraeg
Dr. Tommy Macias
Dr. Raffaele Angelo Macri
Dr. Ryan Peyton Maddox
Dr. George Micheal Madkour
Dr. Thamara Magloire
Dr. Sujeivan Mahendram
Dr. Andrew Mahesan
Dr. Esha Mahmood
Dr. Faraz Mahmood
Dr. Olabisi Makanjuola with Highest Honors
Dr. Antony Vincent Mancheril
Dr. Joshua Nasen Maniam
Dr. Arawins Andrew Manoharan with
High Honors
Dr. Nadia Manzoor
Dr. Arilda Margjoni
Dr. Iris Grisselle Marin Rivera
Dr. Gibson Henry Marsenat
Dr. Shemika Martin
Dr. Justin Michael Martin-Whitlock
Dr. Anthony Michael Martz
Dr. Robert Paul Mas
Dr. Ramez Adel Massoud with High Honors
Dr. James Mathew
Dr. Saman Matti
Dr. Namita Kaur Mattu with High Honors

Dr. Christopher Lance Mayfield
Dr. Sanoara Mazid
Dr. Odera Ogugua Mbanugo
Dr. Yvonne Sarah Adjua Mbinda
Dr. Eric Ngalle Mbua
Dr. James Daniel McCafferty
Dr. Jason McDonald
Dr. Jennifer Leigh McDougall
Dr. Amir McPhearson
Dr. Cykeithia Sharona Mcpherson
Dr. Richard Medina Perez
Dr. Serguei Medvedev with Highest Honors
Dr. Akanksha Mehla
Dr. Joshua Daniel Mejia
Dr. Ana Maria Mejia Cardenas
Dr. Faizan Memon
Dr. Christian Manuel Mendez with
Highest Honors
Dr. Omar Mohammad Merchant
Dr. Bryan D Merckel
Dr. Asima Tabasum Mian
Dr. Zachary Milcawich
Dr. Leah Nicole Miller
Dr. Colee Michelle Mitchell
Dr. Sadio Ahmed Mohamed
Dr. Fahma Osman Mohamed
Dr. Nazira Mojadidi
Dr. Angela Maria Montoya with Highest Honors
Dr. Patrick Devins Mooney
Dr. Matthew Carlton Gordon Morgan
Dr. Elizabeth A Morrison with High Honors
Dr. Makenzie Rhea Morrissey with
Highest Honors
Dr. Kelsey Lynn Mowery
Dr. Mashrur Moyeed
Kurt Mintlow Dr. Josephine Moyo
Dr. Makayla Grace Mozey
Dr. Dwaipayana Muhuri
Dr. Michael Alejandro Munoz with Honors
Dr. Aye Aye Myint with Highest Honors
Dr. Saadia Bibi Nabi
Dr. Suchitra Nair
Dr. Abhijeet Satish Namjoshi
Dr. Nafisah Serwari Naqvi
Dr. Areeba Nasir Zamar
Dr. Arezou Nazary
Dr. Jean-Yves Reshad Nazroo with
Highest Honors
Dr. Claudius Ndifon Ndigamkong
Dr. Dilasha Neupane

Dr. Kedon Arthur Newton
 Dr. Karl K Ng
 Dr. Vincent Trung Huu Ngo with
 Highest Honors
 Dr. Doan Vo-Bao Nguyen
 Dr. Jimmy Ta Nguyen with Highest Honors
 Dr. Ifesinachi Celestina Nnaji
 Dr. Crystal Williams Nock
 Dr. Benjamin O Nolasco
 Dr. Soroush Nomigolzar with High Honors
 Dr. Robert Kenneth Novak
 Dr. Thomas Forbah-Sama Nubong
 Dr. Tatiana Nunez
 Dr. Kelechi Udodi Nwabara with High Honors
 Dr. Agnes Emilie Nyeck
 Dr. Beverly Nyokabi
 Dr. Chidimma Erimma Nzeh
 Dr. Jessica Ekomerei Obi
 Dr. Kelly O'Boyle
 Dr. Ivory Gray Ochoa
 Dr. Victoria Odeleye with Highest Honors
 Dr. Brentwood M Oftedal
 Dr. Stephen Sigungu Ogwang
 Dr. Kasiemobi Bernice Okonkwo
 Dr. Amarachukwu Nnenna Okoye with
 Highest Honors
 Dr. Yuliya Olifer
 Dr. Foluwakemi Omololu Olufehinti
 Dr. Burcu Onbasi
 Dr. Ephraim Chinenyeze Opara
 Dr. Matthew Evan Osborn with Highest Honors
 Dr. Brenton Kyle Otey
 Dr. Eugide K Othepa
 Dr. Stephanie Chidinma Otuwa
 Dr. Jason Oum with High Honors
 Dr. Maria Augusta Palacios
 Dr. Christine Enriquez Palmares
 Dr. Abdullah Panchbhaya
 Dr. Aneta W Panczak-Filip
 Dr. Emilin Pandian
 Dr. Deshanki Naishad Pandya
 Dr. Aseem Prakash Parasher
 Dr. Richard Grove Pardo with Honors
 Dr. Aisha Parihar
 Dr. Domonique Parkes
 Dr. Vrajesh Parmar
 Dr. Sara Dinnell Parmiter with Honors
 Dr. Dennis Paskal
 Dr. Nilesh Rajnikant Patel
 Dr. Deep Patel
 Dr. Mruna J Patel with High Honors
 Dr. Mallika Patel
 Dr. Mohini Ajay Patel
 Dr. Niyanta Himanshu Patel
 Dr. Ria Deepak Patel
 Dr. Parth Rajen Patel Honors
 Dr. Priya Patel
 Dr. Himax Patel with High Honors
 Dr. Kunjal Patel
 Dr. Priya Patel
 Dr. John Wesley Patresan
 Dr. Eric Riley Patten
 Dr. Taimi Perez
 Dr. Giselle Perez
 Dr. Jesse Perez
 Dr. Tommy Duong Pham
 Dr. Jimmy Phan
 Dr. Caleb Wayne Phillips with Highest Honors
 Dr. Myat Phyoo
 Dr. Conlan Joseph Pierce
 Dr. Yeoshina Pillay
 Dr. Anthony Poles
 Dr. Christopher Luis Polonio
 Dr. Ektor Polykandriotis
 Dr. Desmond Recardo Ponder
 Dr. Anand Pooleri with Honors
 Dr. Catherine Porras
 Dr. Erica Marie Potts
 Dr. Lina Pourmehar
 Dr. Joshua Blake Powell
 Dr. Meagan Brandy Powers with
 Highest Honors
 Dr. Brianna Lindsay Probasco
 Dr. Luv Purohit
 Dr. Miriam Emad Quinlan
 Dr. John Joseph Quinlan with Highest Honors
 Dr. Alexander Gregory Garnett Quinn with
 Highest Honors
 Dr. Brady Lawerence Radmall
 Dr. Danny Yaspaal Ram
 Dr. Monica Ramaswamy
 Dr. Jose Carlos Ramos
 Dr. Oswald Alejandro Ramos Tuarez
 Dr. Haris Ali Rana
 Dr. Simranjit Singh Randhawa
 Dr. Rohit Rangroo with High Honors
 Dr. Mohammad Rao
 Dr. Shoaib Rashid
 Dr. Rakin Muhammad Rashid
 Dr. Samantha Ratnayake with High Honors

Dr. Raghav Anjan Ravuri
 Dr. Keirsten Michelle Reilly
 Dr. Isaac Reinherz
 Dr. Dixie Bettel Reinoso
 Dr. Brian Renner
 Dr. Katherine Paige Reyburn
 Dr. Nader Magdy Rezkalla
 Dr. Oleg Edward Reznik with High Honors
 Dr. Nathan Richards
 Dr. Rasheeda Shaakira Rickman with High Honors
 Dr. Christopher Jon Rider
 Dr. Jarryd Rivera with Honors
 Dr. Jose Daniel Rivera Robles
 Dr. Kayla Shereece Robinson with Highest Honors
 Dr. Vanessa Carolina Rodriguez Fuenmayor with Highest Honors
 Dr. Alexandra Esther Rodriguez-Perez
 Dr. David Leigh Roehrich
 Dr. Marianela Rosales Gerpe with High Honors
 Dr. Desmond Munnerlyn Rowe with High Honors
 Dr. Ariana Ruiz Sanchez
 Dr. Alejandro Ruiz-Castaneda
 Dr. Gohar Rundhawa with High Honors
 Dr. Danny Drew Russell with High Honors
 Dr. Yousaf Saeed
 Dr. Nana Safoaah
 Dr. Amit Kumar Sah with High Honors
 Dr. Marc-Edwin Gabriel Saint-Louis
 Dr. Michael Olanrewaju Salako
 Dr. Mario Antonio Saldana with High Honors
 Dr. Kanwar Prabhjot Sandhu
 Dr. Manbir Kaur Sandhu
 Dr. Michael Sandhu with Highest Honors
 Dr. Christopher Marsh Sangster with Highest Honors
 Dr. Elio Santo
 Dr. Marianna Sarkissyan
 Dr. Kaviya Sathyakumar
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 Dr. Monica Segura with High Honors
 Dr. Harvey Sekhon with Highest Honors
 Dr. Amara Shafi
 Dr. Moksha Shah
 Dr. Zainab Syeda Shah
 Dr. Shahzeb Shaheen
 Dr. Maryam Shaheen
 Dr. Anjali Kala Shahi
 Dr. Elika Shahkamrani
 Dr. Moomal Shaikh
 Dr. Sufyan Adnan Shaikh
 Dr. Mehek Shaikh
 Dr. Sanskriti Sharma
 Dr. Namgyal Phurba Sherpa with High Honors
 Dr. Monica Shifman with Highest Honors
 Dr. Salem Shihadeh
 Dr. Keisha Crystal Short
 Dr. Prabina Shrestha
 Dr. Brandon Shun
 Dr. Peter Siclari
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 Dr. Parneeta Singh
 Dr. Rajvinder Singh
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 Dr. Chanpreet Singh
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 Dr. Ranbir Singh
 Dr. Amandeep Singh
 Dr. Brianna Lynn Skrzypcak
 Dr. Mohammed Sleiman
 Dr. Rebecca Elizabeth Smidy
 Dr. Wilson T. Smith
 Dr. Robert Alexander Smith
 Dr. Nicole Cedar Smith with Highest Honors
 Dr. Maria Manuela Snyder with High Honors
 Dr. Corey Aaron Snyder with High Honors
 Dr. Caroline Song
 Dr. Carly Renee Soo
 Dr. Sam Scott Sorrentino with Highest Honors
 Dr. Amira Mahadie Soubiane
 Dr. Melissa F Sparacio
 Dr. Gergana Stancheva with Highest Honors
 Dr. Robert Logan Staples with High Honors
 Dr. Ahja Dominique Steele
 Dr. Martin Christopher Steele with High Honors
 Dr. Ryan Jason Stempniak with High Honors
 Dr. Jessica Michelle Stephens
 Dr. Alexandra Erinn Stiegler with High Honors
 Dr. Frank Anthony Strnad
 Dr. Blake Michael Studer with Highest Honors
 Dr. Shruthi Vinayaga Subramaniam
 Dr. Anita Meenakshi Subramanian
 Dr. Christina Sugirtharaj
 Dr. Mark Fru Sullendefru
 Dr. Khurram Karim Surani
 Dr. Chetana Suresh

Dr. Shadi Swaidani
 Dr. Ganesh Subrahmanya Swamy
 Dr. Sean Walter Swerdan
 Dr. Semeon Bruke Tadesse with
 Highest Honors
 Dr. Ronak Harish Tailor
 Dr. Isaac Olabode Taiwo
 Dr. Steven Tan
 Dr. Gokhan Emre Taskale
 Dr. Brian Austin Taylor
 Dr. Jaquellah L Taylor
 Dr. Asa Ali Thompson
 Dr. Aprylle Meshia-Gail Thompson
 Dr. Ryan Thompson
 Dr. Georgina Alejandra Toledo with
 Highest Honors
 Dr. Ly Thao Ton
 Dr. Adrian Rivera Torbela
 Dr. Ivonne Marie Torres Baez
 Dr. Tyler J Torrico
 Dr. Phong T Tran
 Dr. Nafissatou Traore
 Dr. Nguwah Tun
 Dr. Priscilla Tutu
 Dr. Priyana Tweet
 Dr. Sayam Fawad Uddin
 Dr. Virginia Amanda Ulloa
 Dr. Maxwell J Uschuk
 Dr. Samuel Chukwumdikey Uzosike
 with Honors
 Dr. Marcos Eduardo Valentin with
 Highest Honors
 Dr. Grace Kelly Vallejo
 Dr. Amy Van
 Dr. Tyler Vanadurongvan with Highest Honors
 Dr. Matthew Nishan Vartanian
 Dr. Larry Jovan Vazquez
 Dr. Shamili Krishna Vemulapalli
 Dr. Denisse Viamonte with Highest Honors
 Dr. Erika Vigandt
 Dr. Nilesh Karam Vir Virmani with Honors
 Dr. Alyssa Marie Vitale
 Dr. Samantha Vouyiouklis
 Dr. Quan Minh Vu
 Dr. Chiraag Rajesh Vyas
 Dr. Natasha Vyas with High Honors
 Dr. Samira Hina Waheed
 Dr. Ato Tafarra Wallace
 Dr. Huijuan Wang with Highest Honors
 Dr. Ashley Renay Way
 Dr. Andrew Frank Westfall with Highest Honors
 Dr. Sandra Apeksha Wijekularatne
 Dr. Edward Lee Williams
 Dr. Stanley Williams
 Dr. Whitney Nicole Williams
 Dr. Whitney Denise Wills
 Dr. Christian Heinrich Wirtz
 Dr. Nashua Wisdom
 Dr. Christopher Martin Woodard with
 Highest Honors
 Dr. Andrea Zijing Wu
 Dr. Gregory Wu
 Dr. Cheng Ying Wu with High Honors
 Dr. Hsiang-yi Wu
 Dr. Ornogeah Wurah with High Honors
 Dr. Arpita Singh Yadav
 Dr. Ziran Yang
 Dr. Mehdi Yavari
 Dr. Majid Yavari
 Dr. Fiteh Kinde Yelekal
 Dr. Yunjoo Yim
 Dr. Michael S. You
 Dr. Kate Ingrid Young
 Dr. Andrew Vincent Yurkonis with
 Highest Honors
 Dr. Anisha Zaman
 Dr. Zachary Daniel Zarzour
 Dr. Yanling Zheng
 Dr. Nothando Zibanayi
 Dr. Sarah Marie Zito
 Dr. Julia Zorko

The 2020 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, May 1, 2020. Students cleared on, or after Friday, May 1, 2020 may participate in the 2020 Commencement Ceremony without the Honors distinction noted. However, the Honors distinction should be noted for these students in the 2021 Commencement Ceremony, should they qualify for it.

Student Commencement Speaker

Rida Jamal, MD' 20



Surviving Hurricane Maria and a semester at sea, Rida Jamal, MD'20, is well armed to share her perspective of life at Ross University School of Medicine to her graduating class in mid-May. "It is truly an honor. I feel like our journey is so unique – the hurricane, studying on a ship and then being thrust into rotations – it will be fun to retell."

Experiences on the Caribbean island of Dominica and working a rotation in New York when COVID-19 hit will give Rida the edge needed to begin her internal medicine residency in the intensive care unit at Ascension St. John Hospital, Detroit, in July.

"I was in a pathology rotation when COVID began so I didn't have any direct patient contact," Rida said, describing the temperament shift during her last two weeks. "There was a lot of fear because of the uncertainty."

But now that she's no longer a student, the front-line view has changed. "I am excited to put my knowledge and skills to use even though starting residency during a global pandemic is not an ideal situation for learning. Still, I can't wait to provide even a little relief to all the physicians who have been fighting tirelessly thus far."

Born in Pakistan and immigrating to Canada with her family as a toddler, the avid hiker and fiction reader wasn't sure of her career path. "Being a doctor was always in the back of my mind," especially when she recounted the stories from her mom who practiced medicine in Pakistan. "I liked science and helping people and it became the perfect fit – the best of both worlds."

Rida spent her first rotation in internal medicine and was immediately hooked, using it as the measuring bar for all other specialties. "You're a bit of a detective – you have a problem you're trying to solve and I appreciate the diagnostic approach behind it."

The second oldest of five children in her family, Rida said working clinicals was better than she ever imagined. "Each patient interaction is so unique and can change a person's life. To see it play out is great – it's all your hard work coming to fruition."

Over the last couple years, Rida has had some memorable patient connections. One teenage patient was deemed noncompliant with medications because of her age and immaturity. But Rida had a hunch there might be more to the diagnosis so she investigated further and ended up being right. "Sometimes you have to think outside the box. It was so gratifying to be that missing link."

During Rida's obstetrics rotation, she became the emotional support for a young woman in labor who came to the hospital alone. Over two shifts, Rida stood by her through labor and then performed the newborn check-up. "It was such a personal experience. To be a complete stranger 24 hours before and then to be part of one of the most important, intimate and memorable experiences of her life... that feeling is unparalleled. That's what I was talking about – that amazing patient connection."

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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.

Dr. Abdulla Alobaidi with High Honors
Dr. Ryan Anderson
Dr. Anna Axentiev
Dr. Sameera Baig with High Honors
Dr. Kirandeep Bains
Dr. Devin Scott Caugh
Dr. Mark Dedvukaj with Honors
Dr. Peter Egwom
Dr. Letty Elengical
Dr. Daniel Fadare
Dr. Savannah Milan Dewames Gowan
Dr. Erik Thomas Keim with Highest Honors

Dr. Kongmany Luangrath with Highest Honors
Dr. Peter De Mola
Dr. Victoria Odeleye with Highest Honors
Dr. Caleb Phillips
Dr. Meagan Powers
Dr. Kush Purohit
Dr. Armein Rahimpour
Dr. Jessica Stephens
Dr. Semeon Tadesse
Dr. Donna Zarandi with Highest Honors

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