

MarshallMD

For alumni & friends of the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine



MEET DEAN DAVID GOZAL

Dr. David Gozal has worked in countries around the world and brings a global perspective to his role as dean of Marshall University's School of Medicine.

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TAKE TWO...

Just after posing for a serious magazine cover photo, new Dean David Gozal and students show that even the arduous study of medicine has its lighthearted moments.





10 **THE FAMILY BUSINESS**

By Amy Deal

For two sets of brothers, practicing medicine and helping the next generation runs in the family.

14 **CITIZEN OF THE WORLD**

By Katherine Pyles

Dr. David Gozal brings his global humanitarian perspective and visionary leadership to Marshall as the new dean of the School of Medicine.

18 **DOCTORS AT THE STATE CAPITOL**

By Amanda Larch

The Dr. Paul Ambrose Health Policy Program at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine advances the ideals of service, stewardship and commitment.

21 **DR. CHUCK CLEMENTS**

By Dawn Nolan

At the age of 43, Dr. Clements enrolled in Marshall's medical school and later became the first faculty advisor for Marshall Medical Outreach.

24 **THE MAGIC OF ART & MEDICINE**

By Megan Archer

The Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine encourages aspiring physicians to be well-rounded as well as mentally and physically healthy. Meet medical alumni who use art as a creative outlet.

58 **STANDING OUT IN OUR FIELD**

Our annual scholarship fundraiser, Standing Out in Our Field hosted more than 500 guests in "Margaritaville." The event raised more than \$140,000 for the School of Medicine's student scholarship endowment.

In Every Issue

- 3 Foreword
- 4 President's Page
- 5 What's News
- 28 Go Boldly
- 31 Many Thanks
- 38 New Scholarships
- 41 Scholarship Recipients
- 45 Carrying On Tradition
- 49 Class Notes
- 54 In Memoriam
- 57 Near and Far
- 60 Homecoming 2023

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Marshall MD Magazine is distributed annually by:

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Huntington, WV 25701

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© 2024 by Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine

Designed & Published by:



HQ Publishing Co.
P.O. Box 384, Huntington, WV
304.529.6158 | www.hqpub.com

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If you have a story idea for the next issue of *MarshallMD*,
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The School of Medicine is on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and X. Follow
us to keep up on what's happening.

Foreword



We are embarking on a new chapter of opportunity for our medical school, one that remains laser focused on our long-standing mission of “fostering a skilled and dedicated physician workforce to meet the unique health care needs of West Virginia and Appalachia.” Now, in response to the evolving landscape of health care, we have integrated a targeted approach in the key areas of wellness necessary to meet this goal while promoting excellence and distinction.

- Addiction Medicine and Behavioral Health
- Gerontology and Healthy Aging
- Obesity and Diabetes
- Primary Care and Rural Health

Another major shift came in 2023 when we announced our integration with our primary teaching hospitals to form a true academic health system. While the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine remains a community-based medical school, this integration offers unique opportunities to grow our faculty and student bases, expand graduate medical education and pursue additional clinical trials and research opportunities, which you will read more about later in this publication.

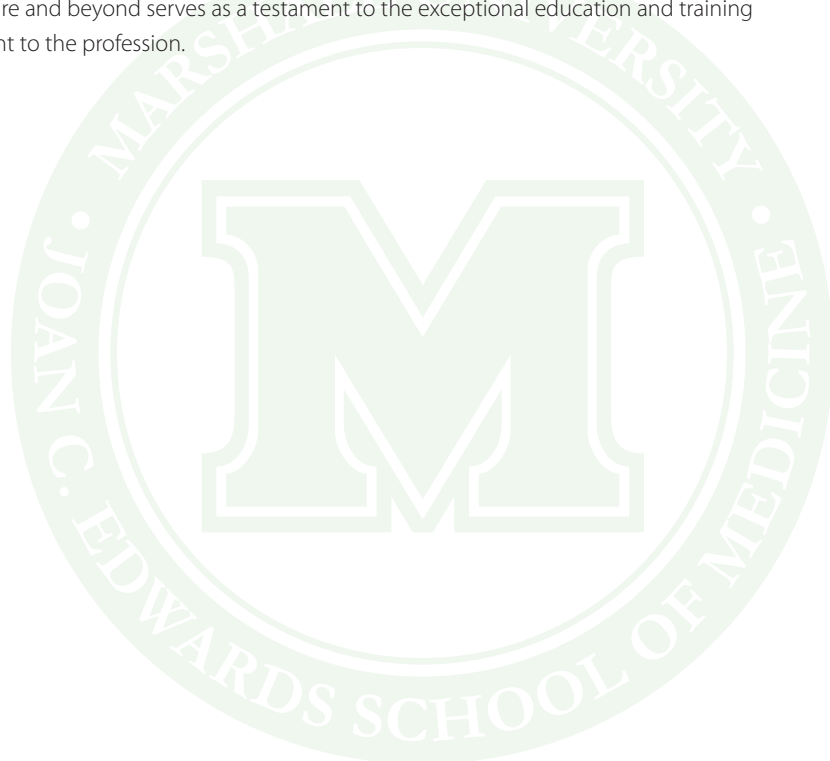
We envision Marshall University and the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine as leaders in providing the knowledge and skills necessary for the next generation of physicians. We are already seeing successes in our vertically-integrated pre-clinical and clinical curriculum implemented in 2020 with Step1 (97%) and Step2 (99%) first-time pass rates that surpass the national average. In the coming months and years, we will integrate innovative pairings of cybersecurity, health informatics and artificial intelligence (AI); social media and mass communications; and biomedical engineering learning platforms that benefit our medical and doctoral students alike, while offering unique career trajectories designed to fulfill the needs of the fast-evolving health care landscape.

Achieving these goals necessitates a commitment from our medical alumni — to engage, to lend expertise and to give. In my short time at Marshall, I have already had the privilege of meeting many of you. I am humbled by the depth of talent, passion and dedication that defines our graduates. Your impact on the field of medicine, health care and beyond serves as a testament to the exceptional education and training provided by our institution and your outstanding commitment to the profession.

Thank you for helping us write the next chapter of our story.

Warm regards,

David Gozal, MD, MBA, PhD (Hon)
Vice President of Health Affairs
Dean, Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine
Marshall University



President's Page



They say change is the only thing constant in life, and that's certainly true in medicine.

As I near the end of my term as president, I reflect on another year of transformative change and growth at our alma mater, I have a profound excitement for what's yet to come. Marshall is charting a path for future growth and working to implement a strategic roadmap that leads to a dynamic future for the university, our medical school and academic health system.

In July 2023, we welcomed Dr. David Gozal as the School of Medicine's sixth dean. Dr. Gozal brings a wealth of experience, passion and a vision for advancing medical education and research. Dr. Gozal is a distinguished leader in the field of pediatric pulmonology as well as a thought leader in business and innovation.

Not long after Dr. Gozal's arrival, we announced the formation of Marshall Health Network, a new integrated academic health system with our faculty practice plan, Marshall Health, and our long-time hospital partners — Cabell Huntington Hospital, St. Mary's Medical Center and Rivers Health.



As alumni, your continued support is pivotal in the School of Medicine's success. Your contributions, whether through mentorship, philanthropy or active participation in alumni events, have made a lasting impact. I invite you to join us in welcoming Dr. David Gozal to the Marshall family and to embrace the positive changes that lie ahead.

Change is not only about new leadership; it is a reflection of our collective commitment to growth and progress. Our School of Medicine has experienced significant advancements in medical research, technology and education, thanks to the dedication of our faculty, the accomplishments of our students and the ongoing support of alumni like you.

In the spirit of celebrating change and fostering growth, we encourage you to share your own stories of transformation and achievement. Whether you have navigated new frontiers in health care, pioneered groundbreaking research or taken on leadership roles that promote positive change, your experiences inspire and resonate with our students and alumni alike and make your Marshall family proud.

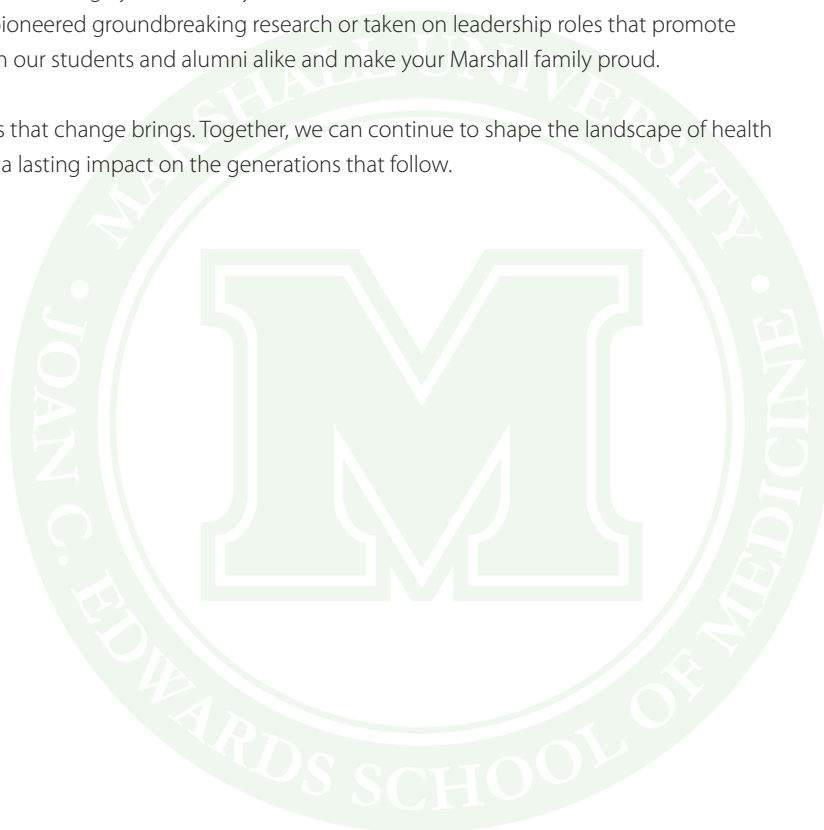
As we look to the future, I am excited about the possibilities that change brings. Together, we can continue to shape the landscape of health care in West Virginia, Appalachia and rural America, leaving a lasting impact on the generations that follow.

We Are Marshall!

Adam M. Franks, MD ('99)

President

Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine Alumni Association



What's News



MARSHALL RURAL PSYCHIATRY RESIDENCY EARNS INITIAL ACCREDITATION

A new collaborative, rural psychiatry residency between the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine and Rivers Health in Point Pleasant, West Virginia, earned initial accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME).

ACGME approved the four-year training program for four trainees per year with a full complement of 16 total residents once the program has been fully imple-

mented. While the program will recruit trainees to begin as early as July 2024, it will participate in the nationwide matching program for medical student applicants to begin in July 2025.

The program is sponsored by the Marshall Community Health Consortium, which is composed of the School of Medicine, Marshall Health, Cabell Huntington Hospital and Valley Health Systems, in collaboration with Holzer

Health System, Logan Regional Medical Center, Rivers Health and St. Mary's Medical Center.

A \$500,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) facilitated the planning and development of this program, which will be the nation's third separately accredited rural track program in general psychiatry.

RURAL INTERNAL MEDICINE RESIDENCY PLANNING UNDERWAY

The Marshall Community Health Consortium received an additional \$750,000 HRSA grant to support the planning and development of a three-year rural internal medicine residency program. This program, in collaboration with Holzer Health System in Gallipolis, Ohio, and the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, is working to create a pipeline of primary care physicians specifically trained to serve rural communities.

Residents will spend their initial year of training in Huntington and the subsequent two years at Holzer Health

System, addressing health care barriers unique to rural areas. Initial accreditation is expected in 2025, with the inaugural internal medicine residents commencing their training in July 2026.

Marshall University's receipt of multiple, significant HRSA grants underscores a significant commitment to address health care disparities in rural regions, positioning Marshall University as a key player in developing innovative residency programs that bolster the health care workforce and meet the specific needs of underserved rural communities.

66

The Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine and the Consortium now host a combined 28 residency and fellowship programs.

99



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE MARKS INAUGURAL PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT GRADUATION

Master of Medical Science degrees were awarded to the 25 inaugural graduates of Marshall's physician assistant program during a ceremony on April 28, 2023.

The 28-month program was established in 2018 in response to increased

demand for physician assistants across the nation's health care workforce. The School of Medicine welcomed its first class in January 2021. Paulome Srivastava, president of the class of 2023, delivered remarks, and members of the Pi Alpha Honor Society inductees were recognized.

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY AND INTERMED LABS KICK OFF PARTNERSHIP

Marshall University, Marshall Health Network and the West Virginia-based medical technology company, Intermed Labs, are developing opportunities to conceive, launch and scale new enterprises to advance health care.

"This collaboration demonstrates the power of us through interdisciplinary relationships across health care, innovation, entrepreneurship and advanced manufacturing," said Marshall University

President Brad D. Smith.

Two clinician scientists at the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, Ali Oliashirazi, MD, professor and chair of orthopaedic surgery, and M'Hamed Turki, MD, a gastroenterology fellow, are currently engaged in two separate projects that are focused on their specialty areas of medicine.

"As we build a go-to-market strategy and platform for innovative health care and life science products originating from Marshall Health Network, our health professionals can feel confident that they have an entire system of people to support their innovative ideas for the improvement of patient care," said Kevin W. Yingling, RPh, MD, CEO of Marshall Health Network. "Idea generation to implementation is something Marshall Health



Dr. Tom McClellan, CEO and founder of Intermed Labs, and Dr. M'Hamed Turki, a gastroenterology fellow at the School of Medicine, test Dr. Turki's invention on a mannequin.



Leaders from Marshall Health Network, Mon Health, Intermed Labs, Marshall University and the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine during a launch event on Nov. 17, 2023.

Network strongly believes in, and we are pleased to serve as a living lab for these great ideas to come to fruition."

"This partnership underscores our commitment to staying at the forefront of change. We look forward to a dynamic partnership that will leave a lasting impact on the landscape of health care in West Virginia," said Tom McClellan, MD, CEO and founder, Intermed Labs.

MARSHALL FORMS INTEGRATED ACADEMIC HEALTH SYSTEM

In fall 2023, Marshall University, Marshall Health and Mountain Health Network announced the official formation of Marshall Health Network, Inc., an integrated academic health system with Marshall University's Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine.

Mountain Health Network has been renamed Marshall Health Network. Its four hospitals: Cabell Huntington Hospital, St. Mary's Medical Center, Hoops Family Children's Hospital and Rivers Health; ambula-



Medical students with university and health system leaders during the community launch event on October 17, 2023.

tory facilities, medical offices and employed physician practices; along

with Marshall Health physician practice and its facilities now comprise Marshall Health Network.

The formation of the system drives the delivery of high-quality multidisciplinary care, provides a forum for training the next generation of health care providers and advances research opportunities aimed at improving the health and wellness of patients and communities across West

Virginia and the bordering states of Kentucky and Ohio.

Research

STUDY IDENTIFIES NEW FINDINGS ON IMPLANT POSITIONING AND STABILITY DURING ROBOTIC-ASSISTED KNEE REVISION SURGERY

An innovative study at Marshall University published in *Arthroplasty Today* explores the use of robotic-assisted joint replacement in revision knee scenarios, comparing the pre- and post-revision implant positions in a series of revision total knee arthroplasties (TKA) using a state-of-the-art robotic arm system.

In this retrospective study, the orthopaedic team at the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine and Marshall Health performed 25 revision knee replacements with a robotic assisted computer

system. The procedure involved placing new implants at the end of the thighbone and top of the shinbone with the computer's aid to ensure the knee was stable and balanced throughout the range of motion. Researchers then carefully compared the initial positions of the primary implants with the final planned positions of the robotic revision implants for each patient, assessing the differences in millimeters and degrees.

The analysis found that exceedingly small changes in implant position significantly influence the function of the knee

replacement. Robotic assistance during revision surgery has the potential to measure these slight differences. In addition, the computer system can help the surgeon predict what size implant to use as well as help to balance the knee for stability.

The study underscores the importance of aligning the prosthesis during revision surgery. The research also suggests potential advantages, including appropriately sized implants that can impact the ligament tension which is crucial for functional knee revisions.

NEW CLINICAL TRIAL AIMS TO IMPROVE POLYP DETECTION DURING COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENINGS

A clinical trial underway at Marshall University uses advanced medical device technology coupled with Computer-Aided Detection (CADe) systems, a form of artificial intelligence (AI), to reduce the risk of missed polyps, or lesions, during colonoscopy procedures.

Gastroenterologists at the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine are investigating the combined

use of Endocuff, a device attached to a colonoscope — the long, flexible tube with a small camera at the end used during a colonoscopy — and a CADe system that leverages AI to enhance accuracy in identifying abnormalities. Both devices have individually shown promise in improving colon lesion detection and patient safety during colonoscopies, but this is the first study that combines the use of both

tools in a single trial in the United States.

The randomized controlled trial, registered under NCT06116864, aims to improve adenoma and polyp detection rates. Colorectal cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer-related deaths in men and women in the United States. Early detection through colorectal cancer screenings is essential for timely intervention and improved patient outcomes.

Retiring Faculty

The School of Medicine recognizes the valuable contributions of the following faculty members who have retired since June 30, 2023.

Donald A. Primerano, PhD	<i>Professor, Biomedical Sciences</i>	December 1, 1988 - June 30, 2023
Charles L. Yarbrough, MD	<i>Professor and Inaugural Chair, Dermatology</i>	August 1, 2014 – September 22, 2023
Charles W. Clements, MD ('93)	<i>Professor, Family and Community Health</i>	July 17, 1999 – August 15, 2023
Nancy J. Munn, MD	<i>Professor, Internal Medicine</i>	July 10, 1983 – June 30, 2023
Norman C. Cottrill, DO	<i>Assistant Professor, Pediatrics</i>	January 1, 1998 – June 30, 2023
Subrat K. Lahiry, MD	<i>Professor, Surgery</i>	August 1, 2001 – July 14, 2023

Accolades

2023 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS

Created in 2011, the Distinguished Alumni Award is presented to a School of Medicine alumnus/a in recognition of their contributions through their demonstrated continued interest and support of the medical school and its students and/or excelling in their given specialty in the areas of medical science and education. The award is given at the annual homecoming banquet.

Greg Rosencrance, MD, FACP, serves as the president and chief executive officer of Thomas Hospitals within the WVU Medicine Health System. Prior to this role, he was the president of the Cleveland Clinic Indian River Hospital in Vero Beach, Florida, where he led more than 2,500 caregivers and focused on improving quality, safety and patient experience.

Originally from Charleston, West Virginia, Dr. Rosencrance earned his undergraduate degree from West Virginia University and his medical degree from Marshall University. He completed his residency in internal medicine at Charleston Area Medical Center (CAMC),



Greg Rosencrance, MD, FACP

where he spent more than two decades, holding various leadership positions.

Throughout his career, Dr. Rosencrance has been involved in medical education and professional organizations, including serving as a past governor of the West Virginia chapter of the American College of Physicians. He has received several awards for his contributions to internal medicine and has authored numerous publications and presentations.

Dr. Rosencrance and his wife, Jackie, have two children and three grandchildren. His dedication to healthcare administration and patient care continues to make a positive impact in the field.

2023 HONORARY ALUMNUS

This special honor is presented annually at the investiture ceremony to an individual who is not a graduate of the School of Medicine but has most exemplified distinguished service to our school and/or the medical community we serve.

The distinguished career of Stephen M. Petrany, MD, spans three decades of dedicated service to Marshall University, where he has been a steadfast advocate for health policy, rural medicine, and the underserved.

As a board-certified family medicine physician, Dr. Petrany has played a pivotal role in shaping the landscape of health care at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. Since assuming the position of Professor and Chair of the Department of Family & Community Health in 2014, he has been instrumental in fostering unprecedented growth in outreach, health policy, and rural medicine initiatives. Under his leadership, the department has flourished, witnessing the establishment of the Division of Addiction Sciences — a testament to Marshall Health's commitment to addressing the addiction crisis.

Dr. Petrany's journey at Marshall University began in 1988, following six years of practice in Ohio and Connecticut. His tenure has been marked by successive roles, including serving as the family medicine residency program director for 15 years before assuming leadership positions such as associate chair for medical education and eventually chair of the department. Throughout his career, Dr. Petrany has remained dedicated to expanding access to health-

care in West Virginia and Appalachia. He has lent his expertise as medical director of Ebenezer Medical Outreach, a free clinic catering to uninsured and underinsured patients, and has been a driving force behind initiatives like PROACT, aimed at providing comprehensive addiction care and treatment solutions.

Recognized for his exemplary teaching abilities, Dr. Petrany has left an indelible mark on medical education. His legendary EKG lectures and commitment to student success have earned him accolades such as the American Medical Student Association Golden Apple Award for teaching and the inaugural Dean's Award for Excellence in Education. Additionally, he has pioneered innovative educational tracks in International Health, Wilderness Medicine, and Health Policy, setting new standards in medical education.

In 2024, Dr. Petrany transitioned from his role as department chair to assume the position of vice dean of addiction sciences and recovery. In this new capacity, Dr. Petrany is working to integrate addiction science efforts across Marshall Health Network and facilitate collaboration throughout the university to best address the complexities of substance use disorder and recovery efforts.



SOM Alumni Association President Adam M. Franks, MD ('99), presents the 2023 Honorary Alumnus Award to his mentor, boss and friend, Dr. Stephen M. Petrany.

2023 SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Created by the Marshall University Alumni Association in 2012, this award is given to a school of medicine graduate who best represents the mission of the school and brings pride to the medical school through their personal and professional lives. This award is presented during the Marshall University Alumni Association's annual awards banquet.

Dr. Robert J. "Rob" Cure, MD, is a respected figure in the medical community known for his commitment to health care and philanthropy. Originally from Gary, West Virginia, he graduated from Mount View High School before pursuing a medical degree at Marshall University, which he earned in 1998.

After completing his medical education, Dr. Cure specialized in diagnostic radiology, completing his residency at the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta and becoming board certified in the field. He returned to West Virginia in 2003 to join Radiology Inc., providing radiology services at Marshall Health Network's hospitals. Additionally, he serves as chief of the department of radiology at Three Rivers Medical Center in Louisa, Kentucky.

Dr. Cure has also been active with his alma mater, serving as president of the School of Medicine Alumni Association from 2020 to 2022 and co-chairing the 2023 Standing Out In Our Field fundraiser with his wife, Suzanne. Further, he and Suzanne, established an endowed scholarship at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine in 2022 in memory of his parents, Sid & Maria

Cure, to support students from southern West Virginia.

Dr. Cure's career and philanthropic efforts reflect his dedication to advancing healthcare and supporting medical education. The Cures currently reside in Barboursville, where they continue to make a positive impact on their community.



Left to right: Dr. Bobby Miller ('98), vice dean of medical education; Dr. Rob Cure ('98), 2023 Alumnus of Distinction; and Matt James, Marshall University executive director of alumni relations.

2023 FACULTY CHOICE AWARD

This honor is presented by the SOM Alumni Association to the most outstanding fourth-year medical student as selected by the faculty.

Joseph A. Chirico, MD, is a Huntington, West Virginia, native who earned his undergraduate degree in political science from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville.

Dr. Chirico demonstrated leadership throughout medical school by serving as a peer mentor for medical students and Project PREMED, president of the Radiology and Neurosurgery Interest Groups, secretary of the prestigious Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society, treasurer and founding member of the West Virginia State Medical Association's Medical Student Section Governing Council and served as the secretary-treasurer of the association's school of medicine chapter. He was also one of six house leaders for the School of Medicine's designated learning communities. Dr. Chirico was also recognized with honors for four years of community service during medical school.

He is currently completing a transitional year at OhioHealth-Riverside Methodist in Columbus, Ohio, followed by a Diagnostic Radiology residency at the University of Maryland Medical Center in Baltimore, Maryland.



Director of Development & Alumni Affairs Linda S. Holmes presents the 2023 Faculty Choice Award to Dr. Chirico during the Senior Awards Brunch.

The *Family* BUSINESS

For the Anton and Kowalski families, practicing medicine runs in the family. Learn how eight brothers who graduated from the medical school are helping the next generation.

By Amy Deal

Asking if there is a doctor in the house when visiting the Anton or Kowalski families might cause heads to turn, several in fact. So, you'll have to be more specific. Do you need a cardiologist, a radiologist, an ophthalmologist, or a dermatologist? That's right, all four of the Anton brothers and four of the five Kowalski brothers are doctors. While that alone is an impressive accomplishment, what makes it even more impressive is that all eight doctors graduated from Marshall University's Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine.

After graduation, the brothers could have simply forgotten about their medical school days and immersed themselves in their practices. Thankfully, they were

“We have all been very blessed in life and just wanted to share some of that with others by giving back.”

— Michael Anton, Class of 1999

raised to give back, serve and remember where they came from. With that in mind, both families have created scholarships at the medical school in the hope of not only giving back but also helping alleviate some of the financial burden for future medical students.

The Anton's endowed scholarship, the Dr. Charles Joseph and Mary Louise Anton Scholarship, was created by Drs. Robert Anton, ('89), John Anton, ('92), Christopher Anton, ('93) and Michael Anton, ('99). Their father was a radiologist for more than 20 years and even though he never placed any expectations on his sons

to pursue a career in medicine, all four Anton brothers chose to follow in his footsteps and become radiologists. In addition, their



Dr. Charles and Mrs. Mary Anton

mother was actively involved in the Huntington community. Her involvement and their father's love of engaging with the students at the medical school led to the idea of the scholarship and the hope that their parent's legacy would live on.

Michael Anton sums it up, "We have all been very blessed in life and just wanted to share some of that with others by giving back while honoring our parents at the same time."

John Anton adds that in addition to giving back to the medical school he finds other ways to make a difference. "I try to give back in other ways by sponsoring charitable causes and donating time to help the needy, and that is something I try to instill in my children."

When asked why he chose to follow his father's career path, Chris Anton believes radiology plays a significant role in health care. "I think I chose radiology because radiology was very interesting to me and plays a vital role in patient care assisting with the diagnosis of injuries and diseases."

The Kowalski's endowed scholarship, the Kowalski Family Scholarship, was created by Drs. David Kowalski, ('87), Joseph Kowalski, ('84), Paul Kowalski, ('84), and Bruce Kowalski, ('91). The scholarship was created in the hopes of giving back and to help students who, like themselves, come from families that may not



The Anton brothers — Chris, John, Bob, Mike — all followed in their father's footsteps and went into radiology.



The Kowalski brothers — Joe, Paul, David, Kurt, Bruce — seen here with their mother Kay.

be able to help with expenses.

Bruce, the youngest of the Kowalski brothers, recalls his friend's parents who supported and nurtured him while his parents worked. The parents of Bill Noe, the namesake of Marshall's flight school, both had an impact on him, as did the mother of Jack Houvouras, president of HQ Publishing Co. Bruce is now mentoring a friend's daughter who is working on applying to medical school. He sees mentoring as rewarding and believes that giving back is a responsibility.

"What's the purpose of having the means to help people if you don't act on it?" Bruce asks. "If you don't give back to those who need help then what's it all about, right? I think my brothers feel the same way. We want to help in any way we can."

His brother David agrees. "The Kowalski brothers feel privileged

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**What's the purpose of
having the means to
help people if you don't
act on it? I think my
brothers feel the same
way. We want to help in
any way we can.**

— Bruce Kowalski, Class of 1991

that Marshall gave us each the opportunity to study medicine and have fulfilling and successful careers as physicians. Because of that, we wanted to give back to Marshall to provide future doctors with some financial assistance through the Kowalski Family Scholarship."

According to Linda Holmes, Director of Development and Alumni Affairs at the medical school, to have two families where all siblings pursuing medical degrees went to the same school is not only rare, but an honor. About the scholarships, Holmes says that almost all medical students graduate with debt.

"With medical school costing \$200,000 or more, the fact that the

Anton and Kowalski families are willing to provide a hand to help is very beneficial and shows their loyalty not only to the school of medicine but to the future physicians as well," Holmes noted.



Four of the five Kowalski brothers became physicians. From left are David, Joe, Paul and Bruce.

The impact of the scholarships is not lost on the recipients. Nathaniel Porter, class of 2025; Skylar Cooper, class of 2026; Sydney Smith, Class of 2027; and Mitchell Nelson, class of 2027 are current recipients. When asked what the scholarships mean to them, the students say they feel “appreciative,” “honored” and “grateful.” They speak of the confidence that it instills in them that someone believes in them and their dream to be a physician.

“The Kowalski Family Scholarship has provided me with financial relief, while also instilling in me a sense of confidence and motivation to keep working hard towards my goal of becoming a physician,” Cooper explains. “Knowing that the Kowalski family supports me during my medical school journey means the world to me!”

Porter, a recipient of the Anton scholarship, will follow his benefactors into the radiology field and feels honored to have been selected. “The Anton’s scholarship has allowed me the opportunity to continue pursuing my dream career with peace of mind and has relieved a portion of the financial burden of medical school. I am so grateful to have received this scholarship.”

Smith says that the scholarship shows that there are people who believe in her. “My appreciation for the Kowalski Family scholarship cannot be overstated. Of course, the scholarship helps to relieve the burden of student debt, but the scholarship also shows there are people who see my potential as a future physician. Aside from my own passion, the feeling of support has offered an outside source of motivation. I could not be more grateful.”

Nelson echoes his fellow recipient’s gratitude and sees himself

following the Kowalski’s example and giving back once he completes medical school. “I’m very appreciative of the Kowalski Family Scholarship. The less money I borrow, the sooner I can pay off my loans and contribute financially to initiatives that I find meaningful, including the next generation of physicians. Since I started at Marshall, I often feel the support of not just the medical school but present and past members of the community. I’m glad to now be a part of it and give back some of what has been given to me.”

When asked about why they felt it was important to give back, brothers from both families are quick to recall mentors and others who supported them along the way. Bob, the oldest of the Anton brothers remembers Dr. Albert Esposito and Dr. Pat Brown both helping students in the early days of the medical school. He also feels that everyone who graduates from medical school should support them however they can. “It’s great to be an ambassador. We should all be ambassadors for the medical school. I have always tried to be a positive one.”

In the next few years at the Anton house, two more heads will turn when asked if there is a doctor in the house. Both Bob and Mike have daughters attending Marshall’s medical school and carrying on the family tradition. With the Anton and Kowalski families being ambassadors for the school you can be assured they won’t be the last.

Amy Deal is a freelance writer living in Barboursville, West Virginia.

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Knowing that the Kowalski family supports me during my medical school journey means the world to me!

— Skylar Cooper, Class of 2026

99

CITIZEN of the WORLD

Dr. David Gozal's is bringing a global perspective to his role as dean of the School of Medicine.

By Katherine Pyles

A common thread is woven throughout Dr. David Gozal's prolific career in pediatric pulmonology and sleep medicine, is his visionary leadership in academic medicine and life-saving humanitarian work.

"In anything we do, we can always accomplish more if we understand that the collective 'we' can make much more of a difference than the individual 'me,'" said the new dean and vice president of health affairs for the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine.

It's a thread that ties into Marshall University President Brad Smith's oft-quoted belief in "the power of we," and Smith and Gozal discussed this topic — among many others — when they met about Gozal's potential appointment as dean. Smith said the meeting demonstrated Gozal's "spirit

of collaboration and innovation," while Gozal noted that the conversation seemed to flow effortlessly.

In the world of academic medicine, Gozal noted, chemistry and collegiality are key.

Gozal joined Marshall in July 2023 as the sixth dean of its School of Medicine from the University of Missouri, where he was chair of the Department of Child Health and physician-in-chief of the University of Missouri Health Children's Hospital. He has also served at Tulane University, University of Louisville and the University of Chicago, among other institutions. Recognized globally as the leading authority

in pediatric sleep apnea, Gozal has been a federally-funded National Institutes of Health researcher since 1992 and is one of the most highly cited researchers in pediatric pulmonology.



Dr. Gozal receives his official Marshall University white coat from the class officers and faculty representative Paul T. Finch, MD.



Smith said Gozal's record of research, education and business acumen set him apart during the university's six-month national search for a new dean.

"The goal was to identify a leader devoted to research and academic excellence, experienced in the complex and evolving world of academic medicine finances and committed to a positive culture of collaboration and service," said Smith. "Dr. Gozal is a proven leader who has succeeded in each of these areas."

It was a journey — in every sense of the word — that led Gozal to Marshall. Born in Morocco, Gozal attended high school in Portugal and earned his MD from Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He completed a pulmonology internship in Paris and a pediatric residency in Israel. After spending two years in Cameroon developing rural health care systems, he moved to the United States in 1990 for a fellowship in pediatric pulmonology and sleep medicine at Children's Hospital of Los Angeles. He holds two MBAs, one from Georgetown University and another from Esade in Barcelona, Spain.

Gozal, who speaks seven languages, is often asked where he's from. His response: "I'm a citizen of the world."

"It is so important that we think of people all over the world as the collective 'we' for which we are all responsible," explained Gozal, who has carried out research and humanitarian work in developing countries around the globe, including Kurdistan, Iran and Peru. "I hope to bring the world to West Virginia — and bring West Virginia to the world."

Gozal's leadership in academic medicine began in the early years of his career — although "when you go to medical school, no one's thinking about becoming a dean," he laughed.

"At the beginning of your medical career, everything you do is aimed at acquiring skills and getting better in your discipline — it's all about you," Gozal said. "When you become a faculty member, while you continue to invest in your own career, you also begin conveying knowledge and opportunities to others. Over time, that process gains momentum. You begin to consider the next generation, those who will follow you in the decades to come. As a physician, you are always standing on the shoulders of giants — and your hope is that those who follow you will stand on whatever it is that you contribute."

At Marshall, Gozal's contributions are already taking shape, said Beth L.



Washington D.C.



Dr. Gozal established the Rare Pediatric Disease Program Cooperation between children's hospitals in Chicago, Illinois and Shanghai, China.



Bakombo

Hammers, MBA, vice dean for administration at the SOM.

"Dr. Gozal is a change agent for our medical school," Hammers said. "He is innovative and entrepreneurial; he is a scientist with a business acumen second to none. When you see him in action — talking with our faculty, staff and students — you see that he is also relatable and very gracious in the way that he communicates."

Hammers said Gozal brings a diverse perspective and emotional intelligence to the key issues that affect the School of Medicine and a strong vision for the "centers of wellness" that have been identified as the school's focus areas: addiction and behavioral health; gerontology and aging; obesity and diabetes; and rural health and primary care.

"Dr. Gozal's vision strongly aligns with Marshall's mission," she said. "He also brings a global view and knowledge from other academic health systems. That opens our eyes and promotes a more diverse approach to our mission."

Gozal said his work as dean will look toward the future of medicine. That includes precision medicine, an approach that looks at a patient's genetics, environment and lifestyle to provide personalized care, often incorporating artificial intelligence

(AI), multiomics and other technologies. It includes introducing medical students to hybrid careers in fields like health informatics and cybersecurity, as well as PhD programs that are pertinent to the needs of West Virginians.

Additionally, he said, he hopes to amplify research efforts not only within the School of Medicine but also in the broader university community.

"I want to instill a culture of scholarly work and do that in collaboration with the university," Gozal said. "We are not

a School of Medicine that sits apart from the university. We can create a symbiotic relationship, through which all of us together fulfill the goal of every university: to bring knowledge to the world and enlighten the wave of the future."

As a physician, you are always standing on the shoulders of giants — and your hope is that those who follow you will stand on whatever it is that you contribute.

— Dr. David Gozal
Dean of the School of Medicine



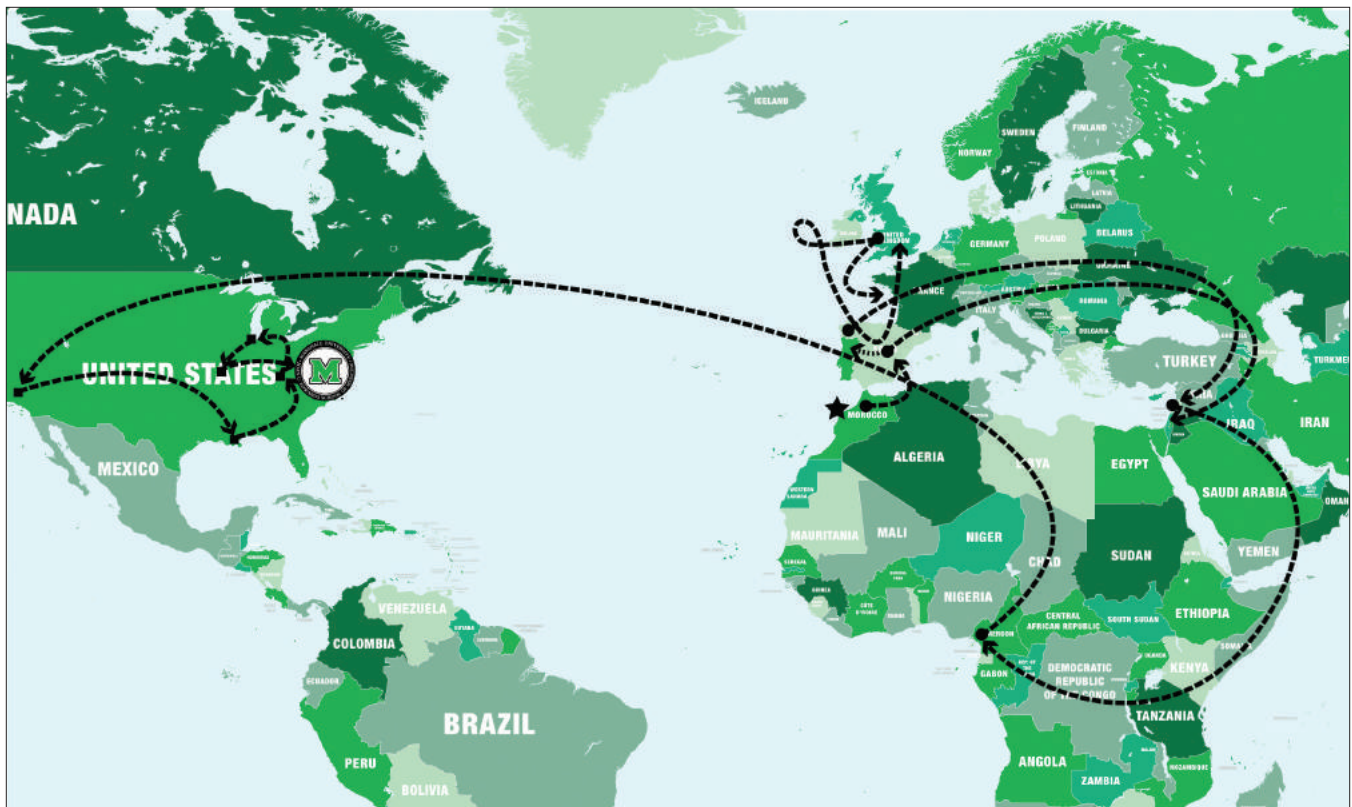
Fisherman village near Kribi, Cameroon



Los Angeles, California



Pigmy territory on the border between Cameroon and DR Congo



Dr. Gozal's career has taken him across the globe and back.

Gozal's eagerness to collaborate is well timed: In fall 2023, the School of Medicine joined Marshall Health, Marshall University and Mountain Health Network to form Marshall Health Network, an integrated academic health system. Marshall Health Network brings together Cabell Huntington Hospital, St. Mary's Medical Center, Hoops Family Children's Hospital and Rivers Health; Mountain Health Network's ambulatory facilities, medical offices and employed physician practices; and Marshall Health's faculty physician practice and facilities.

"This is a natural evolution of a partnership that we, and those before us, have built over the past 50 years," Hammers explained. "As we transform into a true academic health system, we can better optimize and leverage resources in order to offer more programs and clinical services — all while protecting the academic and research mission of the medical school. Our integration signifies a holistic shift in how we deliver health care, how we train future health care professionals and how we engage with our communities."

Gozal said the integration "will transform the way we deliver health care in southern West Virginia."

"For the first time, all the parties engaged in delivering medical care to the region are putting together a cogent plan to prioritize and organize themselves," he said. "It will service not only the Huntington community but also other areas of the region that are in even greater need of this very well orchestrated chain of care."

It all comes down to the power of we.

"No advance can take place in isolation," Gozal said. "We need to build uniquely sized teams that will work together and integrate everything that we do — whether that's the integration of a health care network, the integration of research and scholarship or the integration of hybrid components to better train the next generation of health care professionals. All of these require a cul-

ture of integration and if I can contribute to changing the culture in that direction, I will be very pleased."

Katherine Pyles is a freelance writer living in Huntington, West Virginia. She is a graduate of Marshall University, where she was a member of the Society of Yeager Scholars.

David Gozal, MD, MBA, PhD

Born: Tangier, Morocco

MD: The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Residency: Haifa Medical Center, Haifa, Israel

Fellowship: Children's Hospital of Los Angeles

MBA: Georgetown University

MBA: Esade, Barcelona, Spain

Teaching positions: University of Missouri, University of Chicago, University of Louisville, Tulane University, University of Southern California

Doctors at the STATE CAPITOL

Students in the Health Policy Fellows Program honor the legacy of Dr. Paul Ambrose by becoming involved in the legislative process.

By Amanda Larch

Advancing the ideals of service, stewardship and commitment, the Dr. Paul Ambrose Health Policy Program at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine exposes family medicine residents to the state's legislative processes while they interact and collaborate with state health care agency leaders.

"Each year during the three-year health policy track, residents spend a month at the legislature, completing a deep dive into policies of their choosing, making the fellowship stand out from other aspects of residency," says Dr. Kimberly Becher ('11), chief medical officer at Community Care, who frequently sat in on health committee meetings during those state legislative sessions.

As health policy fellows, these resident physicians are often needed to testify at the legislature and to provide a family doctor's lived experience. In addition, resources are available to connect residents with public health officials, WV Medicaid, public health departments and more.

"The goal was always to be an unbiased, true source of medical information," Becher says. "That's still so important. There are very few physicians in lawmaking positions."

Becher's interest in health policy began when she became involved

in advocacy work at the federal level through the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP).

"The motivation to get involved came from being in the exam room and seeing the barriers to care that many patients face, either within the health care system or because of larger socioeconomic factors," she says.

Using the skills from her health policy training, Becher follows state health policy legislation while participating regularly in active dialogue with payers and insurance companies.

"The program gave me the confidence to go all in on advocating for a patient's

access to care," Becher says.

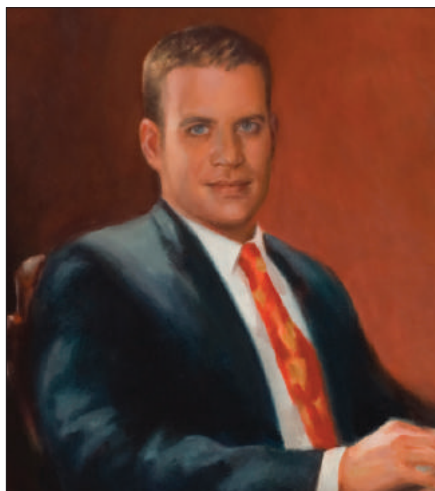
The health policy program is named in honor of the late Dr. Paul W. Ambrose ('11), a Marshall alumnus who was killed in the September 11, 2001, terror attacks. Even though she was never able to meet Ambrose, Becher says interacting with those who knew him and hearing his stories gives her extra motivation.

"You're not just doing the work, but you're honoring Paul Ambrose," Becher says. "It's wonderful we named this fellowship after him because he embodied what we are trying to accomplish with public health policy."

Dr. Hannah Leport ('21), a third-year health policy resident, is also involved in the rural medicine and lifestyle medicine tracks, the latter of which she helped start. Once board certified in lifestyle and family medicine, Leport plans to return to her hometown of Point Pleasant, West Virginia, to practice.

"I like being able to delve a little deeper into my particular areas of interest," she says. "The health policy fellowship lets me step out and see what the impact of my career could be outside of residency."

Leport believes it's important for health policy fellows to be immersed in the legislative environment as much as possible. Each morning, residents sit in



The late Paul Ambrose, MD

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Until you become a working doctor, you don't realize how much insurance and health policy affects the way you practice medicine or the red tape you have to get around to give your patients the best care.

— Dr. Hannah Leport
Third-Year Family
Medicine Resident,
Health Policy Fellow

99



the gallery and watch the sessions, and by sitting in caucus meetings in the afternoons, where newer bills are introduced, they can directly engage in the legislative process.

"If there are health-related policies that we're interested in, we track and follow them throughout the session. We see how a bill is introduced, developed, debated, voted on, and either passed or shut down," Leport explains.

West Virginia State Senator Robert Plymale (D-Wayne County) helps residents schedule meetings in Charleston and serves as their direct line of communication with the Senate.

"This year, I plan to talk with Senator Plymale and schedule meetings ahead of time, to, hopefully, offer our advice and influence health-related policies," Leport says.

Leport now has the education, background and networking contacts to make her community a healthier and better place to live and work.

"When I started residency, I never really thought I was interested in being involved in public health or health policy," Leport says. "I only knew, in a broad view, that it would affect my practice.

"Until you become a working doctor, you don't realize how much insurance and health policy affects the way you practice medicine or the red tape you have to navigate to give your patients the best care," she continued.

In addition to spending time at the legislature, fellows host six lectures each year for the Department of Family and Community Health and participate in health policy forums open to the medical school and local communities. This past spring's annual Health Policy Forum focused on physician burnout with a panel



Kimberly Becher, MD

of physicians that included Becher.

Leport encourages all future physicians to get involved with health policy in some way, even if it's simply educating themselves on how policies are written and passed.

"We can't forget that government and public health are a huge part of our profession, especially as primary care physicians and leaders in the community," she says.

Class of 2022 health policy fellow Dr. Ben Wainblat attended medical school at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio, before coming to the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine for residency. Currently living in Japan with his wife, Dr. Malesa Price, a fellow family medicine residency graduate stationed at Tokyo's Yokota Air Force Base, Wainblat works as locum tenens, traveling to Maine for about six weeks at a time.

As an undergraduate, Wainblat worked with refugees from around the world, and these experiences helped him to later choose a family medicine residency with a health policy track.

"My mentor at the time said the future of doctors, in addition to practicing medicine, is getting involved with health policy," Wainblat says. "This just seemed like a natural way to give the full-bodied approach to health care that we need, especially from physician leaders."

Wainblat works diligently at the local level, and one of his takeaways from his health policy residency was West Virginia



Drs. Ben Wainblat (right) and Malesa Price

and Huntington's response to the opioid epidemic. He passed along information and relayed personal experiences to officials and high-ranking hospital administrators in Maine to help guide them toward solutions.

"You can't practice medicine

in a vacuum," Wainblat says. "If you want sensible laws and policies, then you need to be a part of the process. I've found that the more you get involved the more influence you can have on policy. Even just showing up to meetings and talking to people can make a huge difference."

Wainblat says it was humbling to be part of a program that honors Dr. Ambrose and his legacy.

"With 9/11 tragically cutting Paul's career and calling short, this program is a great way for us to follow in his footsteps and pick up where he left off," he says. "Because of the Ambrose Health Policy Program, we now have numerous doctors with health policy training who can have a positive impact on the communities they serve. I'm so glad I could be part of continuing Paul's legacy."

Learn More Here!



Amanda Larch is a freelance writer living in Hurricane, West Virginia.



PAYING IT FORWARD

Dr. Chuck Clements may have been late to a career in medicine, but few have done more for the poor and underserved than this proud Army veteran.

By Dawn Nolan

Dr. Charles W. “Chuck” Clements has accomplished much in his life. In addition to being a husband, father, stepfather and grandfather, the recently retired family practitioner and medical school professor is an Army veteran, a former member of the National Ski Patrol and was the first faculty advisor for Marshall Medical Outreach — an initiative that provides free medical care to the homeless and unemployed — just to name a few. His compassion and dedication to serving others is apparent and has made him a shining example to his students, colleagues and community.

“I have been blessed to know Dr. Clements since 1996. Chuck has been a tireless, even relentless, advocate for his patients, the Marshall medical school and our community,” said Dr. Stephen Petrany, professor and chair of family and community health at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. “He is selfless and fearless in his commitment to helping others, especially those who are the least fortunate of our region. Chuck is a man of impeccable character who inspires others to strive to achieve their best. There is no person on this planet that I would trust more to always do what he felt was the right thing, than Dr. Clements.”

Born in the Shenandoah Valley in Luray, Virginia, Clements knew from an early age that he wanted to join the military.

“My dad flew in the Air Force during World War II, and a lot of my uncles also fought in the war,” he said.

With that in mind, Clements went to West Point and was commissioned as an officer in the Army.

“From a family of six boys, three of us went into the Army. One of my first official acts was to swear my younger brother into the Army,” Clements said.

He spent more than 20 years in active duty. At the same time, Clements became a member of the National Ski Patrol.

“It was a good introduction to medicine,” he recalled. “We had to cover a lot of different medical issues for all ages.”

Clements spent the early 1980s in Colorado and the latter part of the decade in Germany with the National Ski Patrol. Once he returned from Europe and retired from the Army, he briefly joined a patrol at a ski resort in Virginia. Despite back surgery many years later, skiing has remained a large part of Clements’ life. Today, he serves in a medical advisory role at Winterplace Ski Resort in southern West Virginia.

“I don’t go out on the slopes anymore, but I help in the aid room,” Clements explained.

After the Army, Clements had planned to move to West Virginia to be a teacher, but he had an epiphany one day that changed his course.

“I was reading one of those vignettes you see in Reader’s Digest. The author was writing about how a young man he knew had asked him to write a letter of recommendation for medical school,” Clements shared. “The author said that while he didn’t know the young man’s academic record, he knew he was the

‘the type of person I wanted to take care of my family and me.’ And I thought, ‘That’s what I want to do. I want to take care of people.’”

In 1993, at age 43, Clements enrolled in Marshall’s medical school. Because he didn’t have all the required prerequisites, he became one of the inaugural students in the Marshall primary care curriculum.

“I knew I wanted to specialize in family medicine and primary care because of the *Reader’s Digest* article and because it is a broad specialty that covers a lot of different medical concerns,” said Clements, who graduated in 1997 as president of his class.

During his residency, Clements was one of 20 to receive the 1998 Mead-Johnson Award of Graduate Education in Family Medicine. The next year, 1999, he started as a physician and faculty member in Marshall’s Department of Family and Community Health where he remained until he retired in June 2023.

As a professor in the department, Clements drew upon his experiences with the National Ski Patrol to create a two-week wilderness medicine elective component to the curriculum.

“A school teaches you exceptionally well how to take care of people inside your office or inside a hospital where you have many tools and assistance,” Clements said. “My concern was that we graduate a lot of physicians who have never had to consider what they would do if they were skiing with a friend, and they fall and break their leg; or if you’re out hiking and you’ve broken



Before becoming a family practitioner and medical school professor, Charles W. Clements went to West Point and was commissioned as an officer in the Army.

your ankle and you're two miles from the nearest trailhead."

An estimated 100 students took the course while it was available. The course was put on hiatus during the height of the pandemic, but Clements is working with Dr. Lee Van Horn ('14), assistant professor of family and community health and a fellow member of the National Ski Patrol with similar training and experience, to revive the course.

In 2011, a group of three medical students approached Clements to be a supervising faculty member of a new group that they were organizing called Marshall Medical Outreach (MMO).

"I'd been going to the riverfront where the churches passed out breakfast every Saturday morning," recalls Clements. "One day, I had three students come to talk about setting up a health screening and treating some of the minor injuries and illnesses for people in need. We received permission from the school and used a mobile clinic van provided by the Robert C. Byrd Center for Rural Health."

MMO's mission became "to provide continuity of care to those in need." Now, more than a decade later, volunteers still set up a mobile clinic one Saturday a month in the parking lot of a downtown church and provide physical exams, immunizations, over-the-counter medications, ophthalmology services and referrals.

"MMO is completely student-led," Clements said. "It is a chance for medical students to get outside the classroom and hospital, meet people, take their histories and vitals and then identify potential diagnoses and treatment. In many cases, it is the first opportunity medical students have to practice medicine on their own."

The group has grown significantly since its inception, thanks to community partnerships, dedicated volunteers, donations and grant funding. Today, MMO has treated more than 3,000 patients.

In addition to MMO, Clements has traveled to Honduras seven times to volunteer for the Global Medical Brigade thanks to support from Dr. Ken and Sharon Ambrose in memory of their son, Dr. Paul Ambrose ('95). Chapters of this organization provide primary health care services to small, under resourced, rural communities with limited or no access to medical care. One

medical student asked several faculty member to join them on a medical mission, and it grew from there, Clements recalled.

"We would have three or four doctors go with a group of medical students to do exams," Clements said. "And much like MMO, the students would come up with the diagnoses and care plans, and we would validate their work and help them execute the plan. It was common for us to see up to 200 people per day on those trips."

Many local organizations and businesses would donate funds and supplies for the group to take with them, including items like over-the-counter medications that could supply several different villages after the group's departure.

These missions were a memorable experience for Clements in more ways than one. In fact, one of the nurses, Tina, who went on several of the mission trips later became his wife.

"On one of the trips, I became severely dehydrated and ended up being hospitalized for half a day, and Tina gave me IV fluids," Clements recalled.

Back at home, Clements spent more than 15 years as the primary care physician for the Huntington Safety Unit of the United States Coast Guard.

"I would see them as part of my daily appointment schedule," Clements said. "I guess they appreciated it because I received a certificate of achievement from the Department of Homeland Security."

From that accolade to receiving the Jack B. McConnell M.D. Award for Excellence in

Volunteerism, a national honor from the American Medical Association, to being inducted into the Greater Huntington Wall of Fame, Clements has been honored numerous times for his many contributions to his profession and community.

"The awards are nice, but my best achievement was establishing a good rapport with and having the trust of the patients that I took care of," Clements said. "That's the thing I've missed the most since I retired — the patients."



Dr. Clements is a former member of the National Ski Patrol.

Dawn Nolan is a freelance writer living in Huntington, West Virginia.

From photography and painting to writing and woodworking, doctors all over the world cultivate their creative side and express themselves through the arts. While some pursue artistic endeavors as hobbies or as sources of stress relief, others adopt an academic approach and take advantage of the clinical benefits of creating art. Aspiring physicians at the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine are encouraged to be well-rounded as well as mentally and physically healthy. The beauty of art is that everyone can create and enjoy it. As Dr. Jay Bronder said, "It doesn't matter if it is good or bad. The magic is in the process."

Meet some of the Marshall medical alumni who have found the magic in merging art and medicine.

During his medical training, **Dr. Jay Bronder** began using the little free time he had to paint. Eventually, he began to see the world and the people in it through a different lens.



Dr. Jay Bronder,
Class of 2015
Painter
"Sublimation"
in the *Aenigma*
Medicorum

"I started to focus in on the shadowing, the true color being displayed in the small details," Dr. Bronder said. "Lately, I've worked on facial detailing. This requires a form of artistic empathy, channeling a person's emotions through artistry. It's not easy. This self-guided training increased my capacity to discern and empathize with patients' emotional states."

Dr. Bronder believes art has become an effective tool for improving his communication skills, providing an alternative means for explaining complex medical conditions to his patients.

"When I could illustrate their conditions visually, in a lot of instances, it helped with understanding. It eased the anxiety of patients who were visual learners or those who prefer visual aids for communication. Painting has also fine-tuned my problem-solving abilities, which has helped in my medical practice. The creative process — finding novel or known solutions to artistic challenges — has resulted in innovative thinking and enhanced patient care."



The Magic Art & Med

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a paintbrush, poised to paint. The background is a vibrant, abstract painting with broad strokes of yellow, orange, and blue. The paintbrush has a wooden handle and a metal ferrule. The hand is positioned on the right side of the frame, with the brush pointing towards the left.

of dicine

Physicians utilize the arts as a creative outlet and means to improve their skills and empathy.

By Megan Archer

As a board-certified attending physician at The Neurology Center in Washington, D.C., innovative thinking and attention to detail is a must. Dr. Bronder said diving into the world of paint brushes, easels and oils have made him a better doctor.

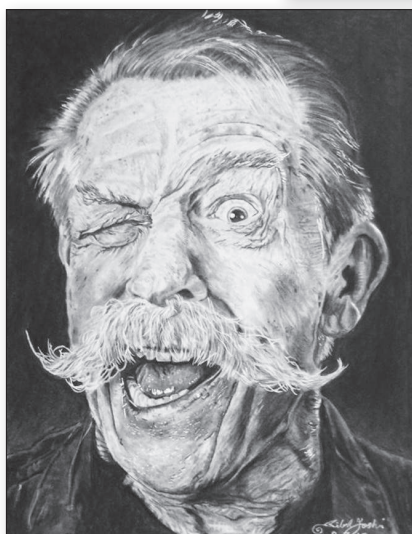
"Painting, with its demand for attention to detail, has sharpened my ability to discern subtle changes in a patient's condition, symptoms or diagnostic images," Dr. Bronder said. "Neurologists pride themselves in their neurologic exam and ability to discern subtleties. Subtle findings can make or break a differential diagnosis."

Dr. Bibek Joshi has been interested in both art and anatomy since he was a child growing up in Kathmandu, Nepal. After graduating high school, he moved to West Virginia where he eventually earned his nursing degree and began working as a nurse. However, it didn't take long for him to realize that he wanted to be a physician.

Now, as the medical director for the Operational Medical Readiness Squadron



Dr. Bibek Joshi, Class of 2017 Mixed Media Artist "John Hurt" (charcoal and graphite on paper)



for the U.S. Air Force and its 628th Medical Group at Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina, Dr. Joshi has combined his medical skills and artistic capabilities to become a better

physician.

"Newer developments in medicine as well as the ability to take care of our active-duty service members are some of the things that excite me," Dr. Joshi said. "I think art makes you more persistent and detail-oriented, which are qualities that have certainly helped me as a physician."

When tapping into his creative side, Dr. Joshi enjoys creating with charcoal on paper, but also uses watercolor and acrylic paint. Although he's never taken any formal art lessons, he believes, just like with medicine, he's gotten better with practice.

"I'd encourage people, especially my fellow doctors, to engage in some form of art whether it's painting, performing or something else that they enjoy doing," Dr. Joshi said. "It's good for you!"

At the urging of her father, **Dr. Patricia Sebas Schindzielorz** decided to pursue a career in medicine. But she admits without her father's strong influence, art school might have been in her future.

"When I was in high school, I loved art, and I wanted to go to art school, but my dad was science-oriented," said Dr. Sebas, a retired pediatrician. "He was in physics and mechanical



Patricia Sebas Schindzielorz, Class of 1986 Painter Artwork: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100008508399709>



engineering, and he said 'art is just a hobby.' Looking back, I'm glad that I went into the biomedical sciences, and I'm glad that I became a pediatrician because I wouldn't

have met my husband (Dr. Andrew Schindzielorz, '85) or have my son (Dr. Adam Schindzielorz, '15)."

For years, Dr. Sebas put her artwork on hold, staying busy as a full-time physician and mother. It wasn't until an unexpected health issue arose that she felt compelled to pick up her paint brush again.

"I retired because I was diagnosed with breast cancer and had to go through chemotherapy and the surgeries," Dr. Sebas said. "I retired a little earlier than I had planned, but the art was a wonderful part of my therapy. I never worried about my cancer when I was painting. I was just happy while painting, and I didn't have any worries in the world."

Dr. Sebas describes herself as an amateur artist; however, she's exhibited many pieces of her work through the Fine Arts League of Cary in North Carolina, and a community art group with which she is involved.

"We are a large group of artists who get together once a

month, and it's kind of like adult show and tell," Dr. Sebas said. "We bring in our artwork and then criticize it. We say, 'You need more purple over here' or 'If you highlighted this, it would look better.' We get a lot of ideas from one another. This is more or less my hobby, but there are a lot of professionals in the group, and I get a lot of tips from them. I wanted to do this all my life, so now I'm really enjoying my art and my retirement."

For retina surgeon **Dr. Stephanie Skolik**, art and medicine go hand-in-hand. In fact, she believes she couldn't do one without the other.

"I started painting when I was 12 years old, and when I went to college it was a toss-up between studying art or medicine. After I was already a doc-



Dr. Stephanie Skolik, Class of 1985
Mixed Media Artist
Artwork: <https://www.facebook.com/skolikart/>



tor for several years, I was living in Bethesda, Maryland, working at the National Eye Institute and thought, 'Maybe I was always supposed to be an artist,' so I took two years off from being a physician

to work as an artist."

Dr. Skolik said she learned very quickly that she had to somehow make room for both art and medicine in her life.

"I had to have the human interaction to compel me to want to paint, and I had to paint to metabolize the trauma and the difficulty of being a physician," Dr. Skolik said. "It was very enlightening to me."

Growing up in Huntington, she remembers spending her childhood summers at Marshall University, specifically on the sixth floor of Smith Hall, where she took every class she could – from etching and weaving to painting and tactile textures. It was in this safe space that she truly blossomed as an artist. However, it wasn't without challenges. In the first grade, Dr. Skolik first began experiencing symptoms of dyslexia.

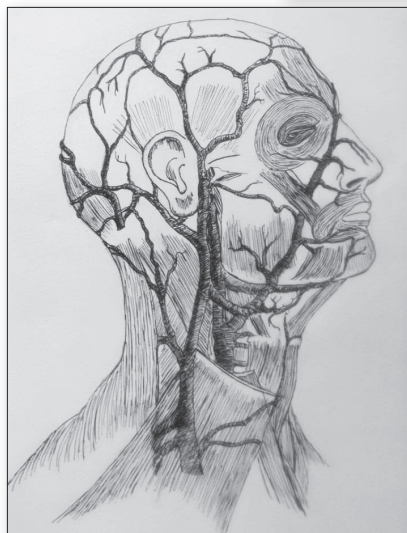
"I didn't know what it was when I was a kid, but I certainly knew I couldn't read very well. I suffered with that because teachers looked at me like I was lazy or not trying. I wasn't diagnosed until my first year of medical school."

Dr. Skolik has been able to channel these challenges into her artwork. An accomplished artist, her work has been exhibited everywhere from the Huntington Museum of Art to Brussels and Mexico City. Her most recent exhibit took place in fall 2023 in Houston at the Jung Center. Titled "Multisenses of Dyslexia," it featured 30 oil paintings about what it's like to be dyslexic. Currently, she's working on a collection of works featuring Huntington's own Ritter Park.

Growing up in the coalfields of rural West Virginia, **Dr. Kyle Smith** always knew he wanted to spend his time helping people. After earning his medical degree and completing residency at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, it



Dr. Kyle Smith, Class of 2019
Mixed Media Artist
Artwork: "Anatomy of the Head and Neck" (Pen and graphite on paper)



was this desire to make an impact that led him to his current role as a pulmonary/critical care fellow in Marshall's Department of Internal Medicine.

As a self-taught artist

he's experienced many challenges, but mostly he's found great benefit to marrying art and medicine.

"I enjoy working in varied media — paint, pencil, pen as well as woodworking," Dr. Smith said. "I feel that the primary benefit of my artwork and woodworking is mainly dealing with perspective and the ability to picture concepts easily in three dimensions as well as improving manual dexterity with regard to procedural skill."

Megan Archer is freelance writer living in Huntington.

Go Boldly



CLASS OF 2023 GRADUATION & INVESTITURE

On April 28, 2023, the School of Medicine celebrated a time-honored tradition during its 43rd Annual Doctoral Investiture and Medical School Commencement. During the ceremony, Marshall University President Brad D. Smith conferred 78 Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) degrees, two Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degrees in biomedical research and one combined Doctor of Medicine-Doctor of Philosophy (M.D./Ph.D.).



The Class of 2023



Dr. Mary Beth Harler ('93), receives a gift from Dr. Nitin Puri, senior associate dean of medical education, as this year's graduation speaker



The Class of 2023 thanks all their loved ones.



The Fofana family celebrates Dr. Kadiyatu Fofana's graduation.



This is a leap of happiness by Dr. Lily Starkey.

Residency Matches for the Class of 2023

ALABAMA

Seneca R. Williams *Birmingham* Otolaryngology at University of Alabama Medical Center

ARIZONA

Emma I. Sherfinski *Scottsdale* Neurology at Mayo Clinic School of Graduate Medical Education

CALIFORNIA

Charlie E. Fresch *Sacramento* General Surgery at Travis Air Force Base/University of California, Davis

Melinda Jo Sharon *Stanford* Emergency Medicine at Stanford Health Care

FLORIDA

Kade J. Bradley *Ocala* Emergency Medicine at University of Central Florida/HCA Healthcare

Nicholas D. Dolan *Gainesville* Medicine-Preliminary followed by Ophthalmology at University of Florida

Ben M. Duplaga *Brandon* Obstetrics-Gynecology at University of Florida

Haseeb A. Jafary *Atlantis* Internal Medicine at University of Miami JFK Hospital

Daniel J. McNeil *Gainesville* Psychiatry at University of Florida/Shands Hospital

Regan Z. Patton *Pensacola* Pediatrics at University of Florida/Shands Hospital

Patrick M. Thomas *Tallahassee* General Surgery at Florida State University

GEORGIA

Aryana Misaghi *Savannah* Psychiatry at Gateway Behavioral Health Community Service Board

ILLINOIS

Cherishma Nagisetty *Hinsdale* Family Medicine at University of Chicago Medicine/AdventHealth Hinsdale

INDIANA

Reena Park *Indianapolis* Emergency Medicine at Indiana University

KENTUCKY

Hannah R. Rowe *Louisville* Pediatrics at University of Louisville

Michelle E. Rueff *Lexington* Neurology at University of Kentucky

Andreas M. Zambos *Lexington* Neurology at University of Kentucky

MARYLAND

Joseph A. Chirico *Baltimore* Transitional Year at OhioHealth-Riverside Methodist, Columbus, Ohio, followed by Diagnostic Radiology at University of Maryland Medical Center

MINNESOTA

Garrett Boggs *St. Paul* Family Medicine at Allina Health

John R. Roth *Rochester* Internal Medicine at Mayo Clinic School of Graduate Medical Education

MISSOURI

Fatih Can Koc *St. Louis* Neurology at Barnes-Jewish Hospital

NEBRASKA

Brent J. Horswell *Omaha* Obstetrics-Gynecology at Creighton University

NEVADA

Jaineet S. Chhabra *Las Vegas* Family Medicine at Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine

NEW MEXICO

Morgan D. Spencer *Albuquerque* Child Neurology at University of New Mexico

NORTH CAROLINA

Suzann Al-Qawasmi *Winston-Salem* Pediatrics at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center

Tanner J. Bakhshi *Durham* Pathology at Duke University Medical Center

Carla M. Haikal *Greenville* Emergency Medicine at East Carolina University Health Medical Center

Kevin J. Reger *Winston-Salem* Transitional Year at Mountain Area Health Education Center, Asheville, North Carolina, followed by Diagnostic Radiology at Wake Forest University

OHIO

Michael F. DeRosa *Canton* Obstetrics-Gynecology at Aultman Hospital/NEOMED

Luke E. Hamm *Columbus* Obstetrics-Gynecology at OhioHealth Riverside Methodist Hospital

Daniel J. Haught *Chillicothe* Family Medicine at Adena Health System

Brandon S. Henderson *Cleveland* Transitional Year at OhioHealth Riverside Methodist Hospital, Columbus, Ohio, followed by Diagnostic Radiology at Cleveland Clinic

Ian J. McElroy *Akron* Orthopaedic Surgery at Summa Health/NEOMED

Shelby M. Naegele *Cincinnati* Obstetrics-Gynecology at Good Samaritan Hospital

Austin F. Rush *Columbus* Pediatrics at Nationwide Children's Hospital

Anisha P. Valluri	<i>Cincinnati</i>	Medicine-Preliminary at Marshall University, followed by Dermatology at University of Cincinnati
J. Adam Whitmore	<i>Dayton</i>	Orthopaedic Surgery at Wright State University

PENNSYLVANIA

James C. Curry	<i>Danville</i>	Transitional Year at Mountain Area Health Education Center, Asheville, North Carolina, followed by Dermatology at Geisinger Health Systems
Kadiyatu Fofana	<i>Hershey</i>	Internal Medicine at Penn State/Hershey Medical Center
Daniel G. Miller	<i>Pittsburgh</i>	Family Medicine at University of Pittsburgh Medical Center — St. Margaret
Abigail R. Short	<i>Hershey</i>	Obstetrics-Gynecology at Penn State/Hershey Medical Center

SOUTH CAROLINA

Wasila S. Madhoun	<i>Columbia</i>	Neurology at Prisma Health/University of South Carolina
John S. McLaughlin	<i>Columbia</i>	Neurology at Prisma Health/University of South Carolina
Steven Tun	<i>Columbia</i>	Neurology at Prisma Health/University of South Carolina

TENNESSEE

Brandon J. Fazalare	<i>Johnson City</i>	General Surgery at East Tennessee State University
Lilyan T. Starkey	<i>Knoxville</i>	Obstetrics-Gynecology at University of Tennessee

WEST VIRGINIA

John R. Brown	<i>Huntington</i>	Medicine-Preliminary at Marshall University
Christian Casingal	<i>Morgantown</i>	Transitional Year followed by Diagnostic Radiology at West Virginia University
Leah M. Ching	<i>Huntington</i>	Obstetrics-Gynecology at Marshall University
Cameron L. Cottrill	<i>Huntington</i>	Medicine-Pediatrics at Marshall University
Blue E. Cremeans	<i>Huntington</i>	Family Medicine at Marshall University
Alexander J. Dunham	<i>Huntington</i>	Neurology at Marshall University
Rawan M. Elhamdani	<i>Morgantown</i>	Transitional Year followed by Ophthalmology at West Virginia University

Joshua P. Galbraith	<i>Charleston</i>	Family Medicine at Charleston Area Medical Center
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Rachel E. Lee	<i>Huntington</i>	Obstetrics-Gynecology at Marshall University
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Tori P. Miller	<i>Huntington</i>	Internal Medicine-Preliminary at Marshall University
Mikayla M. Myers	<i>Huntington</i>	Internal Medicine at Marshall University
Mark A. Hill	<i>Charleston</i>	Surgery-Preliminary at Charleston Area Medical Center
Matthew C. O'Neal	<i>Morgantown</i>	Neurology at West Virginia University
Alexa M. Pigliacampi	<i>Morgantown</i>	Medicine-Pediatrics at West Virginia University
Jordan E. Ratcliffe	<i>Huntington</i>	Pediatrics at Marshall University
Micah S. Ray	<i>Huntington</i>	Medicine-Preliminary at Marshall University
Nicolas K. Royce	<i>Morgantown</i>	Emergency Medicine at West Virginia University
Shannon M. Smith	<i>Morgantown</i>	Pathology at West Virginia University
Caleb J. Spainhower	<i>Charleston</i>	General Surgery at Charleston Area Medical Center
Abigail P. Tubert	<i>Huntington</i>	Obstetrics-Gynecology at Marshall University
Terry A. Waddell	<i>Huntington</i>	Psychiatry at Marshall University
Thomas D. Wright	<i>Huntington</i>	Internal Medicine at Marshall University

VIRGINIA

Garima Agarwal	<i>Charlottesville</i>	Neurology at University of Virginia
Brianna C. Roberts	<i>Falls Church</i>	Obstetrics-Gynecology at Inova Fairfax Hospital
Jenna J. Zuzolo	<i>Charlottesville</i>	Pediatrics at University of Virginia

Many Thanks



2022-2023 PHILANTHROPY REPORT

On behalf of the entire Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine family, we want to personally thank you for your generosity and support in our mission of educating future physicians who will make a difference in the world. The faculty, staff and students are exceptionally grateful you have chosen to include the School of Medicine in your personal philanthropy and hope you will continue to do so in the future.

Thanks to you, we have been able to provide resources that open doors for the next generation of physicians, cutting-edge medical care and research. You have helped us create limitless possibilities for the future of the School of Medicine.

I want you to know how much we appreciate your personal philanthropy and how much it means to us. You are not just a donor; you are a part of our family. Please take a moment to read the following donors who made gifts to support the School of Medicine from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023.

With gratitude,

Linda S. Holmes
Director, Development & Alumni Affairs

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New Scholarships



2023 SCHOOL OF MEDICINE SCHOLARSHIP CAMPAIGN

Listed in alphabetical order are the new scholarships created throughout the past year to benefit Marshall medical students. Academic and need-based scholarships ensure that Marshall attracts the most promising students to serve as the future of healthcare.

DR. SHAYNE M. GUE SCHOLARSHIP

Alumnus Shayne M. Gue, MD ('15), has established a second scholarship at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine to support students from Cabell County, West Virginia, where he was born and raised.

After graduating from medical school, Dr. Gue completed his emergency medicine residency at AdventHealth East in Orlando, Florida. Gue now serves as an assistant professor of emergency medicine at the University of Central Florida (UCF) in Orlando, where he serves as director of education and medical education fellowship director for the UCF's emergency medicine residency program.

"I am forever grateful for the education and training I received during my time at Marshall," Dr. Gue said. "I owe all my successes to the opportunities and support I received along the way, and my hope is that this scholarship will be the support for many future students and their successes as well."

Dr. Gue established the *Garee and Mary Ransbottom Scholarship* in 2016 in honor of his grandparents.



Dr. Shayne Gue ('15)

in 2023 and working as an orthopaedic surgery resident at Summa Health/NEOMED in Akron, Ohio.

"Marshall has been a significant part of my life, first as an undergraduate student and then offering me the opportunity to become a physician," Dr. Jeff McElroy said. "We feel honored to support the School of Medicine and help future physicians with their debt. Not only have I been part of the Marshall family, two of our children, Ian and Abigail, have had an equally rewarding experience."

DR. DAVID L. PORTER SCHOLARSHIP

Dr. David Porter, an anatomic and clinical pathologist, generously provided a fund to endow a scholarship for a fourth-year medical student with first preference to a student matching in pathology, second preference to a student with a military match and third preference to a student from Wayne County, West Virginia.

Dr. Porter is the former chair and professor of pathology at Marshall, serving from January 1, 1998 to January 1, 2011. A Wayne County native and graduate of the West Virginia University School of Medicine, he completed his pathology residency at the Grand Rapids Area Medical Education Center. Dr. Porter served in the Medical Corps as a Lt. Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve and as a Colonel/Commander as a flight surgeon with the 167th Medical Group of the West Virginia Air National Guard.

DR. J. JEFFREY McELROY FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

Alumnus J. Jeffrey McElroy, MD ('92), and his wife, Lori, created a new renewable scholarship at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine for medical students from Wood County, West Virginia, and second preference to students from the surrounding West Virginia counties of Pleasants, Ritchie, Wirt and Jackson.

Dr. McElroy, originally from Lexington, Kentucky, was recruited to Marshall University on a football scholarship. He graduated from Marshall in 1987 with a Bachelor of Science in chemistry, followed by his M.D. from the School of Medicine in 1992. He went on to complete his orthopaedic residency at Mount Carmel Medical Center in Columbus, Ohio. He has been practicing in Parkersburg, West Virginia, at Parkersburg Orthopedic Associates Inc. for the past 22 years.

Son Ian followed in his father's footsteps, graduating with his Doctor of Medicine from the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine



Drs. Jeff ('92) and Ian ('23) McElroy

GEORGE E. REGER FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

The Reger family name has been well known throughout Huntington since Henry Reger first established Reger Funeral Home in 1903. George E. Reger became the third generation to enter the family business when he returned from service in the U.S. Army in 1924. George longed to be a physician but ultimately attended the Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science and committed to serving his hometown in a different way.

"George was a passionate and caring funeral director, having served the community with a sense of compassion and empathy," said his son Patrick. "And though his dream of becoming a doctor was not fulfilled, his passion for helping others was evident in his funeral service ministry."



George Reger

Patrick is now honoring his father's legacy by establishing a renewable scholarship at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine that supports a first-year medical student with first preference to residents of Cabell or Wayne counties in West Virginia.

Through the years, many members of the Reger family would attend Marshall University, including George's grandson, Dr. Kevin J. Reger ('23), who earned his medical degree at Marshall and is completing his diagnostic radiology residency at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

DR. V.K. AND RANI RAJU SCHOLARSHIP

Leela V. Raju, MD ('03), followed in the footsteps of her parents, Dr. Vadrevu K. and Rani Raju, when she, too, chose a career ophthalmology. Now, she has established a one-time scholarship in honor of her parents dedicated to supporting a fourth-year medical student who matches in ophthalmology.

Dr. V.K. Raju was born in Andhra Pradesh, India, and graduated from Andhra University before completing his residency and fellowship in the United Kingdom. He is an ophthalmologist at Regional Eye Associates in West Virginia and Maryland and serves as a clinical professor of ophthalmology at West Virginia University in Morgantown, West Virginia, and an adjunct professor at the Johns Hopkins Wilmer Eye Institute in Baltimore, Maryland. Dr. Raju is president and founder of the Eye Foundation of America. Founded in 1977, the Foundation works in eye camps and masonry hospitals in more than 30 developing countries in an effort to eliminate avoidable blindness. Rani Raju, also from Andhra Pradesh, India, has degrees in biology and English literature. She worked as an ophthalmic assistant for several years, and then as an office manager at the Monongalia Eye Clinic in Morgantown.

Dr. Leela Raju is a clinical associate professor of ophthalmology at NYU Grossman School of Medicine and medical director of ophthalmology at NYU Langone Eye Center in Cobble Hill and Staten Island. She also continues her father's legacy as secretary and education coordinator of the Eye Foundation of America.

DARSHANA AND TUSHAR SHAH SCHOLARSHIP

Dr. Darshana and Mr. Tushar Shah have called West Virginia home for nearly 40 years. As alumni, engaged citizens and community leaders, the Shahs are now giving back by endowing a scholar-



Dr. Vadrevu and Rani Raju

ship to support future medical students from West Virginia at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine.

Darshana Shah, PhD, is a professor of pathology and associate dean of faculty advancement for the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, where she has served as a faculty member since 1995. She serves as the founding editor-in-chief of the Marshall Journal of Medicine, West Virginia's first online open access, peer-viewed academic journal, founded in 2015. Dr. Shah champions faculty development, mentorship and the team science approach for medical school faculty at both the local and national levels. Tushar Shah has 37 years of progressive experience in management, marketing, measurement, automation and remote monitoring/control and serves as senior director of business development for Eagle Research Corporation. The Shahs have two daughters, including Preeya Shah-Adkins, MD, ('20), who is completing her dermatology residency at the University of Virginia. Daughter Anika Shah is a design engineer in Detroit.



Dr. Darshana and Mr. Tushar Shah

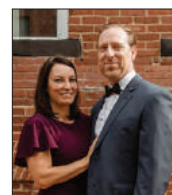
DR. PATRICK A. STONE AND CYNTHIA E. COLEMAN SCHOLARSHIP

Marshall University alumni Patrick A. Stone, MD ('99), and Cynthia E. Coleman, MSN-FNP, know the determination it takes to achieve your dreams amid the curveballs life can throw. Their renewable scholarship provides a financial pathway for first-year medical students in West Virginia with an annual household income of less than \$100,000.

Dr. Stone lost his mother as a young child, sparking his interest in medicine. He now serves as a professor and vice chair of operations for the vascular surgery department at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. As a teenage mother, Cynthia was determined to achieve. Her love for patients has been evident throughout her career and was passed down to her daughter who now is a registered nurse. She is now the senior director of clinical services implementation at Edwards Lifesciences in Nashville.

Both Stone and Coleman were raised by hardworking parents with limited exposure to health care and are proud graduates of Marshall University. This pride drives them to help others looking to impact health care in West Virginia.

"Growing up in West Virginia, we both dreamed of the endless



Dr. Patrick Stone ('99) and Cynthia Coleman

opportunities careers in health care represented," they said. "We were both determined to achieve more than our circumstances. It is exciting to be at a place in our careers where we can see the fruits of those labors and to create a scholarship for future medical students who are dedicated to improving healthcare in West Virginia."

SUNDARAM FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

Drs. Uma and Usha Sundaram established an endowed scholarship for students with demonstrated interest in research demonstrated through undergraduate or medical school research. The scholarship gives first preference to students from Putnam County, West Virginia, with second preference to any West Virginia student.

Dr. Uma Sundaram serves as vice dean of graduate education and research and a professor of medicine at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. Dr. Usha Sundaram serves as medical director for clinical trials and assistant dean of clinical research also at the School of Medicine.

MR. HERBERT A. AND MRS. E. AILEEN YOUMANS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Gary R. Youmans, MD ('87), created a scholarship in memory of his parents, Herbert A. and E. Aileen Youmans, who were always supportive and encouraged him to follow my dreams to become a physician. His father was a civil engineer with the Indiana State Board of Health, and his mother worked in the main office of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. The renewable scholarship established by Dr. Youmans is designated for entering medical students from Kanawha County, West Virginia, with second preference given to any Marshall medical student from West Virginia.

Dr. Youmans began his career in West Virginia as a professor of biology at West Virginia Institute of Technology prior to entering medical school. After graduating from the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, he completed a pathology residency and fellowship at Indiana University School of Medicine. He practiced for many years at several hospitals in Florida and is now retired and living in Indiana.

Additional Endowments

CLASS OF 2023 ENDOWMENT

Upon graduating medical school, the Class of 2023 established an endowment to support medical student education by providing materials for the Clinical Skills Center. The Center offers students hands-on access to state-of-the-art training and equipment. The endowment fund ensures continuous support of the Center with a specific focus on ultrasound equipment and related training.

DR. SUSAN FLESHER PEDIATRIC SUBSPECIALTY ENDOWMENT

Susan L. Flesher, MD ('07), professor and chair of pediatrics at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, is passionate about comprehensive, state-of-the-art health care for children in our local region. Since being named chair in 2020, Flesher, a double board-certified general pediatrician and pediatric hospitalist, has worked to grow access to pediatric specialty care, including the addition of fellowship-

trained specialists in developmental-behavioral pediatrics, emergency medicine, endocrinology, hospital medicine and nephrology. Now, she is personally financing a new endowment fund to help the department continue its momentum in recruiting talented pediatric specialists.

"Pediatric specialists are the only physicians uniquely qualified to treat many of the children who have complex conditions," Dr. Flesher said. "The physical, developmental and emotional needs of children and adolescents significantly differ from those of adults. Our goal is to provide this care close to home, which requires the recruitment of highly trained specialists to our region."

Marshall Health and the School of Medicine partner closely with Hoops Family Children's Hospital at Cabell Huntington Hospital, a member of Marshall Health Network, to recruit and retain pediatric specialists.



Dr. Susan Flesher ('07)

Scholarship Recipients

2022-2023 SCHOOL OF MEDICINE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Thank you to the generous alumni, families, faculty, friends and patients who provided scholarship support to the following Marshall medical students during the 2022-2023 academic year. We celebrate your dedication to the future of medicine.

66



My dream of becoming a physician first began when my father was diagnosed with cancer while I was in college. The hospital became a second home for Dad while he was undergoing treatment and seeing specialists. During this time, I

saw first-hand how physicians can make a great impact on their patients' lives. Although my father eventually lost his battle to cancer, I realized that my journey was just beginning. I promised that I would devote myself to caring for my community by becoming a doctor. My ultimate goal is to provide excellent healthcare to patients to help prevent situations like my father's. The first step to making my dream come true is the excellent medical education I am receiving at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. Words cannot express how thankful I am to receive scholarship support. Without support from our amazing donors, it can be an extreme challenge to attend medical school. Scholarships have allowed me to continue my education and fulfill my dream of becoming a physician.

— Joshua Davis, Class of 2025
Gallipolis, Ohio

99

JAMES F. & JOAN C. EDWARDS SCHOLARSHIP

Class of 2023

Garrett Boggs

Class of 2026

Holly Edwards, Lauren Fife, Thomas Mosman, Taylor Pearson, Toni Stickley, Clay Willis

CLASS OF 2023

RECIPIENTS

Garima Agarwal
Suzann Al-Qawasmi

Garrett Boggs

John Brown
Leah Ching
Leah Ching
Joseph Chirico

Cameron Cottrill
Blue Cremeans

James Curry
Michael DeRosa
Nicholas Dolan
Alexander Dunham
Benjamin Duplaga
Rawan Elhamdani
Brandon Fazalare
Kadiyatu Fofana
Maya Gordon
Luke Hamm

Nicolas Harris
Brandon Henderson
Ethan Higginbotham
Mark Hill

Kenneth Humphrey
Rachel Lee
Wasila Madhoun

Ian McElroy
John McLaughlin
Kendell McNeely
Daniel McNeil
Caleb Meaige

Daniel Miller
Tori Miller

SCHOLARSHIPS

MUSOM Class of 1981
Harry & Elise Carnahan; Eagle Distributing;
Dr. Gretchen Oley Family; Weisberg Charitable
Trust Expendable
The Darby Family; Prichard Medical School
Trust
Alpha Natural Resources; Ramsey
Fox Family
BrickStreet
Dr. Peter Chirico; JCESOM Scholarship
Campaign; Charles R. & Mary Burris McCollister
Memorial; Dr. Thomas B. Styer; Watson Family
Alma M. Stollings Memorial
Kathryne J. Blair; The Darby Family; Dr.
Frederick J. & Agnes
Marie Hoitash
Dr. R.J. Wilkinson Memorial
Dr. Henry Hatfield; MUSOM Memorial
Clyde Albert Burgess, MD
The Darby Family
The Darby Family
MUSOM Faculty
Norval Carter Memorial
BrickStreet; Ernest Leaberry Memorial
Dr. Charlotte Rhee
BrickStreet; JCESOM Scholarship Campaign;
Norval Carter Memorial; Weisberg Charitable
Trust Expendable
MUSOM Class of 1981; Norval Carter Memorial
BrickStreet
Goode Family
JCESOM Scholarship Campaign; C. Douglas
Phillips, MD, FACR
Dr. Friday G. Simpson
Brent A. Marsteller; Mr. & Mrs. Guy C. Nangle
BrickStreet; MUSOM Class of 2014; MUSOM
Scholarship Campaign
Dr. Franklin Shuler
JCESOM Scholarship Campaign
Given Family; JCESOM Scholarship Campaign
Dr. Louis R. Molina
The Health Plan; JCESOM Scholarship
Campaign; Mufson Family Award
JCESOM Scholarship Campaign
O'Neal Family

JOAN C. EDWARDS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Class of 2023

Garima Agarwal, Suzann Al-Qawasmi, Garrett Boggs, John Brown, Christian Casingal, Jaineet Chhabra, Joseph Chirico, Cameron Cottrill, Blue Cremeans, James Curry, Alexander Dague, Michael DeRosa, Nicholas Dolan, Benjamin Duplaga, Rawan Elhamdani, Brandon Fazalare, Kadiyatu Fofana, Nicolas Harris, Daniel Haught, Brandon Henderson, Ethan Higginbotham, Mark Hill, Brent Horswell, Haseeb Jafary, Fatih Koc, Theodore Kocoshis, Rachel Lee, Ian McElroy, John McLaughlin, Kendall McNeely, Daniel McNeil, Caleb Meaige, Daniel Miller, Tori Miller, Mikayla Myers, Shelby Naegele, Matthew O'Neal, Kyle Pajarito, Reena Park, Alexa Pigliacampi, Micah Ray, Kevin Reger, Brianna Roberts Canales, John Roth, Hannah Rowe, Michelle Rueff, Austin Rush, Melinda Sharon, Emma Sherfinski, Abigail Short, Caleb Spainhower, Morgan Spencer, Lilyan Starkey, Patrick Thomas, Steven Tun, Anisha Valluri, Terry Waddell, Joshua Whitmore, Seneca Williams, Andreas Zambos, Jenna Zuzolo

Class of 2024

Tyler Bayliss, Mackenzie Bergeron, Seth Bergeron, Heba Boustany, Caroline Briggs, Tristan Burgess, Caleb Clark, Shealyn Falbo, Lady Ferguson, Taylor Fleschman, Kassandra Flores, John Goellner, Gavin Hayes, Juan Hernandez-Pelcastre, Jentre Hyde, Dylan Jayasuriya, Brett Johnson, Joshua Keefer, Willie Kimler, Austin Loop, Thaddeus Martin, Kelsey Matusic, Andrew McAward, Thomas McIntosh, Justin Merritt, Zachary Mitchell, Mariah Morris, Shannon Morrone, Karagan Mulhall, Levi Nolan, Danielle Roth, Dylan Smith, Shelley St. Clair, Graham Sutherland, Jessica Tall, Nicholas Tate, Kathryn Taylor, Daniel Testa, Madison Wall, Pooja Warrior, Matthew Werhoff, Hania Woomer, Zachary Wright

Class of 2025

Marissa Alvarez, Mary Anton, Alex Ashley, Jacy Baxter, Allison Beverlin, Ean Bills, Charles Byrum, Ryan Churma, Jessica Crislip, Samuel Crow, Stanley Czahoroski, Matthew Eastham, Faith Ferguson, Richard Ford Jr., Amy Gregory, Colby Gresak, Leah Hahn, Danny Holbert, Stephen Holley, Dontreyl Holsey, Hannah Hudson, Landon Irwin, Calyb King, John Kinney, Paige Kisling, Rebecca Lee, Olivia Lim, Rachel Maddox, Madeleine Marks, Zachary McConnell, Kendalyn McDaniel, Erin McGrady, Megan Morral, Michael Mueller, Mohammad Noor, Marlena Pigliacampi, Cheston Porter, Rachel Price, Stephen Richbart, Tylar Seckman, Erin Shaver, Coy Smith, Michael Smith, Kennedy Snavely, Chase Stevens, Amber Sturgill, Samuel Suite, Justin West, John Young

Class of 2026

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CLASS OF 2023

RECIPIENTS

SCHOLARSHIPS

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Micah Ray	Dr. Michael and Kari Cooper; JCESOM Scholarship Campaign
Kevin Reger	Drs. Subhash & Rashmi Kumar; Slater Trust
Brianna Roberts Canales	Slater Trust
John Roth	BrickStreet
Nicholas Royce	MUSOM Class of 2018; Slater Trust
Austin Rush	Dr. Thomas Folsom Pediatrics; Sylvia & Milton Marshall Memorial
Melinda Sharon	MUSOM Alumni; 1439
Emma Sherfinski	Robert C. Bailey Memorial; Sylvia & Milton Marshall Memorial; Slater Trust
Abigail Short	Dr. & Mrs. Scott Miller Family; JCESOM Alumni Association President
Shannon Smith	Ernest M. Walker, MD, Memorial
Caleb Spainhower	MUSOM Class of 1986
Lilyan Starkey	BrickStreet; David C. Griffin, MD
Abigail Tubert	Dr. Charles McKown Jr; Weisberg Charitable Trust Expendable
Anisha Valluri	McCorkle Family Scholarship
Joshua Whitmore	Garee & Mary Ransbottom
Seneca Williams	Bertha & Lake Polan; Marshall OB/GYN 4th Year; Marshall Orthopaedics Fourth Year; Dr. Gary Tolley Memorial
Thomas Wright	Gregory D. VanMeter Memorial; Weisberg Charitable Trust Expendable
Jenna Zuzolo	Dawsey Family; MUSOM Class of 1983

66



I am truly honored and grateful to receive my scholarship. I am deeply appreciative to the donors for their invaluable contribution. Receiving this scholarship is not just a financial boost but also an immense encouragement that motivates me to continue striving for excellence in my academics and future endeavors.

— Gloria Adubofour, Class of 2024
Woodbridge, Virginia

99

CLASS OF 2024

RECIPIENTS

Tyler Bayliss
Mackenzie Bergeron

Taylor Boggess
Caroline Briggs
Tristan Burgess

Sydney Dangott
Jeremy Eckels

Morgan Elmore

Andrew Ferguson
Taylor Fleshman
Kassandra Flores
Juan Hernandez-Pelcastre
Brett Johnson
Joshua Keefer
Thaddeus Martin
Kelsey Matusic

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General MUJCESOM
MUSOM Faculty; Nadar Family Foundation
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C. Hensley & R.W. Thomas; Meadows' Pediatric

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Justin Merritt
Zachary Mitchell
Mariah Morris
Shannon Morrone

Makala Murphy
Danielle Roth

Dylan Smith
Shelley St. Clair
Jessica Tall
Kathryn Taylor
Daniel Testa
Madison Wall
Shelby Wellman
Jessica Wellman
Zachary Wright

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Marshall Cardiology

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Marissa Alvarez
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Alex Ashley

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Ean Bills
Charles Byrum
Ryan Churma
Jessica Crislip
Samuel Crow

Stanley Czahoroski

Amy Gregory

Colby Gresak
Leah Hahn

Roland Hamrick
Danny Holbert
Stephen Holley
Dontreyl Holsey
Hannah Hudson
Kylie Johnson
Selena Khanna
Calyb King

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Dr. Maurice & Diane Mufson Expendable
BrickStreet; Drs. Satbir & Shalu Singh
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Rebecca Lee

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Zachary McConnell
Kendalyn McDaniel
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Dr. Marc Hettlinger
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CLASS OF 2026

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Adeshina Olubukunola

Ashalia Aggarwal

Raza Ahmed

Bethany Andrew

Rosheka Beckford

Vijay Bharti

Brandon Bullock

Loren King

Kailey Stuart

Alexys Bolden

Madison Bowles

Paige Boyd

Dakota Burdette

Samuel Casto

Lily Cessna

Jaclyn Choate

Benjamin Clark

Jacob Clark

Jovon Cobbs

Nicholas Coker

Vincent Coleman

Dominic Collins

Skylar Cooper

Frederick Crow

Alexander Dague

Robert Dalton

Ian DePew

Mathew Dudich

Joshua Eastman

Holly Edwards

Lauren Fife

Payton Fitchpatrick

David Fox

Nicholas Freeman

Katherine Germann

Zane Griffith

Jonathan Groves

Sarah Hoard

Aidan Keaveny

Andrew Lester

Andrew Lester

Eric Lewandowski

Esther Masayi

Rita Mattar

Anna Mayo

Ashton McDonald

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Harler-Perdoncin

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Dr. Maurice & Diane Mufson Expendable

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Huntington Clinical Foundation; Richey Family Endowed; WV Medical Association Alliance

HIMG Founders; Brent A. Marsteller

Brent A. Marsteller; Dr. John B. Walden Memorial

Dr. Gary Tolley Memorial

Drs. Sanjeev Sharma & Barbara Lahr; Walter E. Duling Scholarship

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Walter E. Duling; MUSOM Class of 1995

MUSOM Class of 1993

Dr. Monica Richey Walker

Elizabeth; Buzz & Norma Nash

MUSOM Class of 2017

Dr. Jerome A. "Jerry" Gilbert

Kevin W. Yingling, MD

Sean and Beth Hammers

Drs. Trenor Williams & Matt Lambert; Dr.

Susann L. Lovejoy Memorial; Sekar Family

RECIPIENTS

Alyssa Milbee

Mackenzie Miller

Thomas Mosman

Tristan Patton

Annabella Pauley

Jake Peterson

Alec Phelps

Kara Piechowski

Steven Pribanich

Madelyn Ross

Kristen Sanders

Emily Saurborn

Sophia Shank

Marvin Simpkins

Kristiana Skiffington

Colton Smith

William Snider

Claire Soucier

Katherine Steele

Toni Stickley

Alyssa Stricklen

Akshay Suresh

Adolfo Torres

Nkechi Uradu

Anderson White

Clay Willis

Steven Wu

Emily Yablonsky

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BrickStreet

W.B. "Bart" & Doris Andrews

Dr. Ezra B. Riber

Wilson Family

Bernard & Pansy Wellington; MUSOM

Class of 2022; Oliashirazi

Family Scholarship; Drs. Jack Kinder Jr. & Bradley Henry

Dr & Ms. Thomas J. Holbrook Memorial

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Kathleen M. O'Hanlon, MD

Paul R. Durst, MD; Sadler Brothers

BrickStreet

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MU Alumni MOV Bison Club; Dr. George Gevas Memorial;

McElroy Family Scholarship

Mahmood Heydarian, MD

Erling C.J. Norrby, MD, PhD

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MUSOM Class of 1997

MUSOM Class of 1996

AT&T

MUSOM Class of 1989

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Dr. John & Lisa Roth

Cynthia A. Warren

Dr. Rinard Z. & Margaret Ann Gibson Hart; Jerry & Margaret

Hodge; W. Carl Kappes

Drs. Andrew & Pat Schindzielorz; Sekar Family

Huntington Clinical Foundation

BrickStreet; Bernice Dorsey Douthat & Lyell V. Douthat; Dr. Amir

Rashid Piracha

Cabell County Medical Society Alliance; MUSOM Class of 1999

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Call 304-691-1711 or scan the QR code and give online to support an existing scholarship or start a new one!



Carrying on Tradition

WHITE COAT & MEDICAL INSTRUMENTS

The Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine thanks the more than 100 School of Medicine alumni, faculty, staff and friends who generously purchased white coats, medical instruments and sponsorships for the Class of 2027. The names of the donors and student recipients are listed on the following pages.



Welcome to the Class of 2027



The Class of 2017 includes Marshall University's first four M.D. Early Assurance students, pictured with program director Jennifer Plymale. The program, initiated in 2020, provides a clear pathway to medical school for both instate and out-of-state high-achieving undergraduate students at Marshall.



Dean David Gozal congratulates MSI Cedric Annan.

Our SPECIAL THANKS go to DRS. JOSEPH B. and OMayMA T. TOUMA for providing top-of-the-line stethoscopes for every student and DR. ALI and MRS. CORINNA OLIASHIRAZI for their support of this milestone event.



Future physicians ready to receive their white coats.



WSAZ interviews Olivia McCoy and Danni Adeshina.



New classmates

2027 CLASS STATS

- 72 students
- 57% from West Virginia
- 93% science majors
- 12% first generation college students



Dr. Pooja Sangani '17 is proud to welcome her brother Darshan to the class of 2027.

White Coats: Class of 2027

ALUMNI & FRIENDS	CLASS YEAR	SOM STUDENT	ALUMNI & FRIENDS	CLASS YEAR	SOM STUDENT
Robert C. Anton, MD	1989	Chance J. Anderson	Julia L. Pasquale, MD	2003	Jessica R. Adkins
R. Daniel Bledsoe, MD	2001	Jacob P. Hackett	Daniel J. Poole, MD	2012	David E. Lee
Drs. Joshua A. & Whitney A. Boggs	2010/2011	Yasin Sadeghian	Nimra H. Rana, MD	Family	Taha S. Rana
E. Fritz Braunlich, MD	1994	Matthew E. Bane	Drs. Gary O. Rankin & Monica A. Valentovic	Faculty	Sydney M. Clem
Peter A. Chirico, MD	Faculty	Catherine E. Allen	Charlotte A. Rhee, MD	1991	Rebecca M. Garan
Karen Clark Gerbo, MD	1989	Sarah E. Eaglen	Ezra B. Riber, MD	1984	Tyler Flaughner
Dr. Rick J. & Mrs. Jennifer Compton	1994	Casey A. Crawford	Ezra B. Riber, MD	1984	Sean P. Hill
Amy R. Conley, MD	1998	Hannah E. Hilbelink	Elizabeth S. Roberson, MD	1995	Anh Duy D. Nguyen
D. Timothy Coombs, MD	1991	Tyler J. Eirich	Dr. Bryan A. & Mrs. Melanie C. Sauls	2005	Aidan L. Sauls
Dr. Gary D. & Mrs. Krista D. Cremeans	1996	Brad A. Cremeans	Dr. Mark F. & Mrs. Janet L. Sheridan	1987	Mitchell D. Nelson
Mr. Charles D. Crigger	Friend	Brayden I. Jett	Friday G. Simpson, MD	1991	Malina E. Serrano
Robert J. Cure, MD	1998	Benjamin C. Wooten	Geoffrey L. Singer, MD	2001	Gabrielle G. Potter
Samuel R. Davis, MD	1983	Jonathan L. Lipovich	Jay P. Singh, MD	2006	Danny Sameh Darwich
Jennifer B. Day, MD	1991	Autumn D. Brittingham	Sandra L. Skar, MD	1997	Rebecca K. Hicks
Jennifer B. Day, MD	1991	Kayla L.E. Coffman	Mrs. Bunny Smith	Friend	Aakriti Damai
Julie A. DeTemple, MD	Family	Nathan P. DeTemple	Dr. Kevin S. & Mrs. Tammy C. Smith	1986	Cedric K. Annan
Harry H. Dinsmore Jr., MD	1991	Jonathan C. Noble	Nina K. Smith, MD	1981	Sophia J. McMillion
Joseph E. Evans, MD	1982	Braden T. Wurst	Stephen C. Smith, MD	1981	Joseph C. Burchett
Adrian S. Garmestani, MD	2001	Zach A. Turner	Debra J. Stultz, MD	1989	Sydney J. Smith
Amy L. Garmestani, MD	2001	Audrey G. Grigore	Dr. Thomas B. & Mrs. Julia V. Styer	1982	Salvia B. Zafar
Marian Jeanne Gorham, MD	1986	Georgia G. White	Steven A. Taylor, MD	2010	Benjamin D. Finkenbine
Dr. Paul J. & Mrs. Amy J. Grandinetti	1990	Julia G. Grandinetti	Beth A. Toppins, MD	2000	Jacqueline J. Cavendish
Robert B. Gray, MD	1999	S. Shane Snuffer	Beth A. Toppins, MD	2000	Cassidy B. Woodrum
Dr. Curtis W. & Mrs. Lisa G. Harrison Jr.	1998	Oludamilola M. Adeshina	Pratiksha P. Vaghela, MD	2010	Mohammad M. Martini
Erich R. Heinz, MD	1995	Samuel W. Harris	Drs. Price S. & Erin M. Ward	2012	Lauren M. Baumgartner
Robert A. Hess, MD	1984	Joseph M. Deaton	Kevin J. Willis, MD	1985	Darshan N. Sangani
Jonathan A. Hess, MD	2012	Ethan B. Niebergall	Marc A. Workman, MD	1986	Sidney G.A. Strause
James T. Holbrook, MD	1987	Daniel L. Richmond	R. Daniel Bledsoe, MD	2001	Jacob P. Hackett
Mrs. Linda S. Holmes & Dr. Willie Haught	Friends	Gabrielle V. Hammers	Drs. Joshua A. & Whitney A. Boggs	2010/2011	Yasin Sadeghian
Drema K. Hunt, MD	1992	Abigail G. Keeton	Peter A. Chirico, MD	Faculty	Catherine E. Allen
Shannon N. James, MD	2013	Iram M. Kingson	Karen Clark Gerbo, MD	1989	Sarah E. Eaglen
Ms. Paris N. Johnson	Friend	Kasonja S. Hill	Dr. Rick J. & Mrs. Jennifer Compton	1994	Casey A. Crawford
Drs. Ronald deAndrade & Kim M. Jordan	1983/1982	Hannah R. Maier	Amy R. Conley, MD	1998	Hannah E. Hilbelink
Michael E. Kilkenny, MD	1982	Joshua B. Kelley	D. Timothy Coombs, MD	1991	Tyler J. Eirich
Michael E. Kilkenny, MD	1982	Uchechi C. Nnaka	Dr. Gary D. & Mrs. Krista D. Cremeans	1996	Brad A. Cremeans
Joseph M. King, MD	2007	Wade G. Ritchie	Robert J. Cure, MD	1998	Benjamin C. Wooten
Devin A. King, MD	1999	Madison N. Stamper	Samuel R. Davis, MD	1983	Jonathan L. Lipovich
Courtney L. Kiser McLean, MD	2011	Emma C. Sitler	Jennifer B. Day, MD	1991	Kayla L.E. Coffman
Paula K. Larsen, MD	1994	Olivia P. McCoy	Jennifer B. Day, MD	1991	Autumn D. Brittingham
Reginald J. McClung, MD	1983	Kaleab Y. Mengesha	Drs. Ronald deAndrade & Kim M. Jordan	1983/1982	Hannah R. Maier
Michael L. Meadows, MD	1994	Jordyn N. Torrens	Julia A. DeTemple, MD	Family	Nathan P. DeTemple
Nimish K. Mehta, MD	1997	Anthony F. Siler	Harry H. Dinsmore Jr., MD	1991	Jonathan C. Noble
Drs. Kelly E. & Kristina B. Melvin	2005	Saige M. Boris	Joseph E. Evans, MD	1982	Braden T. Wurst
J. Jeff Mullins, MD	2010	Colton J. Treadway	Adrian S. Garmestani, MD	2001	Zach A. Turner
Nancy B. Norton, MD	1999	Zoya M. Khalid	Amy L. Garmestani, MD	2001	Audrey G. Grigore
			Shea M. Goodrich, MD	2011	Rebecca K. Hicks

Medical Instruments: Class of 2027

ALUMNI & FRIENDS	CLASS YEAR	SOM STUDENT	ALUMNI & FRIENDS	CLASS YEAR	SOM STUDENT
Dr. Paul J. & Mrs. Amy J. Grandinetti	1990	Julia G. Grandinetti	Leslie A. Pack Ranken, MD	2006	Cassidy B. Woodrum
Robert B. Gray, MD	1999	S. Shane Snuffer	Julia L. Pasquale, MD	2003	Jessica R. Adkins
Drs. Forrest S. Harrison & Megan E. Docherty	2011	Georgia G. White	Drs. James R. & Alison S. Patterson	1998	David E. Lee
Erich R. Heinz, MD	1995	Samuel W. Harris	Nimra H. Rana, MD	Family	Taha S. Rana
Robert A. Hess, MD	1984	Joseph M. Deaton	Drs. Gary O. Rankin & Monica A. Valentovic	Faculty	Sydney M. Clem
Jonathan A. Hess, MD	2012	Ethan B. Niebergall	Charlotte A. Rhee, MD	1991	Rebecca M. Garan
Scot D. Hines, MD	1985	Kasonja S. Hill	Ezra B. Riber, MD	1984	Tyler Flaughner
Mrs. Linda S. Holmes & Dr. Willie Haught	Friends	Gabrielle V. Hammers	Ezra B. Riber, MD	1984	Sean P. Hill
David J. Hunt, MD	1995	Danny Sameh Darwich	Elizabeth S. Roberson, MD	1995	Anh Duy D. Nguyen
Drema K. Hunt, MD	1992	Abigail G. Keeton	Dr. Bryan A. & Mrs. Melanie C. Sauls	2005	Aidan L. Sauls
Shannon N. James, MD	2013	Iram M. Kingston	Dr. Mark F. & Mrs. Janet L. Sheridan	1987	Mitchell D. Nelson
Ms. Paris N. Johnson	Friend	Oludamilola M. Adeshina	Friday G. Simpson, MD	1991	Malina E. Serrano
Ms. Paris N. Johnson	Friend	Daniel L. Richmond	Geoffrey L. Singer, MD	2001	Gabrielle G. Potter
Joseph L. Joyce, MD	1997	Brayden I. Jett	Mrs. Bunny Smith	Friend	Aakriti Damai
Michael E. Kilkenny, MD	1982	Joshua B. Kelley	Dr. Kevin S. & Mrs. Tammy C. Smith	1986	Cedric K. Annan
Michael E. Kilkenny, MD	1982	Uchechi C. Nnaka	Nina K. Smith, MD	1981	Sophia J. McMillion
Devin A. King, MD	1999	Madison N. Stamper	Stephen C. Smith, MD	1981	Joseph C. Burchett
Joseph M. King, MD	2007	Wade G. Ritchie	Mary E. Smyrnioudis, MD	2009	Jacqueline J. Cavendish
Courtney L. Kiser McLean, MD	2011	Emma C. Sitler	Debra J. Stultz, MD	1989	Sydney J. Smith
Paula K. Larsen, MD	1994	Olivia P. McCoy	Dr. Thomas B. & Mrs. Julia V. Styer	1982	Salvia B. Zafar
David L. Martin Jr., MD	2005	Chance J. Anderson	Steven A. Taylor, MD	2010	Benjamin D. Finkenbine
Matthew J. Matson, MD	2022	Matthew E. Bane	Pratiksha P. Vaghela, MD	2010	Mohammad M. Martini
Reginald J. McClung, MD	1983	Kaleab Y. Mengesha	Drs. Price S. & Erin M. Ward	2012	Lauren M. Baumgartner
Michael L. Meadows, MD	1994	Jordyn N. Torrens	Ian N. Wilhelm, MD	2012	Colton J. Treadway
Nimish K. Mehta, MD	1997	Anthony F. Siler	Kevin J. Willis, MD	1985	Darshan N. Sangani
Drs. Kelly E. & Kristina B. Melvin	2005	Saige M. Boris	Marc A. Workman, MD	1986	Sidney G.A. Strause
Nancy B. Norton, MD	1999	Zoya M. Khalid			

Sponsors: Class of 2027

ALUMNI & FRIENDS	CLASS YEAR	ALUMNI & FRIENDS	CLASS YEAR	ALUMNI & FRIENDS	CLASS YEAR
Christopher W. Carey, MD	2011	Joseph L. Joyce, MD	1997	Mitsuko P. Shannon, MD	1988
Jennifer B. Day, MD	1991	David L. Martin Jr., MD	2005	Friday G. Simpson, MD	1991
Dr. Jeff T. & Mrs. Mary S. Gee	1996	Matthew J. Matson, MD	2022	Geoffrey L. Singer, MD	2001
Jennifer L. Gerlach, MD	2011	James M. Mears, MD	1988	Abigail E. Smith, MD	2017
Dr. Nancy B. & Mr. P. Nolan Graham	1987	Drs. James R. & Alison S. Patterson	1988	Mary E. Smyrnioudis, MD	2009
Drs. Forrest S. Harrison & Megan E. Docherty	2011	Daniel J. Poole, MD	2012	Robert E. Turner, MD	1981
Dr. Curtis W. & Mrs. Lisa G. Harrison Jr.	1998	Charlotte A. Rhee, MD	1991	Drs. Paul V. & Brittany L. Viscuse	2016
Scot D. Hines, MD	1985	Ezra B. Riber, MD	1984	M. Teresa Vives, MD	1991
David J. Hunt, MD	1995	Hobart K. Richey, MD	1983	Jeffrey W. Whightsel, MD	1984
		Richard E. Ryncarz, MD	1995	Ian N. Wilhelm, MD	2012

Class Notes



1980s



Michael Kilkenny

Michael Kilkenny, '82, CEO and health officer for the Cabell-Huntington Health Department, is president-elect of the board of directors of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) for the 2023-2024 term. Following his term as president-elect, he will become board president on July 1, 2024. NACCHO represents the country's nearly 3,000 local health departments.

The West Virginia Association of Public Health Departments presented outstanding achievement awards to **Lee B. Smith** of the Monongalia County Health Department, and **Michael E. Kilkenny** of the Cabell-Huntington Health Department. Both are graduates of the Marshall University School of Medicine, class of '82.

Ron D. Stollings, '82, was awarded the 2023 West Virginia Rural Health Leadership Award. This award acknowledges Stollings' leadership and initiative in strengthening

the quality of health care and improving the overall access, well-being and health of all West Virginians. Stollings is a provider at the Madison Medical Clinic of the Southern West Virginia Health System.



Ron Stollings

James W. "J.W." Endicott, '83, a longtime primary care physician in Mingo County, and his practice in Kermit, West Virginia, have joined Marshall Health. His practice is now Marshall Family Medicine – Kermit, and Endicott was appointed an assistant professor in the department of family and community health at MUSOM.



J.W. Endicott

Robert A. Hess, '84, president and co-founder of OVP Health, has been inducted into the Business Hall of Fame at the Marshall University Lewis College of Business and the City of Huntington's Wall of Fame, both in 2023. Hess is

a healthcare entrepreneur working in the community to address the critical issues of addiction and geriatrics.



Robert Hess

Kathleen M. "Kathy" O'Hanlon, '86, received the 2023 Dean's Award for Excellence in Education and the Distinguished Woman in Medicine & Science awards during the School of Medicine's annual faculty award ceremony. O'Hanlon is a professor of family and community health at MUSOM.



Kathy O'Hanlon

J. Gregory Rosencrance, '88, is president and CEO of WVU Medicine/Thomas Hospitals in South Charleston, West Virginia. He was previously president of the Cleveland Clinic Indian River Hospital in Vero Beach, Florida, and prior to that he practiced internal medicine at Charleston Area Medical Center (CAMC) for more than two decades. In September, he was honored as the

MUSOM 2023 Distinguished Alumnus.



Gregory Rosencrance

Paulette S. Wehner, '89, vice dean of graduate medical education at MUSOM, is one of only 10 individuals named to the 2023 WV Executive Magazine's Health Care Hall of Fame. As professor and practicing cardiologist, she has led the school of medicine in the tremendous growth of its residency and fellowship programs since her appointment as vice dean in 2016.



Paulette Wehner

1990s

Gary J. Petty, '92, earned recognition as a fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), and was recognized by the West Virginia chapter in March 2023. In October 2023, he joined the Hershel "Woody" Williams VA Hospital. Dr. Petty was the president of his medical school class.

Class Notes



Gary Petty

Tammy L. Bannister, MD, '94, received the 2023 Woman in Medicine & Science award during the annual during the School of Medicine's annual faculty award ceremony. Bannister is a professor of family and community health at MUSOM, where she also serves as program director for the family medicine residency.



Tammy Bannister

Gary D. Cremeans, '96, a clinical associate professor at MUSOM, directs operations at the CHH Family Urgent Care Center and St. Mary's Urgent Care. He also sees patients at the CHH Family Medical Center at Merritts Creek and was named the divisional



Gary Cremeans

chief of primary care for Marshall Health's new integrated group practice.

Geoffrey M. Polen, '96, has been named chief of medical staff at OhioHealth's Southeastern Medical Center in Cambridge, Ohio.



Geoffrey Polen

Ellen A. Thompson, '96, was selected for the Alpha Chi Omega Women of Distinction Awards. She is a noninvasive cardiologist with Marshall Health and serves as director of the cardiology fellowship program at MUSOM. As her nominator said, "She is a pillar to her community, and she chose to stay local after her training. She has been an asset to the rural communities of West Virginia." She cofounded the school's cardio-oncology program for chemotherapy and is the director of echocardiography. And continuing her commitment to support underserved communities, she started a tele-education program.



Ellen Thompson

Jodi M. Cisco-Goff, '97, received the 2023 Rural Preceptor of the Year during the School of Medicine's annual faculty award ceremony. Cisco-Goff is an associate professor of surgery at MUSOM and associate program director of the school's rural general surgery residency.

Bryan D. Springer, '99, was named was named chair of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at Mayo Clinic in Florida. He previously served as professor of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at Atrium Musculoskeletal Institute and fellowship director at the OrthoCarolina Hip & Knee Center.

Patrick "Pat" A. Stone, '99, and Cynthia Coleman were married November 11, 2023. Dr. Stone served as his class president and is a vascular surgeon at Vanderbilt Health in Nashville, Tennessee. Cynthia is the senior director of clinical services implementation at Edwards Lifesciences.



Pat Stone and Cynthia Coleman

2000s

Lisa R. Carchedi, '00, a psychiatrist with the University of Maryland Medical System,

completed another master's degree in clinical herbalism from the Maryland University of Integrative Health (MUIH).

R. Dan Bledsoe, '01, is the state Emergency Medical Services (EMS) medical director for the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Bureau of EMS. He serves the bureau in consulting and advising on matters related to EMS. Bledsoe previously served as the EMS medical director for the University of Pennsylvania Medical Center (UPMC) in Central Pennsylvania. He and his wife, Allison, have four children.

Carmella Evans-Molina, '01, is a nationally-recognized physician scientist and director of the Center for Diabetes and Metabolic Diseases (CDMD) at Indiana University School of Medicine. She is also the Eli Lilly and Company Professor of Pediatric Diabetes, the director of the Indiana Diabetes Research Center and director of the Diabetes Research Program in the Herman B. Wells Center for Pediatric Research at IU School of Medicine. Evans-Molina and her husband, Chad, have two daughters. Evans-Molina was the president of the Class of 2001.



Carmella Evans-Molina

Nicole M. Rashid, '01, practices ophthalmology at Family Care Health Centers' Ophthalmology & Vision Center, in South Charleston, West Virginia.



Nicole Rashid

B. Hunter Boshell, '03, joined University of Cincinnati Health as an assistant professor of clinical radiology. He served as president of the Class of 2003.



Hunter Boshell

Allen J. Holmes, '03, after a 20-year career as an emergency medicine physician, is now co-owner of BioSymmetry Wilmington. He is certified in advanced bio-identical hormone therapy via Worldlink Medical. In addition, he is now certified by the American Board of Obesity Medicine. In addition, he is eligible for board certification in obesity medicine. Holmes' other interests include peptide therapy, PRP therapy and other cutting-edge modalities to help his patients improve their quality of life and achieve vitality. Holmes lives in Wilmington

with his wife, Jenn, and their three children.

Marcia Menezes Walker, '03, sees patients at the New Orleans VA Medical Center in Louisiana. She is also a faculty member of the Department of Radiology at the Tulane University School of Medicine.



Marcia Walker

Andrea D. Marcum Vallejos, '06, is the chief medical information officer for Valley Health Systems, working to enhance how care is accessed and delivered across the health system. Vallejos also continues her OB/GYN clinical practice at A Woman's Place, a Huntington-based Valley Health clinic. Vallejos is a clinical assistant professor in OB/GYN at MUSOM.



Andrea Vallejos

Ayne Amjad, '07, is director of correctional health-care for the West Virginia Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and an assistant professor of medicine at the MUSOM.

Amjad provides medical oversight for correctional facilities throughout West Virginia in partnership with the contract care provider, Wexford Health.



Ayne Amjad

Elizabeth "Betsy" A. Dovec, '07, has established her own bariatric surgery practice, Body by Bariatrics. Dovec and her team see patients at Millenia Surgery Center in Orlando, Florida, and Lakeland Regional Health in Lakeland, Florida.

J. Rob Hayes, '08, is medical director for clinical documentation integrity (CDI), case management and utilization review at St. Mary's Medical Center (SMMC) and division chief. Hayes continues as the medical director of the SMMC hospitalist program.



Rob Hayes

Lucia I. Soltis, '08, participated in the Health Heroes campaign. Soltis, a member of the MUSOM Alumni Association board

of directors, is a family telemedicine specialist in Hamlin, West Virginia.

Adrienne M. Mays-Kingston, '09, is a family medicine physician at Holzer Health System. Prior to joining Holzer, she served as the associate dean for academic advising and longitudinal curriculum at MUSOM. She received the 2023 Excellence in Leadership award at the School of Medicine's annual faculty award ceremony.



Adrienne Mays-Kingston

2010s

Sarah K. Flaherty, '10, participated in the Health Heroes campaign. She is chief of emergency services at University of Pittsburgh Medical Center McKeesport.

J. Jeff Mullins, '10, is regional vice president of ApolloMD in Charlotte, North Carolina. He has practiced emergency medicine in various capacities with Atrium Health Union and has



Jeffrey Mullins

Class Notes

served as Atrium Health System Medical Director for ApolloMD since 2020. Mullins was president of the Class of 2010. He and his wife, Lara, and sons, Mason and Lucas, reside in Charlotte.

David P. Rupp, '10, associate professor of family and community health at MUSOM, received the 2023 Excellence in Mentoring award at the School of Medicine's annual faculty award ceremony.



David Rupp

Christopher W. Carey, '11, assistant professor of emergency medicine, was the recipient of the University of Connecticut Integrated Residency in Emergency Medicine Excellence in Teaching Award. He administers the American Board of

Emergency Medicine Oral Certification Examination and became an Advanced Trauma Life Support instructor. Carey is also a director of simulation medicine for the Center for Education Simulation and Innovation (CESI) at Hartford Hospital.

Susanna A. Kapourales, '11, and husband, Roger Lambert, welcomed a daughter, Anastasia Chrysanthé, on April 19, 2023. The Lamberts also have a son, Sam, and daughter, Anna. Kapourales served as the president of the class of 2011 and is with Marshall Pediatrics of Teays Valley, West Virginia.

Matthew Q. Christiansen, '13, was appointed state health officer and commissioner of the Department of Health and Human Resources's (DHHR) Bureau for Public Health in January 2023. In July 2023, he was also named regional director of the West Virginia First Foundation board overseeing the distribution of opioid settlement funds.



Matthew Christiansen

Ally A. Roy, '13, Marshall Health physician and assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the MUSOM, was recently selected for the highly competitive 2024 Association of Professors in Gynecology and Obstetrics (APGO) Academic Scholars and Leaders Program.



Ally Roy

Rebecca M. Hayes, '14, has relocated to the Raleigh, North Carolina, area. She is vice president of clinical

affairs of the North Carolina Community Health Center Association (NCCCHA), the state association that supports the 43 health centers in the state. Hayes is serving her first year on the Marshall University Alumni board of directors.

Brian D. and Amanda Woelfel Adkins, both '15, welcomed a daughter, Maeve Elizabeth. They also have a son, Benjamin. The Adkins are residing in Dallas. Amanda is a medical director and pediatrician at Nitehawk Pediatric Urgent Care, LLC, in Dallas. Brian is a pathologist at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center.



Maeve Elizabeth Adkins

Brandon S. Shiflett, '15, is with United Hospital Center

Just What the Doctor Ordered!

Introducing these adorable School of Medicine Alumni baby bibs — the perfect way to start your little one's journey in style!

Crafted with love, these bibs are not just cute but also durable and easy to clean. Get one for your mini doctor and let them show their **#MUSOMWV pride!**

If you are an alumni with a little one, email Linda Holmes at holmes@marshall.edu! We would love to send you a bib!



Pictured are Weston and Ellie Worthy, twins of Michelle Worthy ('17).

(UHC) Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine in Bridgeport, West Virginia.



Brandon Shiflett

Megan A. Arboleda, '16, practices family medicine and obstetrical care at Hugh Chatham Health–Family Medicine & Obstetrics in Elkin, North Carolina. She and her husband Juan, have a son, Leo, 4, and a daughter, Maya, 2.



Megan Arboleda

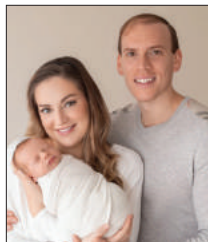
Evan J. Madden, '17, recently joined Eagle Family Medicine at Guilford College in Greensboro, North Carolina. He and his wife Cecelia have three children Lily, Josiah & Pax.



The Madden Family

Joseph R. AbuRahma and **Rachael J. Hager**, both class of '18, welcomed their first

child, a son Peyton. They are both practicing at UFHealth in Gainesville, Florida.



Peyton AbuRahma

Hayden A. Ansinelli, '18, is with the radiation oncology team at Arizona Oncology, seeing patients at the Orange Grove location in Tucson. Ansinelli treats a variety of malignancies, with a focus on genitourinary and head and neck cancers. He specializes in gynecologic and prostate brachytherapy.



Hayden Ansinelli

Jenna K. Barbour, '18, was named the medical director of family medicine for Holzer Health System. She and her husband Karl renewed their wedding vows October 19 in Las Vegas.

Zachary D. Hunter, '18, has completed a fellowship in pediatric emergency medicine at Atrium Health Wake Forest, and is now assistant director of the pediatric emergency department of Prisma Health Midlands in Columbia, South Carolina.

He and his wife, Lauren, welcomed a daughter, Ada Louise, in April 2023. They also have a son, Hollis.



Zachary Hunter with his daughter, Ada Louise

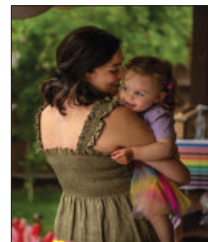
Lauren M. Tufts, '18, completed both her pediatric residency and pediatric hospital medicine fellowship at Marshall. She joined Marshall's School of Medicine as an assistant professor of pediatrics in July. She and her husband, Alex, have a son, Harrison.



Lauren Tufts

Alex R. and Melissa C. Saab Vance, both '18, are residing in Montana and work for Bozeman Health Regional Medical Center in Bozeman. Melissa practices outpatient geriatric medicine with memory assessments and primary care. Alex is also a member of the family medicine faculty at University of Washington and practices wilderness medicine through the WWAMI (an acronym representing the states

it serves—Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho). The Vances have a two-year-old daughter, Aggie, and welcomed Arthur Ellis in Dec.



Melissa Vance with daughter, Aggie

Maggie C. Blackwood, '19, is with Mama Doc Pediatrics, LLC, in Statesboro, Georgia.



Maggie Blackwood

Erin B. Fankhanel, '19, joined Valley Health Systems. She sees patients at Valley Health–Hurricane and Valley Health–Upper Kanawha in Cedar Grove. She is a primary care physician for adults and has a professional interest in geriatrics and preventative care.

Emily M. Wright, '19, is starting a fellowship in neurocritical care at the University of Cincinnati with the goal of becoming a neurointensivist. Wright was vice president of the Class of 2019, and was the 2019 recipient of the Faculty Choice Award.

Class Notes



Emily Wright

Jameson M. Akins, '20, welcomed his first child, Oliver James, on March 30, 2023. Proud grandparents are Drs. Jim, '94, and Ann Lambenedis Akins, '92.



Jameson Akins with his son, Oliver James

James C. Gainer, '20, and his wife, Catie, welcomed a son, Bo Andrew, on June 22, 2023. Bo joined sister, Hallie, and brother, Landon. Gainer is doing an orthopaedic residency at University of Louisville.



James and Catie Gainer with daughter Hallie, Bo and Landon

Jamila I. Ranavaya, '20, matched in infectious diseases and will start her fellowship at the University of Kentucky in Lexington in July 2024. She is completing her medicine-pediatrics residency at Marshall University.

Joey T. Simmons, '20, was named the January resident of the month at



January Resident of the Month Joseph Simmons, M.D., (left) is pictured with Eva Patton Tackett, M.D., internal medicine residency director.

MUSOM. Simmons and his wife, Kelly, have moved to Morgantown where Simmons is doing a gastroenterology fellowship at West Virginia University.

Brandon M. Wright, '20, matched in pediatric cardiology and will start his fellowship at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina in July 2024. He is completing his pediatrics residency at East Carolina University/Vidant Medical Center in Greenville, North Carolina.

Kara V. Anderson, '21, and Dr. Sarah McCloud were recently married. Anderson is doing a one-year fellowship in palliative care. McCloud is a Ph.D. in psychology and does research in cognitive neuroscience (e.g., EEG). She is also a professor at McGill University in Montreal.

Ben J. Frear, '21, matched in cardiology and will start his fellowship at Marshall University July 2024. He is completing his internal medicine residency at Marshall.

Sam A. Kaplan, '21, matched in pediatric emergency medicine at the University of Texas Dell Medical school in Austin, Texas and starts his fellowship in July 2024. He is completing an emergency medicine residency at the University of Arizona in Tucson.

Emily R. Fletcher, '22, and her husband, Jordan, welcomed their first child, a daughter, Tatum, on June 1, 2023. Fletcher is a second-year neurology resident at Marshall.

And...

The West Virginia Beta Chapter of Alpha Omega Alpha is pleased to announce its Spring 2023 inductees. MUSOM graduates inducted are **M. Jason Akers, '03, Stephen A. Roy, '13, R. Asher Sexton, '17, Christopher W. Burrell, '19, Eric T. Mendenhall, '20** and **Jordan L. Preston, '20**.

In Memoriam

ALUMNI

Robert "Bobby" E. Connell III, MD, MBA ('93)

Johnson City, Tennessee
Dr. Bobby Connell passed away July 11, 2023, at the age of 60, following a long battle with dementia. He received his Bachelor of Arts and Sciences from West

Virginia University in 1988 and MBA in 1989, Marshall University Medical School in 1993, and completed his residency at The Washington Hospital in 1996. In 1985, he married his high school sweetheart, Sheri Womack Connell, whom he had been courting since the fifth grade. Dr. Connell served as

a family practice physician for 18 years. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1994 to 2001, earning the rank of Major and caring for many veterans over the years. Dr. Connell liked to say that he had the easiest job ever—all he had to do was listen to his patients. He is survived by his wife, five children and

six grandchildren.

James "Jim" William Matthews III, MD ('82)
Nicholasville, Kentucky

Dr. Jim Matthews, 73, passed away October 6, 2022. He is survived by his wife, Marjorie Matthews, his daughter and three grandchildren. Born in New York City, Dr. Matthews'

family moved to Charleston, West Virginia when he was a young boy, which ultimately led him to Marshall. He earned a degree in architecture from the University of Kentucky, but felt compelled to pursue a career in medicine. He graduated from Marshall's medical school in 1982, followed by an ophthalmology residency at Saint Francis Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he served as chief resident. After residency he returned to Lexington where he established Kentucky Eye Center where he practiced until his retirement in 2021.

Douglas "Doug" W. Henson, MD ('93)
Chesapeake, Ohio

Dr. Doug Henson passed away May 14, 2023, at the age of 56. He is survived by his mother, two children and fiancée. After graduating from medical school, Dr. Henson completed his general surgery at Marshall before joining the Department of Surgery as a faculty member in 1998, where he practiced as a surgeon for nearly 25 years. Highly knowledgeable and skilled, Dr. Henson was best known for his humble nature and ability to provide a laugh. Outside of his life as a surgeon, Dr. Henson had endless stacks of books, loved classical music, playing the piano, sculpting and painting, building model trains and golfing.

Skyler D. Tribble, MD ('11)
Parkersburg, West Virginia

Dr. Skyler Tribble passed away July 4, 2023; he was 57. Dr. Tribble was a hospitalist at WVU Medicine/Camden Clark Medical Center in Parkersburg and a primary care physician at Harbor Point, in Williamstown, West Virginia. He entered the medical field after working in engineering for 20 years. Dr. Tribble was an avid certified scuba diver. He had a deep love for his pets, rescuing many dogs alongside his wife, Kim.

FACULTY

Lorraine Rubis Franckle, MD, passed away January 30, 2023, at the age of 79; she is survived by her husband, Neil. She received her medical degree from the University of Minnesota in 1968, followed by a residency in general surgery at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, and a cardiothoracic surgery residency at the University of Toronto then Baylor Hospital in Dallas, Texas. Dr. Rubis and Dr. J.D. Harrah established the first cardiac surgery program at St. Mary's Hospital in Huntington in 1979 and led the surgical training program of medical students and residents. She served on the medical faculty of Marshall's School of Medicine from 1979 to 1981 and volunteer faculty from 1981 to 1995. She became a founding member of Women in Thoracic Surgery in 1988 and was passionate about mentoring young women physicians who

aspired to be cardiothoracic surgeons. She married her longtime sweetheart Dr. Cornelius (Neil) Franckle in 1991 in Minneapolis, before relocating to Tierra Verde, Florida. Dr. Rubis practiced at Largo Medical Center and Northside Hospital in St. Petersburg, Florida, until she retired from medicine in 2010. She enjoyed singing in the Gulf to Bay Chorus of Sweet Adelines International for many years, going on tour with the group and accompanied by her husband to Italy, Greece and many U.S. destinations for competitions.

Gilbert "Gil" A. Ratcliff Jr., MD, retired professor in the Department of Pediatrics and beloved pediatrician/neonatologist, passed away November 11, 2023, at the age of 85. Dr. Ratcliff co-founded the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Cabell Huntington Hospital, which was one of his proudest professional accomplishments. He was a 1963 graduate of Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and completed his residency at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1966. He then served as a Captain in the U.S. Army at Fort Knox, Kentucky, from 1966-1968.

After his army service, Dr. Ratcliff returned to his hometown of Huntington to work in private practice, later joining Pediatrics, Inc. and then the medical school. He is survived by his three daughters and brother, Bruce Ratcliff, MD, a retired professor in the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology. Memorial gifts may be made to the Ratcliff Family Scholarship, established in 2016 for first-year Marshall medical students with strong academic backgrounds and financial need.

Theodore "Ted" P. Haddox Jr., MD, passed away February 23, 2024, at the age of 80. He served as an associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the School of Medicine from 1989 to 2011. A Huntington native, Dr. Haddox served as a Captain in the U.S. Army from 1970 to 1972 and returned to Huntington to practice in 1978. Dr. Haddox delivered thousands of babies and was well-known for his caring manner towards his patients. He is survived by his wife, Judy; three children, Theodore Haddox III, Joshua Haddox (MD '98) and Katherine Davis; two stepsons, David Love and Scott Love; and 10 grandchildren.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Memorial gifts may be made in memory of beloved classmates, faculty, family and friends. Visit jcesom.marshall.edu to learn more.



In Memoriam

MARSHALL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE DEAN EMERITUS CHARLES MCKOWN PASSES AWAY AT 89

Charles "Charley" H. McKown Jr., M.D., dean emeritus at the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, passed away February 15, 2024, at the age of 89.

Born and raised in Wayne County, West Virginia, McKown graduated in 1952 from Wayne High School, where he was an outstanding athlete. He later earned his Bachelor of Science from West Virginia University in Morgantown, West Virginia, before pursuing his medical degree at the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond. Following his medical training, McKown served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps and the U.S. Public Health Service.

In 1976, McKown assumed the role of chair of the department of radiology at the Marshall University School of Medicine, later becoming vice president of health sciences and dean in 1989. During his nearly 23-year tenure as dean, McKown oversaw significant growth and development at the medical school, including the expansion of its health sciences footprint and the construction of several new clinical, educational and research facilities. Beginning in 1998 and the decade that followed, the School of Medicine saw the completion of five new clinical, educational and research



buildings with an investment of more than \$120 million, including the Marshall University Medical Center, Robert C. Byrd Biotechnology Science Center, Erma Ora Byrd Clinical Center and Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Under his leadership, the School of Medicine experienced tremendous progress, with the establishment of new specialty service lines, residency and fellowship training programs and an exceptional clinical and basic science faculty. A board-certified physician in diagnostic radiology and radiation oncology, McKown's efforts also played a pivotal role in strengthening partnerships with teaching hospitals and fostering translational research initiatives.

Beyond his contributions to medical education and health care,

McKown was deeply involved in community service, serving on the Greater Huntington Parks and Recreation board for 43 years and receiving numerous awards for his outstanding contributions, including the Special Community Impact Award from *The Herald-Dispatch* in 2009.

In recognition of his dedication and achievements, the medical school named 10,000 square feet of research space the Charles H. McKown, M.D., Translational Genomic Research Institute in 2011. McKown's philanthropic endeavors were instrumental in securing support for the medical school, including the transformative contributions of Joan C. Edwards, which led to the renaming of the institution as the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine in 2000.

Following a remarkable tenure as dean, McKown transitioned into a new role as vice president of health sciences advancement in 2011, continuing to support the philanthropic efforts of the school's administration. In 2023, Marshall University recognized McKown with the designation of dean emeritus, a distinguished honor reserved for individuals whose service to the institution has been deemed of extraordinary merit.

The family requested donations made to the Marshall University Foundation for the Charles H. McKown Jr., M.D., Scholarship at the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, c/o Linda Holmes, 1600 Medical Center Drive, Huntington, WV 25701



Former deans Robert W. Coon, MD (left), and Charles H. McKown, MD (center), with former Marshall University President Robert B. Hayes (right) in during School of Medicine homecoming festivities in 2011.

Near and Far



1. Mixing and mingling with this group of Charlotte, NC, area School of Medicine medical alumni made for a great time.

2. Cheers from Drs. Donnah Wolodkin Whitaker ('84) (left) and Kay Stone ('82)

3. Left to right: Cindy Warren, Dr. John Roth ('90) and Linda Holmes

4. Student volunteers at the 2023 Marshall Marathon

5. Dr. Eric Janssen ('86) and Linda Holmes cheering on The Herd.

24TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

Thank you to our generous donors for supporting the Class of 2023 Endowment Fund, dedicated to supporting and advancing medical student education by enhancing the opportunities, such as ultrasound equipment and training available through the Clinical Skills Center.

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Golfers from the Class of 2023



Thank you to our title sponsor, OVP Health.

Standing Out in Our Field

More than 500 guests joined us in “Margaritaville” and raised more than \$140,000 for the School of Medicine’s student scholarship endowment.

save the date

Standing Out in Our Field 9
August 24, 2024

It's 5 o'clock somewhere!

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DECORATIONS ■ Boone Memorial Health, Peak Health, River Park Hospital

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PLANNING COMMITTEE ■ Dr. Rob ('88) & Suzanne Cure, Co-Chairs, Dr. Pete & Clare Chirico, Terry Deppner Hardin, Kathy Hettlinger, Carl Linkous, Dr. Sandy ('89) and Bobby Marshall, Tim Martin, Dr. Bobby ('97) & Eric Hardin-Miller, Joe McDonie, Don Sallada



AUGUST 26, 2023



FIND MORE PHOTOS
Scan the QR code to view all
photos from the event.



Homecoming 2023

About 150 medical alumni, family members and friends participated in the School of Medicine's annual homecoming & reunion weekend. Events included a banquet for the milestone reunion classes; recognition of Greg Rosencrance, MD ('88), as the 2023 Distinguished Alumnus; brunch with Dean David Gozal, MD, at the home of alumnus Dr. Greg ('91) and Patti Bell; and a tailgate party. About 100 medical students also joined alumni for a networking luncheon and lectures from alumni on various medical topics.



1. A great turnout from the Class of 2013 at the SOM tailgate party.
2. Friends and classmates Drs. Karen Dansby and Mark Hatfield
3. Celebrating their 20-year reunion are Drs. Leela Raju, Kerri Hall, & Rick Booth.
4. The men of the Class of '88 — Drs. Rob Cure, John Morgan, Rick Booth, Curtis Harrison & Jamie Patterson.
5. Dr. Hobey Richey, Class of '83, chats with SOM Dean Dr. David Gozal.
6. Presenting the SOM distinguished alumnus award to Dr. Greg Rosencrance, '88, is Dean Dr. David Gozal, Linda Holmes and SOM alumni association president Dr. Adam Franks, '99.



SEPTEMBER 29 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2023



- 7. The Class of 1983 "Wants You".
- 8. Representing the Class of 2013 – What a great group of alums!
- 9. Drs. Jim Mears, Jim O'Neal & Greg Rosencrance from the Class of '88.
- 10. Joanne Wunderlich with Jeff Holmes & Virgil Smaltz at their 30-year reunion.
- 11. Happy grads – Drs. Mark Hatfield, Harry Magee & Jerry Blackwell.
- 12. Thanks to Dr. Greg Bell ('91) and Patti for hosting the homecoming brunch.



FIND MORE PHOTOS
Scan the QR code to view all
photos from the event.



MarshallMD

is published annually by the

Marshall University
Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine

Office of Development & Alumni Affairs
1600 Medical Center Drive
Huntington, WV 25701-9031

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Learning & Leading

Medical student Ashalia Aggarwal is the WV Rural Health Student of the Year and founder of a nonprofit dedicated to providing inspirational books to teens during hospital stays.

Learn more at: jcesom.marshall.edu