

Student Clinician's Ceremony

Class of 2023



Putting on Your Own White Coat

Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine

Tuesday, June 29, 2021
6 p.m.

Order of Events

Processional (*Gabriel's Oboe*, by Ennio Morricone)

Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine Deans
Department Chairs
Clerkship Directors
Members of the Class of 2023

Welcome

Lee A. Learman, MD, PhD, *Dean*

Introduction to Our Ceremony

Aubrey L. Knight, MD, *Senior Dean for Student Affairs*

Presentation of Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Awards

William Reis, *Class President*

Presentation of the Years 1 and 2 Teaching Awards

Sahana Nazeer, *Class President*
Allison Strauss, *Class Vice President*
Class of 2023

Keynote Address

Randall R. Rhea, MD, *Clinical Preceptor*
Family and Community Medicine
Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine

Guiding Principles for the Class of 2023

Sahana Nazeer, *Class President*

Affirming Our Professional Obligations:

The Teacher-Learner Compact

Allison Strauss, *Class Vice President*
Clerkship Directors

Recitation of the Oath

Daniel P. Harrington, MD
Vice Dean

Oath Recitation

Members of the Class of 2023 and all physician faculty

Toward the Clerkship Years: Putting on Your Own White Coat

Class of 2023

Closing Remarks

Lee A. Learman, MD, PhD
Domain Leaders

Recessional (Spring, from *The Four Seasons* by Antonio Vivaldi)



MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2023

Luma Abunimer	Lauren Hennis	Rebekah Sayre
Oscar Alcoreza	Leah Huang	Ellen Shrontz
Anthony Anzivino	Seo Hyun Kim	Neha Singh
Neslihan Ari	Camden Kurtz	Shashank Somasundaram
Patrick Barrett	Maya Langman	Michael Spinosa
Shyam Bhatt	Mina Lee	Brittany Stopa
Shawna Bilton	Macy Marcucci	Allison Strauss
Katherine Brow	Richard McLane	Tommy To
Anna Buhle	Alexandra Miner	Chukwuemeka Uwakaneme
Kendal Carter	William Morrison	Alyssa Vassallo
Davin Combs	Sahana Nazeer	Satyanarayana Vedula
Madeline D'Aquila	Kyle Nolan	Leon Yang
April DeStefano	Kevin Patel	Sarah Yosief
Alyssa Dewyer	Abra Roberts	Alexander Zhang
Kathryn Hardin		

Guiding Principles for the Class of 2023

Together, we are a group of diverse individuals who will uphold our shared values of inclusivity through kindness, humility through reflection, and open-mindedness through respect. We seek out diverse perspectives, provide compassion for the whole self, and partner with our community. We find knowledge in books and experiences, inspiration in peers and patients, and humor in easy and difficult times. Together, we support each and every one of our classmates in the pursuit of truth and excellence.

Together, we are committed to the highest moral and ethical standards, allowing them to drive our passion and compassion for others. We pledge to maintain patience and optimism even when we feel overwhelmed or underestimated. We promise to serve our patients with respect to their inherent autonomy. We vow to stand in solidarity with the trials and tribulations of those in our care. We will champion integrity, challenge injustice, and embody professionalism.

Together, we will foster leadership as individuals and members of a greater community. We will remain lifelong learners throughout our careers. We will grow more confident in our skills and competencies. We will hold each other accountable for our actions. We will remember the value in asking for help even as we are eagerly helping others. We will adapt well to the unfamiliar by being more mindful of those around us. We will uphold humanity as a central tenet of our profession. Together, we will bring out the best in one another and ourselves.

Together, as the Class of 2023, we will remain steadfast to our principles in the hopes of enriching the lives of our peers, colleagues, school, community, and most importantly, our patients.

The Fundamental Principles of the VTC Teacher-Learner Compact

Faculty: As a teacher, I pledge to maintain currency in my professional knowledge and skills and to ensure excellence in the educational curriculum.

Learners: As a learner, I pledge to acquire the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors necessary to fulfill all established educational objectives.

Faculty: As a teacher, I pledge to be a model of professionalism in all of my interactions with learners, patients, colleagues, and staff and respond vigorously to unprofessional behavior and indications of abuse or exploitation of learners, patients, colleagues, or staff.

Learners: As a learner, I pledge to embody the professional virtues of integrity, empathy, altruism, compassion, respect, honesty, courage, and trustworthiness.

Faculty: As a teacher, I pledge to respect all learners, patients, colleagues, and staff as individuals, without regard to gender, age, race, national origin, religion, or sexual orientation, and oppose observed disrespect or bias.

Learners: As a learner, I pledge to respect as individuals, without regard to gender, race, national origin, religion, or sexual orientation, all patients, peers, faculty, and staff.

Faculty: As a teacher, I pledge to nurture learner commitment to achieve personal, family, and professional balance.

Learners: As a learner, I pledge to uphold the highest professional standards and conduct myself accordingly in all interactions with patients, peers, faculty, and staff and to assist my fellow learners in meeting their professional obligations, while fulfilling my own obligations as a professional.

Faculty: As a teacher, I pledge to recognize and acknowledge the achievement of quantifiable academic excellence, and to create a safe environment in which learners can communicate any concern about breaches of this compact.

Learners: As a learner, I pledge to create a safe environment in which faculty and learners can communicate any concern about breaches of this compact.

Faculty: As a teacher, I accept the duty for instilling these attributes in learners for whom I have responsibility.

Learners: As a learner, I respect the faculty responsibility and pledge to accept the duty for inculcating these attributes in myself and my colleagues.

The Oath

I swear to fulfill, to the best of my ability and judgment, and with the support and encouragement of others, this covenant:

I will respect the hard-won scientific gains of those in whose steps I walk, and gladly share such knowledge as is mine with those who are to follow.

I will apply, for the benefit of my patients, all measures appropriate, avoiding those twin traps of overtreatment and undertreatment.

I will practice the art of medicine as well as science, remembering that warmth, sympathy, and understanding may outweigh the use of scalpel or drug.

I will not be ashamed to say “I know not,” nor will I fail to call in my colleagues when the skills of another are needed.

I will remember that I do not care for a patient alone. Rather, I am part of an interprofessional team, all of whom offer their skills to assist with patient care and caring.

I will respect the privacy of my patients, for their problems are not disclosed to me that the world may know. Most especially must I tread with care in matters of life and death, recognizing this awesome responsibility must be faced with great humility and awareness of my own frailty.

I will remember that I do not treat data or disease, but a sick human being, whose illness may affect family and economic stability. My responsibility includes these related problems, if I am to care adequately for them.

I will prevent disease whenever I can, for prevention is preferable to cure.

I will remember that I remain a member of society, with special obligations to all my fellow human beings, those sound of mind and body as well as the infirm.

If I do not violate this oath, may I enjoy life and art, respected while I live and remembered with affection thereafter. May I always act so as to preserve the finest traditions of my calling and may I long experience the joy of serving those who seek my help.

Office of the Dean

Lee A. Learman, MD, Dean

Daniel P. Harrington, MD, Vice Dean

Michael J. Friedlander, PhD, Senior Dean for Research

Aubrey L. Knight, MD, Senior Dean for Student Affairs

David W. Musick, PhD, Senior Dean for Faculty Affairs

Richard C. Vari, PhD, Senior Dean for Academic Affairs

Nathaniel L. Bishop, DMin, Senior Associate Dean for Diversity, Inclusion,
and Student Vitality

Tracey W. Criss, MD, Associate Dean for Clinical Science Years 3 and 4

Melanie K. Prusakowski, MD, Associate Dean for Admissions

Tarin A. Schmidt-Dalton, MD, Associate Dean for Clinical Science Years 1 and 2

David B. Trinkle, MD, Associate Dean for Community and Culture

Leslie LaConte, PhD, Assistant Dean for Research

Heidi A. Lane, Ed, Assistant Dean for Clinical Skills Assessment
and Education

R. Brock Mutcheson, PhD, Assistant Dean for Assessment & Program Evaluation

Shari A. Whicker, EdD, MEd, Assistant Dean for Faculty Affairs

Azziza O. Bankole, MBBS, Chief Diversity Officer

Department Chairs

John H. Burton, MD
Emergency Medicine

Michael P. Jeremiah, MD
Family and Community Medicine

Daniel Karolyi, MD, PhD
Radiology

Donald W. Kees, MD (interim)
Pediatrics

Joseph T. Moskal, MD
Orthopaedic Surgery

David W. Musick, PhD (interim)
Basic Science Education

Michael S. Nussbaum, MD
Surgery

Sarah H. Parker, PhD
Health Care Innovation and
Implementation Science

Paul R. Skolnik, MD
Internal Medicine

Robert L. Trestman, PhD, MD
Psychiatry

Fidel A. Valea, MD
Obstetrics and Gynecology

Clerkship Directors

Vydia Permashwar, MD
Pediatrics

Allen Blackwood, MD
Internal Medicine

Joseph Hughes, MD
Radiology

Natalie Karp, MD
Obstetrics and Gynecology

Farrell Adkins, MD
Surgery

James Schmidley, MD
Neurology

Paul Stromberg, MD
Emergency Medicine

Eric Vance, MD
Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine

E. Mark Watts, MD
Family and Community Medicine



The Student Clinician's Ceremony is designed to provide guidance, information, and support to medical students as they make the transition into their clinical years. The event aims to address some of the anxiety students may feel entering their clerkships.

By providing insight, exploring fears and expectations, and revisiting the oath taken during the White Coat Ceremony, the ceremony provides a forum for collective and reflective discussion of the students' experiences. The ceremony also underscores the challenges and imperatives to providing humanistic care to patients at the same time that students are pressed to demonstrate high standards of skill performance. —The Arnold P. Gold Foundation



Special Thanks

This event was made possible in part by a grant from the Arnold P. Gold Foundation.