



*Hooding and  
Commencement Ceremony  
2026*

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

DEPARTMENT OF PA STUDIES

WAIT CHAPEL

6 P.M. FRIDAY, MAY 15



The Wake Forest University School of Medicine Department of Physician Assistant (PA) Studies has a distinguished history of innovation in medical education.

From its beginning in 1969, the PA program has featured inquiry-based, small-group, self-directed learning centered on real patient medical problems. This approach immerses students in real-life cases and fosters their clinical problem-solving abilities.

The mission of the Master of Medical Science (MMS) program is to produce highly capable, compassionate PAs who deliver patient-centered care, make significant contributions to the health care community and continually advance the PA profession.

The mission of the Doctor of Medical Science (DMSc) program is to elevate the PA profession by equipping PA leaders to shape the future of health care.

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“We sometimes lose track of what we’re here for, which is to take care of other human beings and to contribute to their lives.”

K. Patrick Ober, MD  
April 7, 1949 – July 25, 2025

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# Commencement and Hooding Ceremony

Class of 2026

PROCESSIONAL: The Opening Gates ..... Sarah A. Pierce  
*Composed for the 1979 PA Program Graduation Ceremony*

INVOCATION ..... The Reverend Michelle M. Nicolle, PhD, BCC  
*Chaplain for Innovation Quarter*

WELCOME ..... Sarah J. O’Neal, MS, MPAS, PA-C  
*Associate Professor and Associate Program Director – Boone Campus, Department of PA Studies*

INSTITUTIONAL WELCOME ..... L. Ebony Boulware, MD, MPH  
*Dean, Wake Forest University School of Medicine*  
*Executive Vice President of Academic Health Affairs, Wake Forest University*  
*Chief Academic Officer, Advocate Health*

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER ..... Gayle B. Bodner, DHSc, MMS, PA-C, DFAAPA  
*Associate Professor and Chair, Department of PA Studies*

REMARKS ..... Terri Yates, PhD  
*Vice Dean, Wake Forest University School of Medicine*  
*Vice Chief Academic Officer – Health Professions, Advocate Health*

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES ..... Gayle B. Bodner, DHSc, MMS, PA-C, DFAAPA

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES ..... L. Ebony Boulware, MD, MPH

## INVESTITURE OF THE CANDIDATES

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATES ..... Sobia Shariff Hussaini, MHA  
*Assistant Professor and Director of Admissions and Strategic Recruitment, Department of PA Studies*

AWARD OF HOODS, DOCTOR OF MEDICAL SCIENCE ..... Stacy Schmauss, EdD  
*Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of PA Studies*

Kelly R. Conner, PhD, MMS, PA-C  
*Assistant Professor, Department of PA Studies*

Natalie Smith, DMSc, MS, PA-C  
*Assistant Professor and Program Director DMSc, Department of PA Studies*

Sam Pendergraft, PhD, MMS, PA-C  
*Assistant Professor, Department of PA Studies and Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine*

Caroline B. Sisson, MMS, PA-C  
*Assistant Professor and Vice Chair, Department of PA Studies*

Gayle B. Bodner, DHSc, MMS, PA-C, DFAAPA  
*Associate Professor and Chair, Department of PA Studies*

Stefanie Rachis, EdD  
*Associate Vice President and Assistant Dean, Health Professions and Educational Services*

## INVESTITURE OF THE CANDIDATES (continued)

AWARD OF HOODS, MASTER OF MEDICAL SCIENCE.....	Lauren Eyadiel, MS, MMS, PA-C, FHfSA <i>Assistant Professor</i>
	Matt Goddard, MPAS, PA-C <i>Assistant Professor</i>
	Toni Jackson, MMS, PA-C <i>Assistant Professor and Director of Didactic Education</i>
	Megan Pinder, MMS, PA-C <i>Assistant Professor</i>
	Sarah J. O'Neal, MS, MPAS, PA-C <i>Associate Professor and Associate Program Director</i>
	Ethan Stonerook, MS, MMS, PA-C <i>Assistant Professor and Director of Student Services</i>
	Joshua Waynick MMS, PA-C <i>Assistant Professor and Director of Curriculum Assessment and Technology</i>
	Robert L. Wooten, MS, PA-C <i>Assistant Professor</i>

## CONCLUDING REMARKS

RECOGNITION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE PA PROFESSIONAL OATH .....	Catherine N. Shull, MPAS, PA-C <i>Assistant Professor, Department of PA Studies</i>
CHARGE TO ALUMNI.....	Kathy Black, PA-C <i>Alumni Class of '01</i>
CLOSING COMMENTS .....	Natalie Smith, DMSc, MS, PA-C <i>Assistant Professor and Program Director DMSc, Department of PA Studies</i>
BENEDICTION .....	The Reverend Michelle M. Nicolle, PhD, BCC
RECESSIONAL: PRELUDE TO "TE DEUM" .....	Marc-Antoine Charpentier

## MARSHALS

*Highest academic performance during the preclinical year, in alphabetical order*

Isabel Jane Balderson  
Thea Elizabeth Boyd  
Hannah Elizabeth George  
Rebecca Allison Knapp  
Madeline Marie Pitts  
Taylor Ann Shuman  
Chloe Grace Smith  
MacKenzie Lynn Wall

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF MEDICAL SCIENCE

Class of 2026

Benjamin William Cartner .....	Kernersville, NC MMS, Wake Forest University School of Medicine MS, Appalachian State University Medical Education Track Stacy Schmauss, EdD, Capstone Project Advisor
Alisha Tomlinson DeTroye .....	Clemmons, NC MMS, Wake Forest University School of Medicine Leadership Track Chris Gillette, PhD, Capstone Project Advisor
Peter Guertin .....	Davidson, NC MS, Elon University Leadership Track Kelly R. Conner, PhD, MMS, PA-C, Capstone Project Advisor
Kelsey Ford Kehrli .....	Greensboro, NC MMS, Wake Forest University School of Medicine Medical Education Track Natalie Smith, DMSc, MS, PA-C, Capstone Project Advisor
Sloan Warren Kelly .....	Stanton, TX MS, Texas Tech University Sam Pendergraft, PhD, PA-C, Capstone Project Advisor
Hannah Muthersbaugh .....	Summerfield, NC MMS, Wake Forest University School of Medicine Leadership Track Chris Gillette, PhD, Capstone Project Advisor
Ashley Green Nordan .....	Benson, NC MHPE, MSCR, MPAP, Campbell University Leadership Track Gayle B. Bodner, DHSc, MMS, PA-C, Capstone Project Advisor
Kimberly Stabingas .....	Apex, NC MHPE, Campbell University MS, Philadelphia University Leadership Track Stefanie Rachis, EdD, Capstone Project Advisor

# CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF MEDICAL SCIENCE

Class of 2026

Alina Marie Alvarez <sup>E, I, K</sup>	Parkland, FL
Laraib Jelil Awan <sup>C</sup>	Wake Forest, NC
Samantha Eileen Baker	West Palm Beach, FL
Gianna Joan Belza <sup>K</sup>	Bend, OR
Kaitlyn Bendick	Mystic, CT
Isabella Valenza Bisci	Johns Creek, GA
Hannah Elizabeth Boster <sup>A, E, I</sup>	Alexandria, VA
Helena Claire Bui	Orange, CA
Sara Margaret Cassidy	Brighton, MI
Nicholas Alexander Chihlas <sup>K</sup>	East Greenwich, RI
Celine Boje Christiansen <sup>A</sup>	Warwick, RI
Meghan Frances Craig <sup>A</sup>	Middletown, NJ
Nathan Davidsen <sup>I, K</sup>	Indianapolis, IN
Brody Davis <sup>I, K</sup>	Locust Grove, VA
Chasen Alexander Dayton <sup>A, E</sup>	Kingsport, TN
Sarah DeMane <sup>I, K</sup>	Minnetonka, MN
Lauren Gentry Dobson	Alpine, UT
Louann Dorcinvil <sup>F</sup>	West Orange, NJ
Saly El Haddad	Charlotte, NC
Cady Elredy <sup>B</sup>	Cairo, Egypt and Dallas, TX
Alisha Lynn Famiglietti <sup>I</sup>	Sunapee, NH
Kelsey Wray Foust <sup>B, F</sup>	Winston-Salem, NC
Alexandra Nicole Gabbert <sup>I</sup>	Jupiter, FL
Anna Whitley Gaskin <sup>H</sup>	Indian Trail, NC
Katelyn Marie Glen	Wilkesboro, NC
Julianna Perry Griffin	Greensboro, NC
Annika Carolyn Hoff	Northfield, MN
Olivia Halliday Hoyt	North Haven, CT
Hannah Kang <sup>A</sup>	Gainesville, VA
Vojana Karan	Charlotte, NC
Anisa Abdullahi Kassim	Charlotte, NC
Taylor Jordan Kastor	Statesville, NC
John Carlo Kensinger <sup>B</sup>	Los Angeles, CA
Haley Marie Koerting	Cincinnati, OH
Morgan Elizabeth Koontz	Jefferson, NC
Lydia Jade Kuo <sup>E</sup>	Chantilly, VA
Emma Clark Lanter	Raleigh, NC
Jessica Morgan Lapnow	Naperville, IL
Rebecca Lei	Diamond Bar, CA
Julianne Noelle Lewis	Raleigh, NC
Alexandra Emily Licamara <sup>C, F</sup>	West Palm Beach, FL
Brigid McCarthy Lyons <sup>E</sup>	Falls Church, VA
Matthew Lyons	Rancho Palos Verdes, CA
Mikhaila Theresa MacLaren <sup>C</sup>	Tampa, FL
Laura Kathryn McKenna <sup>A</sup>	Bozeman, MT
Holly Frances Moore <sup>G</sup>	Moraga, CA
Katie Elizabeth Morello <sup>A, E</sup>	Tampa, FL
Madeline Christina Mott <sup>I</sup>	Gladstone, OR
Martha Mulu <sup>C</sup>	Johnston, IA
Diana Yewon Nam	Woodstock, MD
Jennifer Ngo	Fayetteville, NC
Jillian Nhuhoang Nguyen	Raleigh, NC

Chase Olson <sup>E</sup> . . . . .	Plymouth, MI
Thierry Fedd Perard . . . . .	Port-Au-Prince, Haiti
Sophia Antonette Perrelli <sup>A, C</sup> . . . . .	Lansing, MI
Keely Shay Perry <sup>A</sup> . . . . .	New Orleans, LA
Lauren Margaret Peters . . . . .	Harrisburg, PA
Ashley Hong Phan <sup>A</sup> . . . . .	Brockton, MA
Sara Caroline Putman <sup>J</sup> . . . . .	Savannah, GA
Dakota Rose Putnal . . . . .	Tallahassee, FL
Chelsea Olivia Reynolds . . . . .	Fort Collins, CO
Kaleb Arden Purcell Reynolds . . . . .	Reidsville, NC
Erica Kelsey Richardson <sup>E</sup> . . . . .	Chesapeake, VA
Caroline Elizabeth Richter <sup>A</sup> . . . . .	Winston-Salem, NC
Tina Elizabeth Robinson <sup>D</sup> . . . . .	Chicago, IL
Grace Catherine Royster . . . . .	Charlottesville, VA
Hugo Daniel Pereira Santos . . . . .	Washington, DC
Isabel Michael Savine <sup>J</sup> . . . . .	Waltham, MA
Christopher Guisepppe Scerbo <sup>B</sup> . . . . .	Greensboro, NC
Amanda Segura <sup>B, J</sup> . . . . .	El Paso, TX
Abhijeet Sekhon . . . . .	Union City, CA
Alissa Leigh Sherrill <sup>C, D</sup> . . . . .	Norfolk, VA
Nicole Marie Shertzer . . . . .	Columbia, SC
Alexcy Valeriy Shmat . . . . .	Everett, WA
Paige Elisabeth Sidwell <sup>E</sup> . . . . .	Ormond Beach, FL
Devyn Rylee Smith . . . . .	Winston-Salem, NC
Sera Michelle Stotelmyre <sup>E, J</sup> . . . . .	Oceanside, CA
Caroline Elaine Suddath . . . . .	Tampa, FL
Meredith Faye Swift <sup>E, K</sup> . . . . .	Sarasota, FL
Kalista Shea Tucker <sup>I, K</sup> . . . . .	Kannapolis, NC
Lilian Hastings Vélez <sup>B</sup> . . . . .	Houston, TX
Ashlyn Kallbreier Wahl . . . . .	Greenwich, CT
Carla Juliana Wallace . . . . .	Bogota, Colombia
Sydney Wayand <sup>A</sup> . . . . .	Saratoga Springs, NY
Ivey Noelle Weimer <sup>B, E, G</sup> . . . . .	Marquette, MI

- A Wake Forest University School of Medicine Department of PA Studies recognizes students who excel academically throughout the PA Program. The classification Graduate with Distinction is awarded to the top 10% of the graduating cohort.
- B Completed the Emerging Leaders Program (ELP) in Business, in which students earn a Master of Science in Management from the Wake Forest University School of Business prior to entering the PA Program. ELP develops highly capable, entrepreneurial leaders who can make significant contributions to the healthcare community. Graduates are equipped with business competencies and excellent clinical skills to succeed in complex healthcare environments and to transform the delivery of care.
- C Completed the Emerging Leaders Program (ELP) in Law, in which students earn a Master of Studies in Law from the Wake Forest University School of Law prior to entering the PA Program. ELP-Law is a cross-disciplinary initiative designed to develop a future generation of PA leaders, who are prepared to transform the delivery of healthcare while navigating an intricate legal regulatory landscape.
- D Completed the Medical Education Certificate Program, which provides training for health professions students interested in pursuing careers in medical education. Recipients of this certificate have advanced knowledge of the science of learning, diverse teaching skills and functional experience with educational scholarship.
- E Peer tutor. The Department of PA Studies peer tutoring program matches students who achieve high academic performance with students who have struggled academically in one or more courses during the preclinical year. The peer tutor works one-on-one with a classmate to help them develop learning mastery, and the program is one of PA Studies' most successful academic support programs for learners needing assistance.
- F Completed the RLW Mentorship Certificate Program, in which program participants serve as mentors for pre-PA students and promote the Wake Forest University School of Medicine PA Studies program in the community.
- G Co-Directors for the DEAC (Delivering Equal Access to Care) Clinic
- H Director for the Foothills Free Medical Clinic
- I Completed the Lifestyle Medicine Certificate Program, which prepares future clinicians to provide specific patient education regarding physical activity, nutrition and behavior change to a variety of patient populations and health conditions.
- J Completed the Narrative Medicine Certificate Program. Narrative Medicine is a scholarly and clinical practice that seeks to honor the role of story in the practice of communicating and bearing witness to illness and suffering. Students in this program explore the complexity and complications that providers experience through engaging with and producing art and literature.
- K Completed the Wilderness Medicine Certificate Program, which provides an opportunity to practice medicine in a location where fixed or transient geographic barriers limit the availability or alter the requirements for mobilization of provider resources or patient care.

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF MEDICAL SCIENCE  
WITH DISTINCTION

*In alphabetical order*

Hannah Elizabeth Boster  
Celine Boje Christiansen  
Meghan Frances Craig  
Chasen Alexander Dayton  
Hannah Kang  
Laura Kathryn McKenna  
Katie Elizabeth Morello  
Sophia Antonette Perrelli  
Keely Shay Perry  
Ashley Hong Phan  
Caroline E. Richter  
Sydney Wayand

AWARDS PRESENTED  
AT THE WHITE COAT CEREMONY IN JUNE 2025

MIKE WALKER, PA EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP ..... Brody Davis  
KATHERINE ANDERSON SCHOLARSHIP (PA) ..... Holly Moore

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ACADEMIC REGALIA

Academic regalia apparently originated at Oxford and Cambridge more than 600 years ago. In 1895 an intercollegiate commission drafted a uniform code for the use of academic caps, gowns and hoods in the United States. Over the years there have been only minor revisions to the code, which is followed by 95 percent of the colleges and universities in America, including Wake Forest University.

The academic hood is the identifying symbol of the degree. The length indicates which degree it represents: three feet for the bachelor's, three and a half for the master's and four for the doctoral. The lining indicates the college or university which awarded the degree. Those who receive degrees from Wake Forest wear hoods lined in old gold and black. The color of the trimming identifies the major field of learning: white for arts and letters, copper for journalism, purple for law, green for medicine, drab for business, pink for music, silver-gray for speech, dark blue for philosophy, light blue for education, sage green for physical education, golden yellow for science, cream for social science, and scarlet for theology.

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## PA STUDIES FACULTY

Gayle B. Bodner, DHSc, MMS, PA-C, DFAAPA  
*Associate Professor, Department Chair*

Caroline B. Sisson, MMS, PA-C\*  
*Assistant Professor, Vice Chair*

Brian B. Peacock, MMS, PA-C\*  
*Assistant Professor, Program Director MMS*

Scott Harper, MD  
*Medical Director, PA Studies*  
*Assistant Professor, Family and Community Medicine*

Edwin Alcorn, MBA, MSPH, LCSW  
*Adjunct Lecturer and Clinical Social Worker*

Matthew Barr, MHL, CPA  
*Adjunct Lecturer*

Christina Carr, MS, PA-C  
*Assistant Professor*

Kelly R. Conner, PhD, MMS, PA-C\*  
*Assistant Professor*

Alisha T. DeTroye, MMS, PA-C, DFAAPA\*  
*Adjunct Assistant Professor*

Lauren Eyadiel, MS, MMS, PA-C, FHFA\*  
*Assistant Professor*

Chris M. Gillette, PhD  
*Professor, Director of Scholarship and Research*

Matt Goddard, MPAS, PA-C  
*Assistant Professor*

Tiffany L. Hiatt, MMS, PA-C\*  
*Assistant Professor, Director of the Office of Academic Coaching*

Sobia S. Hussaini, MHA  
*Assistant Professor, Director of Admissions and Strategic Recruitment*

Toni Jackson, MMS, PA-C\*  
*Assistant Professor, Director of Didactic Education*

Kelsey Kehrl, MMS, PA-C\*  
*Assistant Professor*

James "Tripp" Kirby, MMS, PA-C\*  
*Assistant Professor*

Andrea E. McKinnond, MMS, PA-C\*  
*Assistant Professor, Director of Clinical Education*

Rachel Shepherd Miles, MMS, PA-C\*  
*Instructor*

Sarah J. O'Neal, MS, MPAS, PA-C  
*Associate Professor, Associate Program Director – Boone Campus*

Samuel Pendergraft, PhD, MMS, PA-C\*  
*Assistant Professor*

Thomas J. Perrault Jr., PhD  
*Associate Professor*

Courtney J. Perry, PharmD  
*Assistant Professor*

Megan Pinder, MMS, PA-C\*  
*Assistant Professor*

Stephanie Jilcott Pitts, PhD  
*Adjunct Assistant Professor*

Stefanie R. Rachis, EdD  
*Assistant Professor, AVP and Assistant Dean, Health Professions  
and Educational Service*

Stacy Schmauss, EdD  
*Adjunct Assistant Professor*

Catherine N. Shull, MPAS, PA-C\*  
*Assistant Professor*

Natalie Smith, DMSc, MS, PA-C  
*Assistant Professor, Program Director DMSc*

Ethan Stonerook, MS, MMS, PA-C\*  
*Assistant Professor, Director of Student Services*

Joshua L. Waynick, MMS, PA-C\*  
*Assistant Professor, Director of Curriculum Assessment and Technology*

Robert L. Wooten, MS, PA-C\*  
*Assistant Professor*

\* Wake Forest University School of Medicine PA Program Graduate

## DOCTOR OF MEDICAL SCIENCE INTERDISCIPLINARY FACULTY

Amy D. Bell, DNP, RNC-OB, NEA-BC, CPHQ, FAWHONN  
*Assistant Professor and Associate Director,  
Department of Academic Nursing*

Sean Hannah, PhD  
*Professor of Management and J. Tylee Wilson Chair  
Wake Forest University School of Business*

Jennifer Houlihan, MHA, MA  
*Vice President, Value-Based Care and Population Health  
Advocate Health*

Tinisha Lambeth, DNP, NNP-BP  
*Assistant Professor and Program Director,  
Department of Academic Nursing*

Patrick J. Sweeney, PhD  
*Executive Director, Allegacy Center for Leadership and Character*

## PA ENDOWED FUNDS

### **Kathy and John Black Endowed PA Lectureship**

Est. in 2025 by Kathryn Black, PA '01 and John Black, MD '81 as the inaugural lectureship for PA Studies

*The following funds have been endowed in support of PA students, providing annual awards:*

### **Katherine Anderson Scholarship**

Est. in 1978 through the estate of Katherine Anderson, MD, the first PA program director

### **John and Kathy Black Distinguished Physician Assistant Scholarship**

Est. in 2012 by Kathryn Black, PA '01 and John Black, MD '81

### **Marcia Pregnall Farrar, PA Family Scholarship**

Est. in 2019 by Marcia Pregnall Farrar, PA '75

### **Blaine Paxton Hall, PA Scholarship**

Est. in 2023 by Blaine Paxton Hall, PA '91

### **Lucile Hutaff Scholarship**

Est. in 1987 through the estate of Lucile Hutaff, MD, the first full-time female faculty member

### **Jamerson and Andrea McKinnond Family PA Advocacy in Health Equity Research and Education Fund**

Est. in 2024 by Jamerson and Andrea McKinnond, PA '15, Director of Clinical Education, PA Studies

### **Joel B. Miller, MD Pro Humanitate PA Award**

Est. in 2018 by PA Faculty and Students in honor of Joel Miller, MD '74, adjunct PA faculty;  
endowed by Joel and Nancy Miller in 2019

### **Helen and Norman Moore PA Scholarship**

Est. in 2014 by Helen Moore, PA '84 and Norman Moore

### **Katherine A. Murray, PA and David W. Murray Scholarship**

Est. in 2023 by Katherine A. Murray, PA '92 and David W. Murray

### **Ryan J. O'Hara, PA Memorial Scholarship**

Est. in 2024 in loving memory of Ryan J. O'Hara, PA '18 by his family, friends and classmates

### **Brenda and Tim Scronce PA Scholarship**

Est. in 2012 by Brenda PA and Tim Scronce in honor of Drs. Tobin and Abramson

### **Catherine E. Staplefoote PA Scholarship**

Est. in 2020 by OrthoCarolina in loving memory of Catherine Staplefoote, PA '07

### **Ercell A. and Linda W. Tate PA Scholarship**

Est. in 2020 by Linda and Ercell Tate, PA '73 in loving memory of their son, Ercell André Tate

### **Mike Walker, PA Excellence Scholarship**

Est. in 2012 by Sandra Terry Walker in loving memory of her husband, Mike Walker, PA '73

### **Colleen and James Williams Family PA Scholarship**

Est. in 2023 in honor of their daughter, Annie Williams Atcheson, and 5 of her classmates from the PA Class of 2021

### **Robert L. Wooten, Jr. Family PA Scholarship**

Est. in 2022 by Robert Wooten, PA '81 and his son, Aaron Wooten, PA '19

## PA PROFESSIONAL OATH

I pledge to perform the following duties with honesty and dedication:

- I will hold as my primary responsibility the health, safety, welfare and dignity of all human beings.
- I will uphold the tenets of patient autonomy, beneficence, nonmaleficence and justice.
- I will recognize and promote the value of diversity.
- I will treat equally all persons who seek my care.
- I will hold in confidence the information shared in the course of practicing medicine.
- I will assess my personal capabilities and limitations, striving always to improve my medical practice.
- I will actively seek to expand my knowledge and skills, keeping abreast of advances in medicine.
- I will work with other members of the health care team to provide compassionate and effective care of patients.
- I will use my knowledge and experience to contribute to an improved community.
- I will respect my professional relationship with the physician.
- I will share and expand knowledge within the profession.

These duties are pledged with sincerity and upon my honor.



**Wake Forest University**  
**School of Medicine**