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Message from the President

May 2019

Dear University of Houston Graduates:

Congratulations! Without a doubt, this will be the most memorable day of your college career. Today you will be awarded a degree that represents the tier-one education you have received, a degree that will continue to increase in value as the University of Houston continues on its upward journey to even greater national and international recognition.

Many were the factors that contributed to your success and brought you to this ceremony. A significant part, of course was the invaluable support you enjoyed from your parents, families and friends, and the encouragement you received from your UH faculty, advisors and staff.

But in the end, what made it all possible was the personal commitment, drive and resolve that helped you cross the finish line. I know these same attributes will serve you very well as you make your mark in the world. When you leave here today, you will no longer be students, but proud and confident UH alumni, ready and able not just to compete, but to succeed and be leaders in your chosen careers.

Your university has transformed you into the best prepared, best educated and best equipped individuals of your generation. In turn, you have also helped change your alma mater. The University of Houston is now a richer “powerhouse” institution thanks in great part to the example you have set for the next generation of students.

With my best wishes for a bright and rewarding future, Go Coogs!

Renu Khator
President
University of Houston System

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PRESIDENT

Renu Khator

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Vice President for Medical Affairs and Founding Dean, College of Medicine
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Anthony P. Ambler  
College of Technology

Leonard M. Baynes  
UH Law Center

Andrew C. Davis, Founding Dean  
Cullen Foundation Endowed Dean’s Chair  
Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts

Alan J. Dettlaff  
Maconda Brown O’Connor Endowed Dean’s Chair  
Graduate College of Social Work

Thomas George  
Interim Dean  
C. T. Bauer College of Business

Lisa A. German  
Elizabeth D. Rockwell Endowed Dean’s Chair  
University of Houston Libraries

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William Monroe  
Nancy O’Connor Abendshein Endowed Professor  
The Honors College

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Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture and Design

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College of Pharmacy

Dennis Reynolds  
Barron Hilton Distinguished Chair  
Conrad N. Hilton College of Hotel and Restaurant Management

Earl L. Smith III  
Greeman-Petty Professor in Vision Development  
College of Optometry

Stephen J. Spann, Founding Dean  
College of Medicine

Kathryn M. Tart, Founding Dean  
Humana Endowed Dean’s Chair in Nursing  
College of Nursing

Joseph W. Tedesco  
Elizabeth D. Rockwell Endowed Dean’s Chair  
Cullen College of Engineering

Antonio D. Tillis  
M.D. Anderson Professor in Hispanic Studies  
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Dan E. Wells  
Distinguished Professor of Science  
College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics
University of Houston History

The University of Houston was established as the Houston Junior College in 1927. As the college grew, it prospered and officially became the four-year University of Houston in 1934. Two years later, the college attained land for a permanent campus, and in 1939 it constructed its first building, the Roy G. Cullen Building. The University became a state institution in 1963.

The University includes 17 academic colleges and the multidisciplinary Honors College that teach a wide array of subjects – from math, arts and engineering to law, pharmacy and business. What started as a campus with a single building has grown into a world-class university, offering more than 250 undergraduate and graduate programs to more than 44,000 students annually.

UH is a Carnegie-designated Tier One public research university, and its public service and community activities, such as cultural offerings, clinical services, policy studies and small business initiatives, serve a diverse metropolitan population. Likewise, the resources of the Gulf Coast Region complement and enrich the University’s academic programs, providing students with professional expertise, practical experience and career opportunities.

In keeping with the University’s commitment to excellence, UH raised the benchmark of academic achievement when Phi Beta Kappa, the nation’s oldest and most prestigious academic honor society, awarded UH the approval to shelter a chapter in 2015. This designation welcomed UH to an elite group of the nation’s most esteemed colleges and universities.
Commencement Traditions

Academic costumes of today have a history of nearly eight centuries. In medieval Europe, all townspeople wore long flowing robes and gowns. The materials and colors were governed by royal decree. Gradually, distinctive gowns were developed for the various professions, trades and guilds. Scholars wore robes and hoods to protect their shaved heads. Later, skullcaps were worn on the head, and the hoods became a cape that could be pulled over the head during unpleasant weather.

As additional universities were founded, distinctive forms of the gown and hood were adapted by their faculties for bachelor’s (apprentices of the arts), master’s (teachers) and doctoral (teachers who had completed postgraduate studies). When caps and hats came into fashion in the 15th century, the hoods became ornamental, draped over the shoulders and down the back.

The academic hat was first worn as a symbol of the master’s degree and existed in various forms. The mortarboard style comes to us from Oxford University. When academic costumes came to America in 1754, styles were quite varied. In Europe, they still are; however, in our country, usage has been standardized by the Intercollegiate Code of Academic Costume.

### UH Law Center

- **Master’s Degree**
  - Hood: Purple
  - Tassel: Black

- **Doctoral Degree**
  - Hood: Purple
  - Tassel: Red

### College of Optometry

- **Master’s Degree**
  - Hood: Gold
  - Tassel: Black

- **Doctor of Philosophy Degree**
  - Hood: Royal Blue
  - Tassel: Red

- **Doctor of Optometry Degree**
  - Hood: Seafoam Green
  - Tassel: Red

### College of Pharmacy

- **Bachelor’s Degree**
  - Tassel: Olive

- **Master’s Degree**
  - Hood: Olive
  - Tassel: Black

- **Doctor of Philosophy Degree**
  - Hood: Royal Blue
  - Tassel: Red

- **Doctor of Pharmacy Degree**
  - Hood: Olive
  - Tassel: Red
Ceremonial Symbols

**The Seal**
Throughout history, seals have been used to authenticate official documents. The University of Houston and UH System seals both bear the Official Seal of Arms of General Sam Houston, as handed down to him from his noble ancestors. It includes the escutcheon in the center of the seal — consisting of checkered chevrons denoting nobility — and three martlets, gentle lowland birds that symbolize peace and deliverance. A winged hourglass is placed above the shield. Surmounting this is the motto “In Tempore,” meaning “In Time.” The greyhounds indicate speed of giving aid. The UH seal was first adopted in 1938 as the present campus was established. Although the look of the seal has evolved over the years, the first version was etched into the floor of the Roy G. Cullen Building.

**University Mace**
The University Mace, which is carried in academic processions, is a staff symbolizing the University’s authority and unity. The tradition of the academic mace began in the late 14th century when two ancient instruments, the royal scepter and the battle mace, were combined to form a university president’s symbol of authority.

**The Alma Mater**

All hail to thee,
Our Houston University.
Our hearts fill with gladness
When we think of thee.
We'll always adore thee
Dear old varsity.
And to thy memory cherished,
True we'll ever be.

*Words and music by Harmony Class of 1942*
President’s Medallion

HCA Healthcare, Inc.

HCA Healthcare, Inc., founded in 1968 and based in Nashville, Tennessee, is one of the nation’s largest operators of health care facilities. In 2018 it managed 178 hospitals and 119 freestanding surgery centers and other facilities in the United States and the United Kingdom.

Based in Houston, HCA Houston Healthcare, a division of HCA Healthcare, Inc., is the largest provider of such services to the Gulf Coast region, treating over one million patients a year. Its physicians, nurses, caregivers and professional serve in 15 hospitals across Houston, in addition to providing access points for emergency, specialty and urgent care.

In line with the University of Houston’s expanded healthcare initiatives, most notably in the new College of Medicine and the College of Nursing, HCA Houston Healthcare has entered into strong partnerships with UH to improve healthcare in the region and the state.

HCA Houston Healthcare will provide generous support for the new Nursing Simulation Center at the University of Houston at Katy, create faculty endowments to increase the number of faculty who provide instructional and/or clinical supervision of Bachelor of Science in Nursing students training at HCA Healthcare hospitals, and create the HCA Healthcare Endowed University Professorship in Undergraduate Programs to provide leadership for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program.

In addition, HCA Houston Healthcare will create almost 400 resident positions in Texas over six years for new medical graduates, including those who will graduate from our new College of Medicine, to encourage these new doctors to stay in Texas and continue to work in the state’s underserved urban and rural communities.

For its corporate vision, for its commitment to the health of residents of Houston, Texas and the nation, and for its generous support of University of Houston healthcare initiatives, President Renu Khator proudly awards the 2019 President’s Medallion to HCA Healthcare, Inc.

The President’s Medallion is awarded at the sole discretion of the President to organizations that have distinguished themselves by their support of the University of Houston.
Mrs. Cyvia Grossberg Wolff, along with her late husband Melvyn ('53), who received the UH Doctor of Humane Letters Degree, honoris causa, in 2015, made a generous gift to the C. T. Bauer College of Business in 2008 to establish the Cyvia and Melvyn Wolff Center for Entrepreneurship (WCE). That legacy has contributed to the WCE being nationally ranked among the top 10 programs of its kind in the nation since its inception – it ranked No. 1 in 2018, 2010 and 2011, and is now ranked No. 2.

She is a member of the UH System’s “Here, We Go” fundraising campaign executive committee. The campaign recently reached its $1 billion goal, several months ahead of schedule. She is also a member of the UH Board of Visitors Public Art Task Force and the Ezekiel W. Cullen Society.

Mrs. Wolff’s love for UH and its students goes beyond her philanthropic support and volunteerism. In years past, she was actively involved in arranging week-long field trips to Omaha for selected WCE students that included a private meeting with Warren Buffet. She attends the annual WCE induction and graduation ceremonies and co-teaches a Bauer course in entrepreneurship.

Her generosity extends beyond UH and the Bauer College, however. She is a supporter of the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, the Museum of Fine Arts/Houston, and many other health, arts and educational institutions throughout the city.

For her love of the University of Houston, for her charitable work throughout the Houston community and for her commitment to student success, the University of Houston is proud to award the Doctor of Humane Letters Degree, honoris causa, to Mrs. Cyvia Grossberg Wolff with all the rights, honors and privileges appertaining thereto.

The Doctor of Humane Letters degrees, honoris causa, given for exemplary service to the University of Houston or society at large, is the highest honor UH can bestow.
Academic Honors

Academic honors are based on the requirements of the catalog year students entered the University. The final designation for honors is determined by the Provost’s Office upon final completion of all degree requirements.

Undergraduate students who complete their degree requirements under, and since, the Fall 2010 catalog will graduate with the stated academic honors if they achieve the following grade point averages earned in the last 54 hours completed at the University of Houston.

- **3.90 TO 4.0** Summa Cum Laude (with Highest Honors)
- **3.70 TO 3.89** Magna Cum Laude (with High Honors)
- **3.50 TO 3.69** Cum Laude (with Honors)

The roster of graduates and candidates for graduation does not include the names of those students who chose to withhold information under the Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act.
Message from the Dean

May 11, 2019

Dear Graduates,

Congratulations! You have worked hard and now you are ready to put the power of your legal education to work in courtrooms and boardrooms, government service and public agencies. You have the opportunity to take the knowledge and skills you learned at the University of Houston Law Center and uphold the highest standards of the legal profession by seeking justice for all, including those with limited access to the courthouse.

With your J.D., you also join the ranks of thousands of alumni practicing here in Houston and around the globe. Our alumni network is here to serve you; they will be your biggest supporters and mentors. As graduates, you have access to our free Continuing Legal Education (CLE) courses. Please visit our CLE webpage for more information at law.uh.edu/cle/.

As you begin your professional career, I encourage you to stay in touch with the Law Center. You can access our alumni page at law.uh.edu/alumni. We want to send you our alumni magazine and Law Center updates, such as my Dean’s Notes, and information on alumni events. Thus, we need to stay current with your email and mailing address. You may send this information and any updates directly to lawalum@central.uh.edu. I hope you will get involved with the UH Law Alumni Association, which is a large and very active community that will enrich your professional and personal lives. The Association also will benefit from your participation.

On behalf of the entire Law Center community, best wishes for a successful career. I am honored that you are now part of our vast alumni network. I look forward to greeting you at alumni functions. Please feel free to call on me if I may ever be of assistance.

Warmest regards,

Leonard M. Baynes
Dean and Professor of Law
University of Houston
UH Law Center

Commencement Ceremony
Saturday, May 11, 2019, 6 p.m.
Fertitta Center

PRELUDE
Selection performed by Texas Brass Ensemble

PROCessional
Triumphal March
from Aida (Verdi)

NATIONAL ANTHEM
Moores School of Music

WELCOME AND RECOGNITION
OF DISTINGUISHED GUESTS
Leonard M. Baynes
Dean

GREETINGS FROM THE UH SYSTEM
BOARD OF REGENTS
The Honorable Peter K. Taaffe
Vice Chair

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS
Janet Langford Carrig
Senior Vice President
Legal, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of
ConocoPhillips (retired)

HOODING
Douglas Moll
Beirne, Maynard & Parsons, L.L.P.
Professor of Law

D. Theodore Rave
Associate Professor of Law
George A. Butler Research Professor

CLASS SPEAKER
Rebecca Mei Chen Lee
LL.M. Class of 2019

Alexandra Foulkes Grafton
J.D. Class of 2019

WELCOME FROM ALUMNI
Cynthia Mabry (‘10)
President, UH Law Alumni Association

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES
Dean Baynes

CLOSING REMARKS
Dean Baynes

RECESSIONAL
Rondeau by Mouret

A reception in honor of the graduates will be held at TDECU Stadium Club Room immediately following the commencement ceremony. All graduates, guests and faculty are cordially invited to attend.
Janet Langford Carrig

Senior Vice President
Legal, General Counsel and
Corporate Secretary of ConocoPhillips (retired)

Janet Carrig served as Senior Vice President, Legal, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of ConocoPhillips from August 2007 through September 2018. She is an experienced executive who has worked extensively in both the energy and consumer products industries, and managed every staff function except finance.

As General Counsel, Carrig had oversight of the company’s extensive litigation and arbitration portfolio, which includes a pending multi-billion dollar claim against the government of Venezuela, a $2 billion award against Petroleos de Venezuela and a net $360 million award against the Republic of Ecuador. She also oversaw the legal support for mergers and acquisitions, capital markets activity, commodity marketing, treasury, securities, human resources, compliance and ethics, and the security department. She has negotiated over $100 billion of transactions during her tenure with the company.

Prior to joining ConocoPhillips, she was a partner at Zelle, Hoffman, Voelbel, Mason and Gette. She also previously served as Kmart Corporation’s senior vice president, chief administrative officer and chief compliance officer, as Kellogg Company’s executive vice president of corporate development and administration, general counsel and corporate secretary, and as Sara Lee Corporation’s senior vice president, secretary and general counsel. She began her career as a law clerk on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals, and was thereafter an associate at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz and a partner at Sidley & Austin. She also previously taught mergers and acquisitions as an adjunct professor at the Northwestern University School of Law and served as a Commissioner of the American Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession.

She serves as a trustee for the Columbia Threadneedle Funds, and as the Chair of the Houston Grand Opera Board. She also serves on the board of the National Association of Corporate Directors Texas TriCities Chapter and as a Senior Fellow of The Conference Board Governance Center.

She previously served on the board of United Airlines, which she resigned to join ConocoPhillips, as well as on the boards of Grinnell College, The Joffrey Ballet, and the Chicago Shakespeare Theater, and on the New York Stock Exchange’s Legal Advisory Committee.

Ms. Carrig’s contributions have been recognized with numerous honors and awards throughout her career, including the Texas General Counsel Forum’s Lifetime Achievement Award, the National Law Journal’s 50 Most Influential Women Lawyers in America, the Burton Awards Legends in the Law, the Houston Business Journal Women in Energy – Women in Leadership, and Crain’s Chicago Business’ 40 Under 40.

Carrig received a bachelor’s degree in history, with honors, from Grinnell College and a juris doctorate from Yale University.
Candidates for Graduation

Spring 2019

Doctor of Jurisprudence

Dania Abbasi
Alexandra Bailey Abston
Ekow Acquaah
Samikshya Adhikari
Cynthia Francoise Adjain
Samin Agha
Saif Ali
Jonathan Stephen Alvarado
Michael K. Amaya
Kristen Nicole Anderson
McKenna Elizabeth Andrepon 2
Andrew Archer 3
Mackenzie Blaylock Arthur
Vikas Atmakuri
Saad Abdul Aziz
Blake Earl Bachtel
Molly Petersmeyer Bagshaw
Dudley Duggan Baker 1
Kristol Baker
Paola Maria Barbieri
Molly Barham 3
Kaitlyn Barry
Cameron Reece Bautsch
Caitlin Rebecca Bayley
Walter E. Beard 3
Clara Betancourt
Mahak Bhojani
William R. Blackburn
Trevor Bossi 2
Caroline Bossier
Trevor Richard Brook
Kathryne Taylor Brown
Ryan Benner Burns 3
Angel Caballero
Miranda N. Caballero
Austin Campbell
Melissa Therese Cantu
Frederick Albert Jonathon Carbone 2
Chantal Nicole Carrière 1
Ryan Chapa
Kyle William Chapel 3
Keegan Childers
Rachel Ellen Collier 2
Aura Elizabeth Cornejo
James Crowder
Brittany Joy Davidoff Smith
Michael B. Dearman 2
Jacqueline Del Villar 3
David Diddell
Nida Din
Oren Draznin
Isabelle Marie Dunham
Sarah R. Dunn 2
Austin Riley Echols 3
James Parker Edwards
Caitlin Marie Erchick
Enrique Jaime Esparza
Aedamola Fakunle
Michael Allen Faries
Jonaé Felton 2
Hongjing Feng
Connor Fields
Samuel J. Foreman
Anthony McRae Foster
Ali Foyt 1
Rebecca Theodora Francis
Reed Elizabeth Fryar
Patrick Jeffrey Gant
David Garb
Mason Gardner
Luis E. Garza
Vanessa M. Garza
Elizabeth Ann George
Alexandra Foulkes Grafton 1
Ryan W. Graham 3
Austin Kent Gravelle
David William Green II
Timothy James Gregg
James Tillman Grogan
Christina Evangeline Gutierrez
Benjamin Richard Hamley
Simon John Harrall 1
Sarah Morgan Hayes
Hunter G. Haygood
Joseph Glenn Hays 3
Jill A. Hecht 2
Christopher Henderson
Ellen Kaye Hense 3
Edgar Solis Hernandez
Ana M. Hernandez-Pace
Viana Hodge
Ashton Prager Hoffman
Samuel Nelson Hooper 2
Alexander T. Huynh
Sydney Hynes 3
Jeremy Jackson
Gloria Jauregui
Michelle Rene Jeffries
Michele Lee Jensen
Karim Jamal Jivani
Kerry Jones
Daniel Jung 2
Laura Lynn Kaleikau
Aisha Karim
Fazile Kepadia
Zachary P. Ketaner
Mariesha Keys
Kristin Kluding 2
Taylor Kraft
Brian Thomas Kuczynski
Kathryn Grace Laflin
Leah Lebeau
Christopher Lee 3
Mary Katherine Lee
William Henry Legg 1
Robert Steven Lilly
Liz E. Llamas
Kevin B. Locke
Nathan Loewenstein
Brittany Lok
Ashley Kristina Lopez
Sonia Lopez
Sarah Orengo Lytal 1
Kevin Michael Madden

1 Summa Cum Laude · 2 Magna Cum Laude · 3 Cum Laude
Srikaran Mahavadi
Pete Arlene Makopoulos-Senftleber
Annie Marion
Rebecca Paige Martin
Joshua Martinez
Rebecca Nicole Martinez
Daizia Lana-Marie McGhee
Thomas Kelly McKee
Michael Meltser
Nicholas A. Monroe
Margarita Morato
Peter Moriarty
Michael Patrick Mullen Jr.
Brian Calhoun Mundell
Carter David Patterson Nash
Melissa Marie Navin
John George Nugent
Arsheilia Cheray Sa’lee Oliver
Maria Cristina Ortegon
Max Ryan Patterson
Gaetano Paul Pennacchi
James Kurt Perry
Jacqueline Pham
Sean Pink
Arsha Pourghaffar
Megan C. Quinn
Dillon Brent Rasmussen
Fizza Raza
Sydney Katherine Reed
Maddison Malone Riddick
Matthew H. Rider
Justin Rightmer
Stephanie Frazier Ritchie
Pauline Rivera
Nallely Iris Rodriguez
John David Rogers
Sanah Virani Roopani
Campbell Tyler Roper
Sophie Marguerite Rosales
Teri Russell
Colt E. Schmidtk
Shannon Marie Collins Schroeder
Sandra Scionti-Sdunzic
Stephanie Hayley Simon
Stephen Blake Shropshire
Andrew Trevor Slaton Freeman
Rochelle Smith
April C. Soto
Laura Taylor Stacy
Yakun “Marianne” Xu Standley
Jaime Stark
Tyler Steeb
Alexis D. Stephens
Kathryn Michelle Stitely
Rachael Eileen Stuhr
Eric William Sundin
Fatima Syed
Yenmi Tang
Rachael E. Thompson
R. Colton Tobias
Paula Toro
Kathryn Torres
Thomas Ray Treviño Jr.
Mohammad Wahid Ullah
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Dustin Webber
Austin Alexander Whiteley
Derek Whitmire
Tanner R. Wiethorn
Elizabeth Wroblewski
Lorena Zapata
Siyang Zheng
Brittainie J. Zinsmeyer

**Master of Laws**

Aseye Afi Agbitor
Ohoud Akram Al-Bataineh
Rafaela Bani
Jasmine Radia Bond
Cassio Braga Arantes
Erren Li-Hang Chen
Debora Carolina Cirino
Taylor A. Cruse
Morgan Le Faye Drake
Rustin Foroutan
Elisa Gutierrez
David Karl Hill
Busra Sumeyye Ilhan
Kourtney Kay Johnson
Rebecca Mei Chen Lee
Amanda Lourenco Cunha
Sancy Matschingha
Claudia C. Mijares
Cassandra Thuong Nguyen
Olumide Ibidolapo Olorunsola
Daniela Ivette Saybe Guillen
David Scott Shelton
Anastasia Walsh
April Maria Williams

1 Summa Cum Laude · 2 Magna Cum Laude · 3 Cum Laude
Fall 2018

**DOCTOR OF JURISPRUDENCE**
Victoria Brianna Daywalt
Alex J. Gallagher
Ning He
Aubrie Linder
Sarah W. McDonnell
Calvin Felix McKnight
Ashley Norton
Olufunsho Mary Oguntoyinbo
David H. Pope
Grant E. Spencer
Katelyn Van Sickel
Chase A. Waterwall

**MASTER OF LAWS**
Yaser Mohammed Ibrahim Al Zamil
Julio Cesar Azuara Najera
Rodney Emanuel Beard
Cristiano Franco Berbert
Megan Elizabeth Brown
Victoria Brianna Daywalt
Karina Guseva
David Gutierrez-Rubio
Ben Uchenna Ike
Tiffany Nicole Little
Ana Miriam Martinez
James C. Mattox
Charles Merile Onyango
Taft Robinson

Summer 2019

**DOCTOR OF JURISPRUDENCE**
Grecia Yvette Cepeda
Lindsay McNeil Contreras
Jerry Eugene Marvel III

Diego Armando Saucedo Guerra
Arisai Rebeca Sliva
Arif Ali Syed
Karina Elisabeth Thisgaard
Sabrina Tulon
Erika Paola Uribe Sierra
Tanyga Felicia White
Ashley E. Whittington
Deyong Yin
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Nathaniel Martinez (’11)
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**UH Law Alumni President/Ex-Officio**
Cynthia Mabry (’10)

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- Jim Perdue, Jr. (’93)
- Bill Swenson (’87)
- Brad Tucker (’79)
- Richard Whiteley (’99)
- Willie Wood (’84)
- Joshua Wolfshohl (’02)
- David Young (’88)

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- Lawrence Pirtle (’66)
- Leonard Rosenberg (’53)
- Hon. Alvin Zimmerman (’67)
- Bill Maynard (’73)
Message from the Dean

Dear UHCO Graduates,

First and foremost, congratulations to each of you on this momentous occasion! This is the defining moment in transitioning from your academic career to your professional career, and we celebrate your achievement. I hope that you take time to reflect on your journey and to honor the many individuals whose care and support helped you along the way.

For those of you receiving a Master of Science or Doctor of Philosophy in Physiological Optics degree, the need for new knowledge in the vision sciences is significant. We look to you to become thought leaders among your peers as well as for new knowledge that will advance visual health.

For those of you receiving a Doctor of Optometry degree, as a second-year student you recited the optometric oath and received your white coat – a significant milestone in your optometric education. With your first patient came great responsibility of upholding the patient-doctor relationship and of providing the highest quality patient care. Going forward, we ask that you remember this commitment, as it will serve you well.

As you are the next generation of optometrists, researchers, and vision scientists, we look forward to your continued accomplishments as you go out into the world and give back of your time and talents while building on the foundation of those who came before you and paved the way. You will play a crucial and ever-expanding role in the healthcare field.

On behalf of the faculty, staff, and administration, we wish you the best in your new endeavors. Remember you always have a home at UHCO, and we will always welcome you back with open arms. You will forever be a part of this family. Again, congratulations on your academic success and on joining the ranks of the entire optometric profession.

Sincerely,

Earl L. Smith III, O.D., ’72, Ph.D., ’78
Dean
Greeman-Petty Professor
University of Houston
College of Optometry

Commencement Ceremony
Saturday, May 11, 2019, 2 p.m.
Cullen Performance Hall

Prelude
Classical Arrangement

Processional
“Pomp and Circumstance”
by Sir Edward Elgar

Mace Bearer
Han Cheng, Ph.D., O.D.
Clinical Professor

Banner Bearer
Marcus G. Piccolo, O.D.
Associate Professor
Associate Dean for Professional Advancement
Associate Dean for Clinical Education
Executive Director, Surgical Services

Invocation
Danica Marrelli, O.D.
Assistant Dean for Clinical Education and Clinical Professor
Director, Ocular Diagnostic and Medical Eye Service

Welcome
Earl L. Smith III, O.D., Ph.D.
Dean and Greeman-Petty Professor

Recognition of Graduates

Summa Cum Laude
Kimberly Lambreghts, R.N., O.D.
Associate Dean for Professional Studies
and Clinical Professor

Magna Cum Laude

Gold Key International Memberships
Ralph Herring, O.D., M.H.A.
Assistant Dean for Professional Studies
and Clinical Associate Professor

Beta Sigma Kappa
Assistant Dean Herring

BSK Silver Medal Award
Assistant Dean Marrelli

Clinical Excellence Awards
Assistant Dean Marrelli

Outstanding Grand Rounds
James Walters, Ph.D., O.D.
Associate Professor

Presentation Award
Commencement Ceremony
Saturday, May 11, 2019, 2 p.m.
Cullen Performance Hall

University of Houston
College of Optometry

CORA AND J. DAVIS ARMISTEAD
FACULTY TEACHING AWARD

STUDENT ADDRESS
Theresa N. Hoang

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARD
Distinguished Alumnus Award for 2019
presented to Moes R. Nasser, O.D., ’82
by Dean Smith

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS
Moes R. Nasser, O.D.
Distinguished Alumnus for 2019

PRESENTATION AND HOODING
OF THE CANDIDATES
Dean Smith

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES
FOR MASTER OF SCIENCE
IN PHYSIOLOGICAL OPTICS DEGREE
Laura Frishman, Ph.D.
Associate Dean for Graduate Studies
and Research and John and Rebecca Moores Professor

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES
FOR DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY DEGREE
Jason Porter, Ph.D.
Vice Chair of the Faculty and Associate Professor

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CANDIDATES
FOR DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY DEGREE
Associate Dean Lambrechts

HOODING OF CANDIDATES
Anita Ticak, O.D., M.S.
Clinical Associate Professor

Jennifer Tasca, O.D.
Adjunct Faculty

FACULTY ASSISTING IN HOODING
Swati Modi, O.D.
Clinical Associate Professor

Lloyd Pate, O.D.
Clinical Associate Professor
GUESTS ASSISTING IN HOODING

The College has a long-standing tradition whereby parents, siblings, spouses, grandparents, uncles, and aunts who are graduates from the University of Houston College of Optometry, or who are graduates from a peer optometry institution, are invited to participate in the ceremony by serving as an honorary hooder. Candidates are given the opportunity to designate a hooder provided the individual meets the criteria as listed above and is approved by College Administration in advance of the ceremony.

GUEST HOODERS FOR THE CLASS OF 2019

Brad Blumenstock, O.D.
Glenn D. Ellisor, O.D., ’84
John W. Jeskie, O.D., ’82
Jim Jury, O.D., ’88
Michael Moulder, O.D., ’14
Anne Newcomer, O.D., ’88
Jay Newcomer, O.D., ’88
Elizabeth Perez-Aliseda, O.D.
Mary Shatleh, O.D., ’12

PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS

Dean Smith
Associate Dean Piccolo

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Dean Smith

ADMINISTRATION OF THE OPTOMETRIC OATH

Associate Dean Piccolo
THE OPTOMETRIC OATH

With full deliberation, I freely and solemnly pledge that:

• I will practice the art and science of optometry faithfully and conscientiously and to the fullest scope of my competence.

• I will uphold and honorably promote by example and action the highest standards, ethics and ideals of my chosen profession and the honor of the degree, Doctor of Optometry, which has been granted me.

• I will provide professional care for those who seek my services with concern, with compassion, and with due regard for their human rights and dignity.

• I will place the treatment of those who seek my care above personal gain and strive to see that none shall lack for proper care.

• I will hold as privileged and inviolable all information entrusted to me in confidence by my patients.

• I will advise my patients fully and honestly of all which may serve to restore, maintain, or enhance their vision and general health.

• I will strive continuously to broaden my knowledge and skills so that my patients may benefit from all new and efficacious means to enhance the care of human vision.

• I will share information cordially and unselfishly with my fellow optometrists and other professionals for the benefit of patients and the advancement of human knowledge and welfare.

• I will do my utmost to serve my community, my country, and humankind as a citizen as well as an optometrist.

• I hereby commit myself to be steadfast in the performance of this, my solemn oath and obligation.

CLOSING REMARKS
Dean Smith

BENEDICTION
Associate Professor Walters

RECESSIONAL
“War March of the Priests”
by Felix Mendelssohn
University of Houston
College of Optometry

Candidates for Graduation

Spring 2019

Candidates’ names are followed by their hometowns, undergraduate institutions, and, if applicable, their graduate institutions.

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PHYSIOLOGICAL OPTICS

Hannah Jean Burfield
Onalaska, WI
B.S., University of Wisconsin-Madison
THESIS: Ocular and Systemic Diurnal Rhythms in Emmetropic and Myopic Adults

Faith M. McAllister
Seward, NE
B.A., Concordia University at Irvine
THESIS: Assessing Impact of Nonphysiological IOP on the Primate Eye

Vanna Pham
Houston, TX
B.S., University of Houston
THESIS: Circadian Flux of Polymorphonuclear Leukocytes in the Mouse Limbus

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN PHYSIOLOGICAL OPTICS

Kwami Antwi-Boasiako
Kumasi, Ghana
O.D., Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology
DISSERTATION: Evaluating the Estimation of Neuronal Loss in Glaucoma

Madhu Mahadevan
Chennai, India
B.S. Optometry - Elite School of Optometry - Birla Institute of Technology and Sciences
DISSERTATION: The Effect of Visual Attention on Eye Movements

Mythri Pullela
Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
B. Technology - Gayatri Vidya Parishad College of Engineering
DISSERTATION: Longitudinal Investigation of Behavioral and Neuronal Responses Before and After Strabismus Correction Surgery

RESIDENTS

Candidates’ names are followed by their hometowns, graduate institutions, and residency information.

Noor Abushagur, O.D.
El Paso, TX
O.D., The Ohio State University College of Optometry
RESIDENCY: Ocular Disease at the Community Eye Clinic

Diana Chen, O.D.
San Francisco, CA
O.D., University of California Berkeley School of Optometry
RESIDENCY: Ocular Disease at the University Eye Institute

Dominic D’Orazio, O.D.
Gallup, NM
O.D., Inter American University of Puerto Rico School of Optometry
RESIDENCY: Ocular Disease at the Cedar Springs Eye Clinic

Ashton Lacie Ehlers, O.D.
Victoria, TX
O.D., University of Houston College of Optometry
RESIDENCY: Brain Injury Vision Rehabilitation at the University Eye Institute

Cassandra Weinberg Greene, O.D.
Plano, TX
O.D., University of Houston College of Optometry
RESIDENCY: Low Vision Rehabilitation at the University Eye Institute

Jup Kaur Grewal, O.D.
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
O.D., University of California Berkeley School of Optometry
RESIDENCY: Pediatric Optometry at the University Eye Institute

Zahraa Majeed, O.D.
London, Ontario, Canada
O.D., University of Houston College of Optometry
RESIDENCY: Family Practice Optometry at the UHCO Eye Center in the Heights

Courtney Faatin Morrow, O.D.
Nashville, TN
O.D., Southern College of Optometry
RESIDENCY: Family Practice Optometry at the University Eye Institute

Katherine Zhang, O.D.
Northridge, CA
O.D., Southern California College of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum University
RESIDENCY: Cornea and Contact Lens at the University Eye Institute

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS

Candidates’ names are followed by their hometowns, graduate institutions, and fellowship information.

Kellen Ruth Riccobono, O.D.
Sugar Land, TX
O.D., University of Houston College of Optometry
FELLOWSHIP: Cornea and Contact Lens at the Texas Eye Research and Technology Center

Sandra Rajan, O.D.
Sugar Land, TX
O.D., University of Houston College of Optometry
FELLOWSHIP: Clinical Teaching at the UHCO Eye Center in the Heights
Doctor of Optometry

Candidates’ names are followed by their hometowns; undergraduate institutions and, if applicable, graduate institutions; also listed all candidates’ fourth-year clinical externship locations.

Rami Jean Aboumourad
Houston, TX
B.S., University of Houston
Space Center Eye Associates, Houston, Texas
Coastal Eye Associates, Houston, Texas

Michael P. Aguilera
San Antonio, TX
B.S., University of Texas at San Antonio
Vision Source Alamo Heights, San Antonio, Texas

Haseeb A. Bacchus
Spring, TX
B.S., Texas A&M University
Raymond G. Murphy VA Medical Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico
Diagnostic Eye Center, Houston, Texas

Elizabeth Shumard Bell
Warrensburg, MO
B.S., University of Missouri
Diagnostic Eye Center, Houston, Texas
Space Center Eye Associates, Houston, Texas

Christine Heinzer Bennett
St. Paul, MN
B.S., Metropolitan State University
Eye Care Associates of Humble, Humble, Texas

Derek Francis Blumenstock
O’Neill, NE
B.A., Mount Marty College
HOPE Eye Clinic, Houston, Texas

Daniel Vu-Ngoc-Son Bui
Seattle, WA
B.A., University of St. Thomas
B.S., University of St. Thomas
Valley Coastal Bend VAMC, Harlingen, TX
Vision Center, Ruston, Louisiana

Sandra Kieu Tran Bui
Houston, TX
B.S., Texas A&M University
Neuro-Ophthalmology of Texas, Houston, Texas
HOPE Eye Clinic, Houston, Texas

Hannah Jean Burfield
Onalaska, WI
B.S., University of Wisconsin-Madison
Katy VA Outpatient Clinic, Katy, Texas
Family Vision Solutions, Houston, Texas

Amanda Raye Chamberlin
McKinney, TX
B.S., Westmont College
Lakeview Vision Source, Austin, Texas
Community Eye Clinic, Fort Worth, Texas

Urooj Chandwany
Spring, TX
B.A., University of Texas at Austin
NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma
HOPE Eye Clinic, Houston, Texas

Warren Chen
Sugar Land, TX
B.A., University of Texas at Austin
NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma

Jerry Chih
Sugar Land, TX
B.S., University of Texas at Austin
Signature Eye Care, Cedar Park, Texas
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas

Michael Albert Christensen
Provo, UT
B.S., Brigham Young University
George E. Wahlen VA Medical Center, Salt Lake City, Utah
Family Vision Solutions, Houston, Texas

Juddie M. Correos
Houston, TX
B.S., Baylor University
Vision Source Mission
Bend, Houston, Texas
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas

Lora Cretella
Shelby, NC
B.S., North Carolina State University
Indian Health Hospital, Santa Fe, New Mexico
NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma

Lauren Ashley Davis
Austin, TX
B.S., The Ohio State University
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas
Lakeline Vision Source, Austin, Texas

Chi T. Do
Dallas, TX
B.S., University of Texas at Dallas
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas
Eye Doctor’s Office & Eye Gallery, Dallas, Texas

Cooper B. Fisher
Wynne, AR
B.A., University of Arkansas
Dr. Dwayne Yeager, West Monroe, Louisiana
NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma

Kirsten Bevan Fowler
Trophy Club, TX
B.S., Texas A&M University
UHCO Eye Center in the Heights, Houston, Texas
NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma

Ashley Denise Galindo
Laredo, TX
B.S., University of Texas at Austin
Indian Health Hospital, Santa Fe, New Mexico
South Texas Veterans Health Care System, San Antonio, Texas

Reid Brian Gardner
Kansas City, KS
B.S., Brigham Young University
Plaza Vision Center, Dallas, Texas
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas
University of Houston  
College of Optometry  
Candidates for Graduation

Alyssa C. Garza  
New Braunfels, TX  
B.S., University of Houston  
Signature Eye Care, Cedar Park, Texas  
UHCO Eye Center in the Heights, Houston, Texas

Corey Bryce Giammarco  
Arlington, TX  
B.S., University of Texas at Arlington  
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas  
Oak Hill Eye Care, Austin, Texas

Viviana Gonzalez  
Allen, TX  
B.S., University of Houston  
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas  
Coastal Eye Associates, Houston, Texas

Andrea Nicole Griffin  
Allen, TX  
B.S., Texas A&M University  
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas  
Bellaire Family Eye Care, Bellaire, Texas

Ian J. Gutierrez  
Houston, TX  
B.S., University of Houston  
NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma  
Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas

Ki Addison Hargis  
Amarillo, TX  
B.S., Oklahoma State University  
Acadian Vision Associates, Lafayette, Louisiana  
Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas

Sabah A. Hasan  
Sugar Land, TX  
B.B.A., University of Houston  
Vision Source Mission, Bend, Houston, Texas  
Richmond VA Outpatient Clinic, Richmond, Texas

Warishan Binta Hasan  
Houston, TX  
B.S., University of Houston  
Community Eye Clinic, Fort Worth, Texas  
Golden Eye Clinic, Center, Texas

Lulian Ho  
Houston, TX  
B.S., University of Houston  
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas  
Dr. Dwayne Yeager, West Monroe, Louisiana

Theresa N. Hoang  
Wichita, KS  
B.S., Kansas State University  
Indian Health Hospital, Albuquerque, New Mexico  
Texas Eye Institute, Houston, Texas

Lindsey G. Holland  
San Antonio, TX  
B.S., Texas A&M University  
Sharp Eye Consultants, San Antonio, Texas  
Raymond G. Murphy VA Medical Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Colton Wayne Houlette  
Amarillo, TX  
B.S., Oklahoma State University  
UHCO Eye Center in the Heights, Houston, Texas  
Advanced Eye Care, Canyon, Texas

Kayci Houlette  
Little Rock, AR  
B.S., Texas A&M University  
Eye Doctor's Office & Eye Gallery, Dallas, Texas  
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas

Ciarra Brooke Humble  
Monroe, LA  
B.S., Louisiana Tech University  
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas  
Dr. Dwayne Yeager, West Monroe, Louisiana

Sarah San-Wai Hung  
Houston, TX  
B.S., University of Houston  
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas  
Lakeline Vision Source, Austin, Texas

Steve T. Huynh  
Westminster, CA  
B.S., University of California, Santa Barbara, Texas  
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas  
Naval Medical Center San Diego, San Diego, California

Joseph Edward Jeskie  
Scottsville, KY  
B.S., Brigham Young University  
Indian Health Hospital, Santa Fe, New Mexico  
Signature Eye Care, Cedar Park, Texas

Shazia A. Karim  
Carrollton, TX  
B.B.A., University of Texas at Austin  
Neuro-Vision Associates of North Texas, Plano, Texas  
Community Eye Clinic, Fort Worth, Texas

Jonathan Michael Kay  
Tucson, AZ  
B.S., Northern Arizona University  
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas  
UHCO Eye Center in the Heights, Houston, Texas

Anna Khoja  
Nederland, TX  
B.S., Texas A&M University  
Community Eye Clinic, Fort Worth, Texas  
Space Center Eye Associates, Houston, Texas

Jung-Sun Kim  
Suwon, South Korea  
B.S., Oklahoma Baptist University  
Ph.D., Baylor College of Medicine  
Richmond VA Outpatient Clinic, Richmond, Texas  
Houston Eye Associates, Houston, Texas

Lawrence Allen King  
Van Buren, AR  
B.S., University of Arkansas  
Oak Hill Eye Care, Austin, Texas  
NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma

Anthony Richard Kruger  
Cypress, TX  
B.S., University of Texas at Austin  
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas  
Lakeline Vision Source, Austin, Texas

Irina Krupin  
Plano, TX  
B.S., University of Texas at Dallas  
NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma  
Community Eye Clinic, Fort Worth, Texas
Sawyer Stephen Lambert  
Corpus Christi, TX  
B.S., Texas A&M University  
Oak Hill Eye Care, Austin, Texas  
Valley Coastal Bend VAMC, Harlingen, TX

Paul T. Landry  
Pearland, TX  
B.S., University of Houston  
Katy VA Outpatient Clinic, Katy, Texas  
HOPE Eye Clinic, Houston, Texas

Matthew K. Lee  
Palatine, IL  
B.A., Case Western Reserve University  
Plaza Vision Center, Dallas, Texas  
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas

Micaela Erica Lee  
McAllen, TX  
B.S., University of Texas at Austin  
Vision Center, Ruston, Louisiana  
Valley Coastal Bend VAMC, Harlingen, TX

Robert X. Li  
Plano, TX  
B.B.A., University of Texas at Austin  
Eye Doctor’s Office & Eye Gallery, Dallas, Texas  
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas

Yolanda Li  
Las Vegas, NV  
B.S., University of Houston  
Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas  
NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma

Sandy Lin  
Houston, TX  
B.S., University of Texas at Austin  
NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma  
George E. Wahlen VA Medical Center, Salt Lake City, Utah

Marcela Lopez  
El Paso, TX  
B.S., Texas Tech University  
Community Eye Clinic, Fort Worth, Texas  
Sharp Eye Consultants, San Antonio, Texas

Santino Lujan  
San Antonio, TX  
B.S., University of the Incarnate Word  
Golden Eye Clinic, Center, Texas  
Texas Eye Institute, Houston, Texas

Chandler R. Mann II  
Houston, TX  
B.S., University of Texas at Austin  
HOPE Eye Clinic, Houston, Texas  
UHCO Eye Center in the Heights, Houston, Texas

Brittany Nicole Martin  
Lockport, LA  
B.S., University of Louisiana at Lafayette  
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas  
Sharp Eye Consultants, San Antonio, Texas

Faith M. McAllister  
Seward, NE  
B.A., Concordia University at Irvine  
Lakeline Vision Source, Austin, Texas  
NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma

Katherine Ann McCracken  
Clinton, MS  
B.S., Mississippi State University  
Naval Medical Center San Diego, San Diego, California  
Raymond G. Murphy VA Medical Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Maranda Kathryn McGonigle  
Springtown, TX  
B.S., Tarleton State University  
Vision Source Alamo Heights, San Antonio, Texas  
HOPE Eye Clinic, Houston, Texas

Ross Parker Moulder  
Chardon, OH  
B.A., Texas A&M University  
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas  
Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas

Zainab A. Muhanna  
Richardson, TX  
B.A., Southern Methodist University  
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas  
Richmond VA Outpatient Clinic, Richmond, Texas

Jonathan Christian Munoz  
Pflugerville, TX  
B.S., University of Texas at San Antonio  
Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas  
NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma

Macon Newcomer  
Crystal River, FL  
B.S., Clemson University  
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas  
Oak Hill Eye Care, Austin, Texas

Anthony D. Nguyen  
Los Angeles, CA  
B.S., University of Houston  
NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma  
HOPE Eye Clinic, Houston, Texas

Jennifer Thu Nguyen  
Dallas, TX  
B.S., University of Houston  
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas  
Vision Source Mission Bend, Houston, Texas

Kim H. Nguyen  
Baton Rouge, LA  
B.S., Louisiana State University  
Acadian Vision Associates, Lafayette, Louisiana  
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas

Michelle P. Nguyen  
Houston, TX  
B.A., University of Houston  
George E. Wahlen VA Medical Center, Salt Lake City, Utah  
UHCO Eye Center in the Heights, Houston, Texas

Nhi Tran Ngoc Nguyen  
Houston, TX  
B.S., University of Texas at Arlington  
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas  
Spring Klein Vision Center, Spring, Texas

Osmond Nguyen  
Houston, TX  
B.S., Texas A&M University  
NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma  
Vision Source Alamo Heights, San Antonio, Texas
University of Houston
College of Optometry

Candidates for Graduation

Paul M. Nguyen
North Richland Hills, TX
B.S., University of Texas at Austin
NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma
HOPE Eye Clinic, Houston, Texas

Sylvianne T. Nguyen
Plano, TX
B.B.A., Southern Methodist University
Hellerstein and Brenner Vision Center PC, Denver, CO
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas

Vi Nguyen
Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam
B.S., University of Texas at Dallas
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas
Acadian Vision Associates, Lafayette, Louisiana

Vincent A. Nguyen
Garland, TX
B.S., University of Houston
HOPE Eye Clinic, Houston, Texas
South Texas Veterans Health Care System, San Antonio, Texas

Tatiana Noroozian
Nacogdoches, TX
B.B.A., University of Texas at Austin
M.S., University of Texas Health Science Center
NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma
UHCO Eye Center in the Heights, Houston, Texas

Nathan Keith Panttaja
Reedley, CA
B.A., Tabor College
South Texas Veterans Health Care System, San Antonio, Texas
HOPE Eye Clinic, Houston, Texas

Shivani Patel
Frisco, TX
B.S., University of Texas at Dallas
Eye Care Associates of Humble, Humble, Texas
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas

Yesha K. Patel
Lubbock, TX
B.S., Texas Tech University
Community Eye Clinic, Fort Worth, Texas
UHCO Eye Center in the Heights, Houston, Texas

Vanna Pham
Houston, TX
B.S., University of Houston
Texas Eye Institute, Houston, Texas
Space Center Eye Associates, Houston, Texas

Melissa Marie Poppenhusen
Houston, TX
B.S., University of Mary Hardin-Baylor
Lakeline Vision Source, Austin, Texas
Texas Children’s Hospital Clinic, Houston, Texas

Rachel Lauren Reed
Columbus, OH
B.S., Denison University
Raymond G. Murphy VA Medical Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico
Oak Hill Eye Care, Austin, Texas

Samantha Namtip Reynolds
Fort Worth, TX
B.A., University of North Texas
Neuro-Vision Associates of North Texas, Plano, Texas
Community Eye Clinic, Fort Worth, Texas

Lauren M. Rovers
Albuquerque, NM
B.S., Texas A&M University
Neuro-Vision Associates of North Texas, Plano, Texas
Indian Health Hospital, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Natalia K. Sanchez
Sugar Land, TX
B.S., Saint Edwards University
Spring Klein Vision Center, Spring, Texas
Community Eye Clinic, Fort Worth, Texas

Katelyn Lane Schneider
Brookings, SD
B.S., University of Minnesota Duluth
Space Center Eye Associates, Houston, Texas
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas

Kendall Morgan Schultz
Dallas, TX
B.S., Texas A&M University
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas
Plaza Vision Center, Dallas, Texas

Nicola Ibrahim Shatleh
Pearland, TX
B.S., University of Houston
Diagnostic Eye Center, Houston, Texas
Community Eye Clinic, Fort Worth, Texas

Ambika Singh
Seabrook, TX
B.A., University of Texas at Austin
HOPE Eye Clinic, Houston, Texas
UHCO Eye Center in the Heights, Houston, Texas

Elaine Marie Steffensen
Orland Park, IL
B.S., University of Illinois
Coastal Eye Associates, Houston, Texas
Diagnostic Eye Center, Houston, Texas

Sadie Ann Steinbeisser
Sidney, MT
B.S., Montana State University
Bellaire Family Eye Care, Bellaire, Texas
Raymond G. Murphy VA Medical Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Lauren N. Tatlock
Liberal, KS
B.S., Texas Christian University
Community Eye Clinic, Fort Worth, Texas
Contact Lens Associates, Albuquerque, NM

Shane L. Tibiletti
Huntsville, TX
B.S., University of Texas at Austin
Bellaire Family Eye Care, Bellaire, Texas
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas

Victoria Mai-Tram Tran
Dallas, TX
B.S., University of Texas at Dallas
Oak Hill Eye Care, Austin, Texas
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas
Diana Le Trinh  
Biloxi, MS  
B.S., Austin Peay State University  
Naval Medical Center San Diego, San Diego, California  
Raymond G. Murphy VA Medical Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Jessica Ngoc Vien  
Houston, TX  
B.S., University of Houston  
NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma  
EyeCare of Greenville, Greenville, TX

Cole Michael Vilhauer  
Frisco, TX  
B.S., Texas Tech University  
Vision Source Willowbrook, Houston, Texas  
NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma

Emily D. Walker  
Houston, TX  
B.S., University of Houston  
UHCO Eye Center in the Heights, Houston, Texas  
Spring Klein Vision Center, Spring, Texas

Eric David Wang  
Houston, TX  
B.S., University of Houston  
Community Eye Clinic, Fort Worth, Texas  
Golden Eye Clinic, Center, Texas

Jessica Lan Wang  
Plano, TX  
B.S., University of Texas at Dallas  
B.A., University of Texas at Dallas  
Houston Eye Associates, Houston, Texas  
NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma

Kristen E. Watt  
Flagstaff, AZ  
B.S., Northern Arizona University  
Family Vision Solutions, Houston, Texas  
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas

Emily D. Walker  
Houston, TX  
B.S., University of Houston  
UHCO Eye Center in the Heights, Houston, Texas  
Spring Klein Vision Center, Spring, Texas

Alan Wong  
Annandale, VA  
B.S., Virginia Tech  
UHCO Eye Center in the Heights, Houston, Texas  
Katy VA Outpatient Clinic, Katy, Texas

Ryan E. Wooldridge  
Colorado Springs, CO  
B.S., University of Colorado  
Indian Health Hospital, Albuquerque, New Mexico  
Eye Care Associates of Humble, Humble, Texas

Jacqueline J. Yi  
Tucson, AZ  
B.S., University of Arizona  
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas  
Vision Source Willowbrook, Houston, Texas
HONORS

Doctoral students who complete their degree requirements will graduate with the stated academic honors if they achieve the corresponding grade point averages earned in the doctor of optometry program at the University of Houston.

**Summa Cum Laude – 3.75 to 4.0**

Rami Jean Aboumourad
Hannah Jean Burfield
Michael Albert Christensen
Lauren Ashley Davis
Corey Bryce Giammarco
Andrea Nicole Griffin
Sabah A. Hasan
Joseph Edward Jeskie
Anna Khoja
Macon Newcomer

Sylvianne T. Nguyen
Katelyn Lane Schneider
Kendall Morgan Schultz
Elaine Marie Steffensen
Sadie Ann Steinbeisser
Lauren N. Tatlock
Shane L. Tibiletti
Victoria Mai-Tram Tran
Kristen E. Watt

**Magna Cum Laude – 3.50 to 3.74**

Elizabeth Shumard Bell
Jerry Chih
Juddie M. Correos
Lora Cretella
Chi T. Do
Reid Brian Gardner
Alyssa C. Garza
Kayci Houlette
Ciarra Brooke Humble
Sarah San-Wai Hung
Steve T. Huynh
Shazia A. Karim
Jung-Sun Kim
Sawyer Stephen Lambert

Matthew K. Lee
Robert X. Li
Faith M. McAllister
Kim H. Nguyen
Nhi Tran Ngoc Nguyen
Vi Nguyen
Shivani Patel
Samantha Namtip Reynolds
Lauren M. Roverse
Diana Le Trinh
Emily D. Walker
Ryan E. Wooldridge
Jacqueline J. Yi
2019 Gold Key International Optometric Honor Society

Gold Key International Optometric Honor Society recognizes graduating students who demonstrate outstanding professional and ethical attitudes through leadership and service to their class, college, and profession. Membership is limited to no more than 10 percent of the graduating class. The University of Houston College of Optometry chapter of Gold Key was created in 1974.

Haseeb A. Bacchus
Sandra Kieu Tran Bui
Cooper B. Fisher
Ki Addison Hargis
Theresa N. Hoang
Lindsey G. Holland
Steve T. Huynh
Sawyer Stephen Lambert
Rachel Lauren Reed
Kendall Morgan Schultz

Beta Sigma Kappa International Optometric Honor Society Graduates

Beta Sigma Kappa recognizes students who stimulate scientific attainment, academic excellence, and the ethical practice of optometry. Membership is awarded based on scholastic excellence and is calculated per semester.

Rami Jean Aboumourad*
Elizabeth Shumard Bell*
Jerry Chih*
Juddie M. Correos
Lauren Ashley Davis*
Chi T. Do*
Reid Brian Gardner*
Alyssa C. Garza*
Corey Bryce Giammarco*
Andrea Nicole Griffin*
Sabah A. Hasan*
Ciarra Brooke Humble
Sarah San-Wai Hung*
Steve T. Huynh*
Shazia A. Karim
Anna Khoja*
Jung-Sun Kim
Matthew K. Lee*
Robert X. Li*
Macon Newcomer*
Kim H. Nguyen*
Nhi Tran Ngoc Nguyen*
Sylvianne T. Nguyen*
Vi Nguyen*
Shivani Patel
Vanna Pham*
Samantha Namtip Reynolds*
Lauren M. Rovense*
Katelyn Lane Schneider*
Kendall Morgan Schultz*
Elaine Marie Steffensen*
Sadie Ann Steinbeisser*
Lauren N. Tatlock*
Shane L. Tibiletti*
Victoria Mai-Tram Tran*
Emily D. Walker*
Kristen E. Watt*
Ryan E. Wooldridge*
Jacqueline J. Yi*

* membership since Fall 2016
Clinical Excellence Specialty Awards

**CORNEA AND CONTACT LENS**
Katherine Ann McCracken

**DRY EYE CENTER**
Emily D. Walker

**GOOD-LITE PEDIATRIC OPTOMETRY**
Sylvianne T. Nguyen

**LOW VISION**
Elizabeth Shumard Bell

**MEDICAL EYE SERVICE**
Kendall Morgan Schultz

**PRIMARY CARE**
Samantha Namtip Reynolds

**ZELDA SCHIFFMAN NEURO-OPHTHALMOLOGY**
Sandra Kieu Tran Bui

Fourth Year Professional Awards

**ALCON LABORATORIES EXCELLENCE AWARD**
Tatiana Noroozian

**COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRISTS IN VISION DEVELOPMENT EXCELLENCE IN VISION THERAPY AWARD**
Vi Nguyen

**THE EBLING AWARD IN MEDICAL CONTACT LENS PATIENT CARE**
Michael Albert Christensen

**ESCHENBACH LOW VISION AWARD**
Rachel Lauren Reed
EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD
Andrea Nicole Griffin

EXCELLENCE IN OPTICS AWARD
Matthew K. Lee

WILLIAM FEINBLOOM LOW VISION AWARD
Nicola Ibrahim Shatleh

GP LENS INSTITUTE CLINICAL EXCELLENCE AWARD
Sadie Ann Steinbeisser

JOHNSON & JOHNSON AWARD OF EXCELLENCE IN CONTACT LENS PATIENT CARE
Theresa N. Hoang

MARCHON EYEWEAR PRACTICE MANAGEMENT AWARD
Sawyer Stephen Lambert

METRO OPTICS EXCELLENCE AWARD
Rami Jean Aboumourad

OCULAR INSTRUMENTS AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE
Theresa N. Hoang

OFFICE OF OPTOMETRY RELATIONS IMAGE AWARD
Rami Jean Aboumourad

OPTELEC LOW VISION AWARD
Eric David Wang

OUTSTANDING TEACHING ASSISTANT AWARD
Lawrence Allen King
Moes Nasser was born in the small rural village of Nyambiti, eventually settling in Mwanza, Tanzania’s second largest city. Moes, his parents and 3 siblings shared a tiny residence before relocating to Karachi where life continued to be difficult with nights spent hungry with no money for food. Moes remembers fibbing to his mother telling her that he had eaten because she would not eat until she was sure the children had.

At 18, he sent a handwritten letter to the Geneva-based Aga Khan Foundation requesting a scholarship and they responded favorably with an offer to study in North America. With no extra money for college application fees, he selected three schools that did not charge to apply and was accepted at them all. Unsure which school to select, he remembered a counselor at the US embassy telling him that the weather in Houston was nice, so with $20 in his pocket he arrived in Houston on August 19, 1976 at the age of 19 to attend the University of Houston.

After two years of undergraduate studies at UH, and unsure what to do next, the bus he took home from campus each day stopped close to the late Dr. Richard Hutto’s ’70 office. One day, he mustered up the courage to go inside and ask Dr. Hutto about optometry. Inspired and feeling optometry was his calling, Moes applied to UHCO and accepted one of the few seats left in the incoming class.

Being admitted to UHCO was one of the happiest days he and his family had experienced. Although he had many mentors, his father, who was illiterate was the greatest influence, providing more wisdom than anyone else. As an optometry student, Moes worked 32 hours per week at a motel to make ends meet. During this time he married Anar, a woman he had known in Tanzania, who earned her degree in nuclear medical technology.

Moes’ father became ill with a heart issue requiring surgery but they were without health insurance or financial resources. He had the opportunity to meet renowned heart surgeon, the late Dr. Denton Cooley, and asked if he would perform surgery, telling him they had no money but would pay in installments once he graduated and landed a job. Dr. Cooley performed a triple bypass on Moes’ dad in November 1979. Upon graduating in 1982, Moes met Dr. Cooley to pay the first $500 installment toward the $6,000 bill, but Dr. Cooley declined, telling him, “Son, you are a doctor now so make sure you help others.”

In the early eighties, Dr. Clinton DeWolfe was launching Royal Optical and gave Moes his first job, leading to a Green Card four months later. Moes rented an office for $100, paid another $50 for equipment, and began growing his practice and hiring his first staff member after two months.
Suffering from low self-esteem, Moes recalls being intimidated by patients who were highly educated or financially secure, but within a few months he had five Royal Optical locations and four doctors working for him. In 1989, he opened his first independent practice, Family Eye Care located in Willowbrook Mall, and in 1998, he joined Vision Source. Today he owns three locations across Houston and also serves as the administrator for South Houston Vision Source covering 35 area practices.

Moes established a volunteer-driven project in Tanzania to honor his father, Roshan Ali, and over the next two years, the program will impact the lives of 20,000 patients, 14,000 of them children. Over the last 11 years, and in collaboration with area orphanages, high quality eye care has been and continues to be provided for the marginalized albino population, an ostracized group at high risk for violent acts being committed upon them.

In addition to his parents, a guiding force in his life is the HH Aga Khan, the spiritual leader of the Ismaili Muslim community. He volunteers as a speaker for the Aga Khan on ethics and spirituality. Reflecting on his journey, Moes is honored to be in a position to return to his tiny village in Tanzania and help those in need. His advice to students is “to find a vocation in life and help others who are lesser than you for various reasons beyond their control.”

“You don’t need to go across the globe to help others. Even if it’s just a few blocks away, you can help someone in need. In life we get opportunities, and something within us tells us what to do, so we need to keep our eyes and ears open. There is no substitute for hard work. The blessings of our elders, prayers and supplications of family members is what is important.”
Golden Reunion Class of 1969

The University of Houston College of Optometry’s faculty, staff, and students salute the Class of 1969 on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of their Commencement.

Caleb Galen Abbott, O.D.  
Thomas Leonard Baker, O.D.  
Robert Stephan Better, O.D.  
Robert Melvin Birenbaum, O.D.  
Jerald Denman Boring, O.D.*  
Henry L. Bumgardner, Jr., O.D.  
Bruce D. Burns, O.D.  
David Jackson Cauley, O.D.*  
Stephen Carter Cauley, O.D.  
Robert Nicholas Chapman, O.D.  
Kenneth Douglass Clanton, O.D.  
Cled Tripett Click, O.D.  
Dale Kenneth Cole, O.D.  
Phillip Lane Cook, O.D.  
Jay David Crum, O.D.  
Michael Lynn DeRouen, O.D.  
Orville Keith Dishman, O.D.  
Phil D. Farmer, O.D.  
Gary L. Ford, O.D.  
C. George Griffith, O.D.*  
Frank H. Griffith, O.D.*  
Jeffrey Noel Halpin, O.D.  
Philip Brian Hanisch, O.D.*  
Emmett Rodney Hutto, O.D.  
Ronald Laynn Kerns, O.D.  
Harry Eugene Kreutziger, O.D.  
Brian Julian Levin, O.D.  
Raymond Neil Mancuso, O.D.  
J.T. McCullough, O.D.  
Charles L. Nelson, O.D.  
Kenneth Rawson Parker, O.D.  
David M. Perrigin, O.D.  
George Mark Redwine, O.D.  
James Frank Russell, O.D.  
Harry Eugene Scott, O.D.  
Terry Don Shelley, O.D.  
Douglas Leslie Swanson, O.D.  
Vincent Robert Cavill Taylor, O.D.  
Richard Martin Ullman, O.D.  
Joseph Anthony Voss, O.D.  
William Edwin Watson, O.D.  
Jesse Ray Weeks, III, O.D.  
Eliahu Weinstein, O.D.*  
William Ernest White, O.D.*  
George William Wineinger, Jr., O.D.  
Carl Ernest Zimmerman, O.D.

*Deceased
UHCO Milestones

1950s
In 1952, UHCO officially opens. Charles R. Stewart, O.D., Ph.D., is named first dean of the college.
The Foundation for Education and Research in Vision is established to increase and promote awareness of vision and its care.
UHCO graduates the first class with 11 O.D.s entering the optometric profession in 1955.
Mildred Carlisle, O.D., is UHCO’s first female graduate.

1960s
Faculty member Chester H. Pheiffer, O.D., Ph.D., assumes duties as dean of the college.
The Texas Commission on Higher Education confirms the offering of optometry at UH, making the college eligible for state support.
Charles M. Stephens, O.D., becomes UHCO’s 100th graduate.

1970s
The graduate program is established in physiological optics (vision science) with the M.S. degree in 1970 and the Ph.D. in 1972. The first M.S. graduate is Norman E. Leach, O.D., a longtime UHCO faculty member. The first Ph.D. is awarded to Pierrette Dahaw-Barker, a current faculty member at Salus University.
James K. Donovan, O.D., becomes the 500th graduate.
The J. Davis Armistead Building is completed with both state and federal assistance. The state-of-the-art $9.6 million building remains UHCO’s home.
UHCO establishes a formal partnership with the Good Neighbor Healthcare Center and on-site optometric services begin.
William R. Baldwin, O.D., Ph.D., becomes UHCO’s dean.
The UHCO Reading Room becomes an official UH recognized library.

1980s
The Nelson Reber, O.D., Eye Open Golf Tournament is established to raise funds for student scholarships and emergency loans. Dr. Reber died in 2011.
Dan Patterson, O.D., becomes UHCO’s 1,000th graduate.
UH Downtown formally names the vision clinic the Herbert H. Moore Vision Care Clinic, in honor of the popular UHCO professor.
The Texas Optometry Career Opportunities Program (TEXOCOP) is created with grant funds contributed from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service Administration.

1990s
Karen M. Conway, O.D., becomes the 2,000th graduate.
The Weston A. Pettey Library is dedicated to honor Dr. Pettey’s tireless efforts on behalf of UHCO and the profession. The Reading Room is named to honor Dr. Irvin M. Borish for his achievements in the profession.
The college building is formally named the J. Davis Armistead Building in recognition of Dr. Armistead’s enduring efforts benefitting the college, university, and the profession. Dr. Armistead is known for being the optometrist to singer Buddy Holly and having a hand in selecting the famous black frames.
Jerald W. Strickland, O.D., Ph.D., is named UHCO’s dean in September 1991.

2000s
Seren D. Ngin, O.D., becomes UHCO’s 3,000th graduate in May 2001.
UHCO caps off the 50th Anniversary celebration with a gala celebrating Visions of the Past, Present, and Future.
UHCO and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society form an official affiliation to establish the MS Eye Care Center. The clinic is dedicated to the early diagnosis and treatment of MS, to the delivery of comprehensive eye care to patients with MS, and to groundbreaking research.

UHCO debuts its Mobile Eye Institute, designed specifically to provide eye care to the greater-Houston area. MEI is equipped with the latest in ophthalmic technology and brings comprehensive on-site vision services to patients in need of optometric care.

UHCO hosts a Groundbreaking Celebration on the site that will become the UH Health 1 featuring the UHCO Vision Institute in November 2010.

The Topping Out Ceremony and pillar signing event for the Molly and Doug Barnes Vision Institute within the new UH Health 1 marks the occasion when construction on the new building reaches its highest point in September 2011.

Bridget Ducote, O.D., becomes the 4,000th UHCO graduate during the May 2012 ceremony.

The UH Health 1 featuring the Molly and Doug Barnes Vision Institute officially opens in November 2012, and the formal dedication ceremony celebrates this milestone in February 2013.

Pierrette Dayhaw-Barker, Ph.D., ’76, UHCO’s first Ph.D. recipient, receives the Distinguished Alumnus Award at the May 2013 commencement ceremony.

Vissett Sun, O.D., ’95 is recognized as the 2013 Volunteer of the Year.

In August, 2013, Brady Betten from the Class of 2014 receives the Norman E. Wallis Award honoring the student earning the highest score among students from all 23 schools of optometry on Part I of the National Board Examinations.

In November, 2013, Earl L. Smith III, O.D., Ph.D., is appointed to serve as the Interim Chief Health Officer for the university, and Roger L. Boltz, O.D., Ph.D., is appointed to serve as UHCO’s Interim Dean.

In February 2014, William R. Baldwin, O.D., Ph.D., UHCO Dean from 1979-1990, passes away. The UH Flag flies at half-staff the day of his funeral as a tribute to his memory.

In May 2014, Dennis M. Levi, O.D., Ph.D., ’77 is recognized as UHCO’s Distinguished Alumnus.

J. Davis Armistead, O.D., passes away in June 2014. He was the first O.D. to serve on the UH Board of Regents and completed two terms, the longest of any optometrist. He served as an advocate for the college, university, and profession until his death.

The Simulation Lab is established in August 2014 giving optometry students an opportunity to learn diagnostic techniques on a state-of-the-art, first-in-the-nation set of networked computers that mimic the experience of examining a real patient’s eyes. The sophisticated program is preloaded with 200 pathology cases designed to teach pattern recognition to students.

nJOY Vision Center opens in the Molly and Doug Barnes Vision Institute in February 2015. This partnership provides the opportunity to integrate new clinical services into the curriculum, including refractive surgery, laser refractive procedures, and advanced treatment options for conditions like keratoconus.

In May 2015, Jenny Terrell, O.D., ’03 and Jennifer Deakins, O.D., ’10 receive the Volunteer of the Year Award.

William J. Townsend, O.D., ’77 is honored as UHCO’s Distinguished Alumnus during graduation ceremonies in May 2015.

In June 2015, Bill Benedict is posthumously inducted into UHCO’s Hall of Visionaries for his innovation, dedication, and personal and financial commitment to the optometric profession.

Charles R. Stewart, O.D., Ph.D., UHCO’s founding dean, passes away in June 2015.
Commencement Ceremony

Brien Holden, Ph.D., D.Sc., founder of the Brien Holden Vision Institute and friend and benefactor of UHCO, passes away in July 2015. Prior to his death, he established the Brien Holden Vision Institute Classrooms and Learning Commons in the UH Health 1 on UHCO’s second floor. He was awarded an Honorary Degree from the University of Houston in May 2012.

In August 2015, UHCO establishes eye and vision care services at the Hope Clinic, which is located in one of Houston’s most racially diverse neighborhoods. A unique characteristic of the clinic is its capacity to provide services in 14 languages, including Mandarin, Cantonese, Vietnamese, Korean, Burmese, Arabic, and Spanish.

In May 2016 William R. Elizondo, O.D. receives the UHCO Volunteer of the Year Award.

Brett G. Bence, O.D., ’79, is honored as UHCO’s Distinguished Alumnus during graduation ceremonies in May 2016.

In October 2016, James H. Dienst, O.D., ’89, is promoted to Brigadier General and is the first optometrist to achieve general officer rank in the Air Force. He received the prestigious Air Force Optometrist of the Year Award in 2001.

Suzanne Ferimer, Librarian for UHCO’s Weston A. Pettey Library, is presented with the Medical Library Association President’s Award in March 2017. This is one of MLA’s highest honors and recognizes those that have made outstanding contributions in the field of health sciences librarianship.

In May 2017, Michael Kalloniatis, B.Sc., M. Sc., Ph.D., ’88, PGCOT, is recognized as UHCO’s Distinguished Alumnus.

Hurricane Harvey made an unwelcome stop in Houston in August 2017, dumping an unprecedented 20 trillion gallons of rain on Houston, impacting over 6 million Texans and flooding 3000,000 structures in the region. More than 30,000 water rescues were performed and 46,000 evacuees seeking shelter. UHCO faculty, residents, fellows, staff and students stepped up to help those displaced and in need of eye care, working alongside the City of Houston Health Department, Harris County Health Department, Prevent Blindness Texas, local optometrists, ophthalmologists, opticians, optometric assistants and volunteers. Together, the clinical eye care teams provided eye exams and eyeglasses to over 1,000 individuals in Houston, Dallas and Austin area shelters.

UHCO’s 100th scholarship endowment is established in March 2018 to provide merit based awards for optometry students enrolled at UHCO.

Roger Boltz, O.D., ’72, Ph.D., ’78, is recognized as UHCO’s Distinguished Alumnus in May 2018. He joined the college’s faculty in 1978 as an assistant professor, retiring in May 2018 after 40 years of service. In addition to teaching and working in the cornea and contact lens clinic, he served in a variety of roles including chief financial officer, interim dean, associate dean for finance and administration, and associate dean for professional studies.

In 2019, UHCO becomes the first optometry school in the US to have two Anatomage Virtual 4D Anatomy Tables designated exclusively for optometry students. The advanced technology allows students to visualize structures in four dimensions.

Following a national search, Michael Twa, O.D., Ph.D., is selected as UHCO’s dean effective June 1, 2019, succeeding Earl L. Smith III, O.D., Ph.D., who served as dean of the college from August 2003 through May 2019.

The Earl L. Smith III, O.D., Ph.D. Professorship is established to honor his 41 years of service to UHCO as a faculty member, associate dean and dean of the college.

In March 2019, the inaugural UHCO First Lady, Mrs. Dorothy “Sue” Stewart passes away at her home in Arizona. She is the widow of UHCO’s founding dean, Charles R. Stewart, O.D., Ph.D., who passed away in 2015.
College Administration

Earl L. Smith III, O.D., Ph.D.
Dean
Laura Frishman, Ph.D.
Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research
Kimberly Lambrechts, R.N., O.D.
Associate Dean for Professional Studies

Marcus Piccolo, O.D.
Associate Dean for Professional Advancement
Chair, Department of Clinical Sciences
Ralph Herring, O.D. M.H.A.
Assistant Dean for Professional Studies
Director, External Education

Melissa Mares, B.A.
Assistant Dean for Student Affairs
Executive Director, Optometry Relations
Danica Marrelli, O.D.
Assistant Dean for Clinical Education
David Berntsen, O.D., Ph.D.
Chair, Department of Clinical Sciences
Vallabh Das, Ph.D.
Chair, Department of Basic Sciences

College of Optometry Faculty

Heather Anderson, O.D., Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Raymond Applegate, O.D., Ph.D.
Irvin M. Borish Chair in Optometry
Julia Benoit, Ph.D.
Research Assistant Professor
Jan Bergmanson, O.D., Ph.D.
Brien A. Holden Professor
David Berntsen, O.D., Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Rudolph Black, O.D.
Clinical Associate Professor
Alan Burns, Ph.D.
McDaid-Vision Source Professor
Carolyn Carman, O.D.
Clinical Professor
Louvenia Carter-Dawson, Ph.D.
Senior Research Scientist
Moriah Chandler, O.D.
Clinical Assistant Professor
Han Cheng, Ph.D., O.D.
Clinical Professor

Yuzo M. Chino, Ph.D.
Benedict-McFadden Professor
Daniel Coates, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Vivien Coulson-Thomas, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Debra Currie, O.D., M.S.
Clinical Professor
Vallabh Das, Ph.D.
Benedict-Pitts Professor
Jennifer Deakins, O.D.
Clinical Assistant Professor
Joe DeLoach, O.D.
Clinical Professor
Karen Fern, O.D.
Associate Professor
Laura Frishman, Ph.D.
John and Rebecca Moores Professor
Janet Garza, O.D.
Clinical Assistant Professor
Amber Gaume Giannoni, O.D.
Clinical Professor
Gavin Gerondale, O.D.
Clinical Assistant Professor
Marcus Gonzales, O.D.
Clinical Assistant Professor
Wendy Harrison, O.D., Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Ralph Herring, O.D., M.H.A.
Clinical Professor
Nicole Hooper, O.D.
Clinical Assistant Professor
Li-Fang Hung, B. Med, O.D., Ph.D.
Research Scientist
Casey Johnston, O.D.
Clinical Assistant Professor
Kassaundra Johnston, O.D.
Clinical Assistant Professor
Matthew Kauffman, O.D.
Clinical Assistant Professor
Lucy Kehinde, O.D., Ph.D.
Clinical Assistant Professor
Andrew Kemp, O.D.
Clinical Assistant Professor
Tonya Ketcham, O.D., Ph.D.  
Clinical Assistant Professor
Julianne Knowles, O.D.  
Clinical Associate Professor
Zanna Kruoch, O.D.  
Clinical Assistant Professor
Kimberly Lambrechts, R.N., O.D.  
Clinical Professor
Karen Lee, O.D.  
Clinical Assistant Professor
Anna-Kaye Logan, O.D.  
Clinical Assistant Professor
Ruth Manny, O.D., Ph.D.  
Charles R. Stewart Professor
Danica Marrelli, O.D.  
Clinical Professor
Jason Marsack, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor
Muriel Martinez, O.D.  
Clinical Assistant Professor
Swati Modi, O.D.  
Clinical Associate Professor
Rebekah Montes, O.D.  
Clinical Assistant Professor
Susana Moreno, O.D.  
Clinical Assistant Professor
Bruce Onofrey, R.Ph., O.D.  
Professor of Optometry
Lisa Ostrin, O.D., Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor
Deborah Otteson, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor
Lloyd Pate, O.D.  
Clinical Associate Professor
Nimesh Patel, O.D., Ph.D.  
Associate Professor
Ryan Patel, O.D.  
Clinical Assistant Professor
Judith Perrigin, O.D.  
Professor of Optometry
Marcus Piccolo, O.D.  
Associate Professor
Jason Porter, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor
Guoting Qin, Ph.D.  
Research Assistant Faculty
Sam Quintero, O.D.  
Adjunct Associate Professor
Vijaykrishna Raghunathan, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor
Rachel Redfern, O.D., Ph.D.  
Associate Professor
Kathryn Richdale, O.D., Ph.D.  
Associate Professor
Eric Ritchey, O.D., Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor
Krystal Schulle, O.D.  
Clinical Assistant Professor
Pat Segu, O.D.  
Clinical Professor
Lanny Shulman, O.D., Ph.D.  
Clinical Associate Professor
Earl L. Smith III, O.D., Ph.D.  
Greeman-Petty Professor
Scott Stevenson, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor
Anita Ticak, O.D., M.S.  
Clinical Associate Professor
Maria Walker, O.D., M.S.  
Lecturer
Ashley Wallace-Tucker, O.D.  
Visiting Assistant Professor
James Walters, Ph.D., O.D.  
Associate Professor
Janice Wensveen, O.D., Ph.D.  
Clinical Professor
Joe Wheat, O.D., Ph.D.  
Clinical Associate Professor

Emeritus Faculty

Harold Bedell, Ph.D.
Roger Boltz, O.D., Ph.D.
Troy Fannin, O.D.
Merton Flom, O.D., Ph.D.
Randy Jose, O.D.
Penelope Kegel-Flom, Ph.D.
James Koetting, O.D.
Paul Pease, O.D., Ph.D.
Don Pitts, O.D.
Nelson Reber, O.D.
Jerome Rosner, O.D.
Charles Stewart, O.D., Ph.D.
Jerald Strickland, O.D., Ph.D.
Optometry at the University of Houston

**Doctors of Optometry are:**
Primary health care professionals who diagnose and treat eye health and vision problems.

**Optometry at the University of Houston:**

**The four-year Post-Baccalaureate Professional Program includes:**

- 3,216 hours of lectures and laboratories in optics, advanced human physiology, gross human and ocular anatomy, neuroanatomy, systemic and ocular pathology, general and ocular pharmacology, and vision and clinical sciences.

- 500 eye health and vision care experiences in the University Eye Institute's family practice, cornea and contact lens, pediatric, low vision, and medical services.

- 1,200 eye health and vision care experiences during two externships (32 weeks) at vision and health care centers. These centers include private practices, military hospitals, Indian Health Hospitals, community health centers, surgical centers, Veterans Administration Hospitals and multidisciplinary vision care centers and institutes.

**Licensing and Credentialing include:**

- National Board Examinations
  - Applied Basic Science
  - Patient Assessment and Management
  - Treatment and Management of Ocular Disease
  - Clinical Skills Examination

- State Licensure Examination
  - Optometric Jurisprudence Examination
## 2018-2019 Academic Year Externship Sites include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alice Baumstark, O.D.</td>
<td>Alice Baumstark, O.D., Contact Lens Associates, Albuquerque, NM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monica Bentley, O.D.</td>
<td>Monica Bentley, O.D., South Texas Veterans Health Care System, San Antonio, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John M. Brand, O.D.</td>
<td>John M. Brand, O.D., George E. Wahlen VA Medical Center, Salt Lake City, Utah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Randy Charrier, O.D.</td>
<td>Randy Charrier, O.D., Family Vision Solutions, Houston, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Deakins, O.D.</td>
<td>Jennifer Deakins, O.D., Community Eye Clinic, Fort Worth, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Esposito, O.D.</td>
<td>James Esposito, O.D., Raymond G. Murphy VA Medical Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martha Gallia, O.D.</td>
<td>Martha Gallia, O.D., Eye Care Associates of Humble, Humble, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gavin Gerondale, O.D.</td>
<td>Gavin Gerondale, O.D., Mobile Eye Institute, Houston, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Dixon Golden, O.D.</td>
<td>D. Dixon Golden, O.D., Golden Eye Clinic, Center, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marcus Gonzales, O.D.</td>
<td>Marcus Gonzales, O.D., Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mario Gutierrez, O.D.</td>
<td>Mario Gutierrez, O.D., Vision Source Alamo Heights, San Antonio, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Heitmeier, O.D.</td>
<td>David Heitmeier, O.D., Heitmeier, Armani, Langhetee &amp; Cangelsi Medical &amp; Surgical Eyecare, New Orleans, Louisiana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paula Johns, O.D.</td>
<td>Paula Johns, O.D., Indian Health Hospital, Santa Fe, New Mexico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brook Komar, O.D.</td>
<td>Brook Komar, O.D., Texas Children's Hospitall Clinic, Houston, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Leung, O.D.</td>
<td>Michael Leung, O.D., Richmond VA Outpatient Clinic, Richmond, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oliver Lou, O.D.</td>
<td>Oliver Lou, O.D., Signature Eye Care, Cedar Park, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Keith Manuel, O.D.</td>
<td>F. Keith Manuel, O.D., Space Center Eye Associates, Houston, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John W. McCormick, O.D.</td>
<td>John W. McCormick, O.D., McCormick Vision Center, Austin, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earlena McKee, O.D.</td>
<td>Earlena McKee, O.D., NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susana C. Moreno, O.D.</td>
<td>Susana C. Moreno, O.D., HOPE Eye Clinic, Houston, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathryn Musgrove, M.D., Houston Eye Associates, Houston, Texas</td>
<td>Kathryn Musgrove, M.D., Houston Eye Associates, Houston, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seema Nanda, O.D.</td>
<td>Seema Nanda, O.D., Texas Eye Institute, Houston, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarke D. Newman, O.D.</td>
<td>Clarke D. Newman, O.D., Plaza Vision Center, Dallas, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thien Huong Kim Nguyen, O.D.</td>
<td>Thien Huong Kim Nguyen, O.D., Katy VA Outpatient Clinic, Katy, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nolan Riley, O.D.</td>
<td>Nolan Riley, O.D., Vision Center of West Texas, Lubbock, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marc Sanders, M.D.</td>
<td>Marc Sanders, M.D., Diagnostic Eye Center, Houston, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pat Segu, O.D.</td>
<td>Pat Segu, O.D., UHCO Eye Center at Heights, Houston, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Shidlofsky, O.D.</td>
<td>Charles Shidlofsky, O.D., Neuro-Vision Associates of North Texas, Plano, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenant Fei Siu, O.D., Naval Medical Center San Diego, San Diego, California</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Academic Heraldry

The academic costume in America consists of three components: a cap, gown, and hood. The cap is the beret or mortarboard type with a tassel color (black or gold) which represents the graduate level of education - the professional doctorate.

The doctor’s gown is an elaborate costume marked with velvet panels down the front and around the neck as well as three bars on the bell-shaped sleeves. The hood design is unique to the profession of optometry. The velvet trim of the hood is seafoam green, the color which represents the academic discipline of optometry. The length of the hood depicts the doctoral level of education, while the field of the hood is specific for the University of Houston - red with a reverse white chevron.

The hooding ceremony and the formal conferring of the degrees by the Dean or the President represent the final acts of academic endorsement by the faculty of the College and the University.

Invitation

At the conclusion of the ceremony the College of Optometry will host a reception celebrating our newest alumni. We invite all our graduates and guests to join us for light refreshments as we honor the Class of 2019.

University of Houston
Health 1 Building
The Doctors of Texas State Optical Alumni Education Center

ENHANCING VISION FOR LIFE
Message from the Dean

Dear Graduates,

On behalf of the University of Houston College of Pharmacy family, I extend a sincere congratulations and best of luck to the College’s Class of 2019. You have been exceptional representatives of the College and University. I have no doubt that you will continue to serve as worthy ambassadors for the college by building upon our reputation for excellence.

I believe that graduates of the College of Pharmacy are unique in that, regardless of your chosen area of practice, all of you have the opportunity to enrich the lives of those around you. As you embark upon and progress through your careers, I urge you to always remember why you chose your respective field and the sacrifices that you endured in order to make it happen: to serve our communities and improve the quality of life and health of its members with compassion, honesty and integrity.

I would also like to give special thanks to the parents, spouses, children and friends of our graduates for their patience, understanding, sacrifices and support – both moral and financial - during these challenging, but rewarding, years at the college. Although your guidance, comfort and encouragement certainly will continue to be sought and appreciated in the years to come, you can rejoice in the gradual return to “normalcy” with no more long nights of studying, get-togethers unattended and trips untaken. Yet, even more so, you can relish the shared feeling of pride in what your graduate has accomplished and the abundant opportunities ahead.

In the coming years, I would ask that you not forget your College, former professors, and fellow and future Cougars. I encourage you to not only give back to the College by supporting College activities, programs and scholarships, but also by keeping us updated on the many achievements you will experience in your careers and personal lives. We will always take great pride in your achievements.

Congratulations again to the graduates of our professional and graduate programs. The entire UH College of Pharmacy Family is very proud of you.

Take care,

F. Lamar Pritchard, Ph.D.
Dean
CONVOCATION MARSHALS

Elizabeth Coyle
*Associate Dean for Academic Affairs*

Louis Williams
*Associate Professor*

GOLDEN COUGARS CLASS OF 1968

Linda Cox
James Deason
Larry Hintz
Philip Lawrence
Bill Peace

BANNER BEARER

Agata Bachleda
Johnny Hoang

CANDIDATES

PLATFORM PARTY

WELCOME

F. Lamar Pritchard
*Dean*

GREETINGS FROM THE UH SYSTEM

The Honorable Andrew Z. Teoh
*Member*

BOARD OF REGENTS

STUDENT RESPONSE

Ervin Goodrum
*Pharm.D. Candidate*

PRESENTATION OF PH.D. CANDIDATES

Dean Pritchard

CONFERRING OF PH.D. DEGREES

Dean Pritchard

PRESENTATION OF M.S. CANDIDATES

Dean Pritchard

CONFERRING OF M.S. DEGREES

Dean Pritchard

RECOGNITION OF HONORS

Andrea J. Smesny
*Executive Associate Dean*

PRESENTATION OF PHARM.D. CANDIDATES

Dean Pritchard

CONFERRING OF PHARM.D. DEGREES

Dean Pritchard

RECOGNITION OF GOLDEN COUGARS CLASS OF 1969

Dean Pritchard

OATH OF A PHARMACIST

Executive Associate Dean Smesny

RECESSIONAL
I promise to devote myself to a lifetime of service to others through the profession of pharmacy.

In fulfilling this vow:

*I will* consider the welfare of humanity and relief of suffering my primary concerns.

*I will* apply my knowledge, experience, and skills to the best of my ability to assure optimal outcomes for my patients.

*I will* respect and protect all personal and health information entrusted to me.

*I will* accept the lifelong obligation to improve my professional knowledge and competence.

*I will* hold myself and my colleagues to the highest principles of our profession’s moral, ethical and legal conduct.

*I will* embrace and advocate changes that improve patient care.

*I will* utilize my knowledge, skills, experiences and values to prepare the next generation of pharmacists.

I take these vows voluntarily with the full realization of the responsibility with which I am entrusted by the public.
University of Houston
College of Pharmacy

Candidates for Graduation

Spring 2019

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PHARMACY LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION

Akeem Olayinka Bale
Impact of In-Hospital Clinical Pharmacists’ Activities on 30-Day Readmission Among High Risk Medicare Shared Savings Program (MSSP) Patients
ADVISOR: Dr. Kim Birtcher

Stella Mihae Kim
Evaluating the Impact of Drug- Disease Alerts on Health Outcomes in a Health-System
ADVISOR: Dr. Kevin Garey

Megan McGugan
The Impact of Intravenous Fluid Plus Electrolyte Standardization on Technician Workload at a Comprehensive Cancer Center
ADVISOR: Dr. Kevin Garey

Alan Paul Moyer
Enhancing the Computerized Provider Order Entry System to Optimize Medical Supply Prescriptions in a Veterans Affairs Academic Teaching Hospital
ADVISOR: Dr. Kevin Garey

Ilania Rangel
Impact of Health System Specialty Pharmacy Services in an Affiliated Digestive Disease Center
ADVISOR: Dr. David Wallace

Sarah Elizabeth Redmond
Evaluation of Operational Efficiencies in Pediatric Pharmacy Batch Production
ADVISOR: Dr. Julianna Fernandez

Elizabeth Mary Villanueva
Evaluating the Efficacy of Motivational Interviewing on Enhancing Medication Adherence for Heart Failure Patients at An Academic Health System
ADVISOR: Dr. Matthew Wanat

DOCTOR OF PHARMACY

Rafael David Andujar
Angelica Asadi
Agata Bachleda 1
Sean Mikel Badal 1
Hadi N. Barghouti
Kyle Khuong Bui
Alfonso Miguel Bulseco
Jake Donell Burkhalter 3
Anna Elizabeth Cantwell 2
Hannah Yan Chan
Jaykumar V. Chauhan
Ibrahim Ahmed Chowdhury
Hannah Marie Christian
Stephanie Mercedes Leos Crowley 3
Allina S. Dawoowa 3
Kortney Rhae Dennis
Thien-Song Thi Diep 3
An Tri Dieu 2
Kenny Dinh
Diane Dreucean 1
Minh Alexander Duong 2
Rohan Dwivedi
Hoda J. El-Haj 1
Francis Chukwuemefzie Emelogo
Cristina Annalee Enders 2
Bradley Thomas Endres 2
Jordan David Geissinger
Jewel Ann George
Lauren Greer Goldberg 3
Ervin James Goodrum 3
Serenity L. Gracia 3
Cassie I. Hidalgo
Emily Weinly Hinh
Johnny M. Hoang 1
James Holmes
Nathan Robert Holub 3
Ngoc T. Huynh
Donald Uchenna Iriete
Chimaobi O. Iroegbu
Tommy Yu Jiang
Elizabeth Ashley Johnson

Simerjit Kaur
Kavya Kolavasi 2
Ashley G. Kwan
Hong Thu Le 1
Laura Le 2
Thanh Nguyen Thanh Le 1
Tot Thi Thanh Le
Tuong Vinh Le
Julie Le Pham 1
Bryan C. Lee
Da Eun Lee
Eunjji Lee
Yung Heather Leung 3
Lumeng Li
Sean Liang 1
Sheng Liang
Yi Liu 3
Lucas E. Mann
Demi Danielle Martinez 3
Olga Tande Meboka
Milan Efrem Melles
Lucas Anthony Merten 7
Justin David Miller 3
Sara Mirjamali 3
Erica Lisbeth Morales 1
Michael A. Mouton
Kelsey Lynn Mullikin
Brittany Melissa Musselman
Diana Nemry
Eric Tat Chun Ng
An Hong Ngo
Willy Ngo
Bao T. Nguyen 2
Chelsea Tuong Vy Nguyen 1
Dan T. Nguyen
Jasmine Do Nguyen
Kristina Do Nguyen
Larry Nguyen 3
Michael Thanh Nguyen
Ngan Bao Nguyen 7
Pauline Hao Hanh Nguyen
Sheryl Chinelo Nwankwo 1

1 Summa Cum Laude Honors · 2 Magna Cum Laude Honors · 3 Cum Laude Honors
Jacob Ernst Oberrender  
Kehinde Modupe Oresusi  
Lorenzo Louis Q. Paglicawan  
Parmida Parvaz  
Meet Manaswikumar Patel  
Amy Phuong-Khanh Pham  
Jessica Rochelle Pollock  
Maria Graziela Putnam  
Kristofer Allen Rice  
Stephen Thomas Roeder  
Julia Yeondam Roh  
Sanny Salim  
Samantha Zenat Sangabi

Dain Song  
Joann Volark Sorn  
Mattie Ruth Wheat Talley  
Sarah Gates Theriault  
Arlene Thomas  
Tommy Lee Tieu  
Maria Nu Ton  
Brian T. Tran  
Doan Tran Thi Tran  
Ngoc-Linh Thi Tran  
Nils Cong Tran  
Taylor N. Troxlar  
Jane Quynh Giao Truong

Shannon Varghese  
Christine Thanh Vo  
Chien Dinh Vu  
Craig Ray Whitaker  
Melissa Faith Wilcox  
Ryan Nichole Wozniwcz  
Maryam Zabeeh  
Noor F. Zaidan  
Florentino Zuniga

**PHARMACY CERTIFICATE IN HISPANIC HEALTHCARE**

Demi Danielle Martinez

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**Fall 2018**

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN PHARMACEUTICAL HEALTH OUTCOMES AND POLICY**

Navneet Upadhyay  
Geographic Access to Providers and Pediatric Mental Health Care  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Hua Chen

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN PHARMACEUTICS**

Henrietta Dzigbordi Abodakpi  
Optimization of β-Lactam/β-Lactamase Inhibitor Dosing  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Vincent Tam

Changhong Yun  
Efficacy Evaluation of COX-2 Inhibitors on Colorectal Adenoma Prevention  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Ming Hu

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN PHARMACOLOGY**

Suchi Raghunathan  
Reprogramming Cardiac Progenitor Cells into Pacemaker Cells for Heart Repair  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Bradley McConnell

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**Summer 2018**

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN PHARMACEUTICS**

Manas Pravin Gupte  
Improving CNS Delivery of Genistein for the Treatment of Sanfilippo Syndrome  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Ming Hu

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN PHARMACOLOGY**

Fatin Atrooz  
Behavioral and Biochemical Consequences of Early Life Sleep Deprivation  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Samina Salim

Sameer Shivnath Nikhar  
Pyrido-Pyrimidinone Derivatives as RIPK2 Kinase and NOD Signaling Inhibitors  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Gregory Cuny

**DOCTOR OF PHARMACY**

Richard Nzubechukwu Ajumobi  
Matt Edrick C. Bactad  
Thomas Tran  
Julie Vu

---

1 Summa Cum Laude Honors • 2 Magna Cum Laude Honors • 3 Cum Laude Honors
The Rho Chi Society, Pharmacy’s academic honor society, was established in 1922 to encourage and recognize excellence in intellectual achievement, foster fellowship among its members, encourage high standards of conduct and character, and advocate critical inquiry in all aspects of pharmacy. The fundamental objective of Rho Chi is to promote the advancement of the pharmaceutical sciences through the encouragement and recognition of sound scholarship by bringing professional students, graduate students, and faculty members together in fraternal and helpful association. High standards of intellectual and scholarly attainment have been demanded for election to membership.

The Society’s insignia, the Greek letters, “Rho” and “Chi,” were originally selected because, when placed in the relative position in which they are found on the Rho Chi Key, they are emblematic of the prescription sign. The colors attached to the seal of membership were chosen to indicate the royalty of purple and the loyalty of white. The eight sides of the Key represent chemistry, biology, physiology, pharmaceutics, pharmacology, and the biomedical, social/administrative, and clinical sciences.

### Rho Chi Graduating Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agata Bachleda</th>
<th>Stella Kim</th>
<th>Bao Nguyen</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sean Badal</td>
<td>Kavya Kolavasi</td>
<td>Chelsea Nguyen</td>
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<td>Akeem Bale</td>
<td>Hong Le</td>
<td>Ngan Nguyen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Cantwell</td>
<td>Laura Le</td>
<td>Sheryl Nwankwo</td>
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<td>An Dieu</td>
<td>Thanh Le</td>
<td>Illiana Rangel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diane Dreucean</td>
<td>Julie Le Pham</td>
<td>Sarah Redmond</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minh Duong</td>
<td>Eunji Lee</td>
<td>Sarah Theriault</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hoda El-Haj</td>
<td>Sean Liang</td>
<td>Taylor Troxlar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asma El Zailik</td>
<td>Megan McGugan</td>
<td>Jane Truong</td>
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<td>Serenity Gracia</td>
<td>Erica Morales</td>
<td>Elizabeth Villanueva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnny Hoang</td>
<td>Alan Moyer</td>
<td>Maryam Zabeeh</td>
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Phi Lambda Sigma

Phi Lambda Sigma, Pharmacy’s leadership society, was established in 1965 to honor and promote the development of leadership qualities, especially among pharmacy students. Members are selected by peer recognition. No greater honor can be bestowed upon an individual than to be recognized as a leader by one’s peers. Such recognition instills and enhances self-confidence, encourages the less active student to a more active role and promotes greater effort toward the advancement of pharmacy.

The insignia of the Society is the key pin, which bears a mortar and pestle and the Greek letters “Phi”, “Lambda” and “Sigma”. A wreath of laurel surrounds the mortar and pestle. The colors of the Society are green and gold.

Phi Lambda Sigma Graduating Members

Rafael Andujar
Angelica Asadi
Hadi Barghouti
Anna Cantwell
Hannah Chan
Ibrahim Chowdhury

Stephanie Crowley
An Dieu
Rohan Dwivedi
Jordan Geissinger
Johnny Hoang
Sara Mirjamali

Ngan Nguyen
Samantha Sangabi
Sarah Theriault
Ryan Wozniewicz
2019 Awards

DEANS AWARDS
Royal Society of Chemistry Certificate of Excellence
Agata Bachleda

Lilly Achievement
Sean Badal

PHARMACEUTICAL HEALTH OUTCOMES AND POLICY AWARDS
Graduate Student Excellence
Aisha Vadhariya

PHARMACY PRACTICE AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH AND EXPERIENTIAL PROGRAMS AWARDS
Health Systems Pharmacy of the Year
Doctor’s Hospital at Renaissance

Hospital Pharmacy Preceptor of the Year
Dr. Rebecca Koch, Pharm.D., BCCP

Institutional Patient Care Preceptor of the Year
Dr. Scott Ferren, Pharm.D., BCIDP

Faculty Preceptor of the Year
Dr. Kimberly Birtcher, M.S, Pharm.D., AACC, FNLA, BCPS-AQ Cardiology, CDE

Hospital Pharmacy Internship
Bradley Endres
Erica Morales

Ambulatory Care Preceptor of the Year
Dr. Bernadette Asias-Dinh, Pharm.D., BCACP, BCPS, CDE

Community Preceptor
Dr. Williams Anderson

James McCarty Community Pharmacy Internship
Tommy Jiang

Mylan Pharmaceutical Excellence in Pharmacy
Johnny Hoang

Award of Excellence in Clinical Communication
Sponsored by Facts & Comparisons® and Lexicomp® brands of Wolters Kluwer Health
Luke Merten

Special Recognition Award for Excellence in Clinical Skills
Stephanie Crowley
Diane Dreucean

ASHP Health System Pharmacy
Sarah Theriault

Ambulatory Care
Samantha Sangabi

RX Cougar Leadership
Rohan Dwivedi
Jordan Geissinger
Lauren Goldberg

PLS Student Leadership Award
Sara Mirjamali

PLS Faculty Leadership Award
Dr. Louis Williams

Most Spirited Volunteer and Leadership Award
Hadi Barghouti
Arlene Thomas
Ryan Wozniewicz

Pharmacy Practice and Translational Research Excellence
Bradley Endres

APhA-ASP Service Recognition
Hannah Chan

Communication and Counseling Award
Sarah Mirjamali

Award of Excellence in Non-Prescription Medications and Self Care
Erica Morales

Pharmacy Legislative and Policy Award
Lucas Mann
Maryam Zabeeh
PHARMACOLOGICAL AND PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCE AWARDS

Outstanding Academic Achievement in P1 Courses
Jane Truong

Outstanding Academic Achievement in P2 Courses
Agata Bacheleda
College of Pharmacy Coat of Arms

The College of Pharmacy Coat of Arms was designed by student, Gia Castorina, Class of 2015. It displays the values of professionalism, expertise, and involvement in the pharmacy community.

Traditionally, the coat of arms represents the history and values of a school but Gia has incorporated not only the history, but also our future as a leader in pharmacy.

Symbolism for the Elements Compiling the UHCOP Coat of Arms

**Open Book:** Symbolizes manifestation; Exemplifies abstract ideas, theories, and scholarship. This pays tribute to the hard work of the student body and their "life-long" learning in the field of pharmacy.

**Mortar and Pestle:** A symbol of pharmacy due to historical use in preparing medicines. This signifies our mission statement of exhibiting the ideals of pharmacy professionalism.

**Scales:** Represents justice; A pharmacist seeks justice in the distribution of health resources. The scales also serve as a reminder that as pharmacists we must always show ethical behavior. We must weigh out difficult decisions and make challenging judgement calls.

**Bowl of Hygeia:** In Greek mythology, Hygeia was the daughter and assistant of Aesculapius, the God of Medicine and Healing. Hygeia’s classical symbol was a bowl containing a medicinal potion with the serpent of Wisdom partaking it. This is the same serpent of Wisdom, which appears on the caduceus, the staff of Aesculapius, which is the symbol of medicine.

**College of Pharmacy Founding:** The year the college was founded “established 1946” is inscribed in the banner.
Message from the President, Board of Directors
UH Alumni Association Foundation

Dear University of Houston Graduates,

Congratulations on your graduation from the University of Houston! You now become one of over 293,386 proud UH alumni. You are graduating from a University, with nationally recognized programs and alumni networks that can help you take the next steps in your life and career.

The University of Houston holds a special place in all of our hearts and as you move into your alumni role, please remember that we all need to find our place and our role in continuing to help it grow and prosper in the coming years.

I’m often asked by alumni, “What can I do for UH?” I always answer the same way – get involved! We have nearly 45 UHAA alumni associations waiting for you. If you’re not ready to get involved, show that UH spirit – continue wearing Cougar Red on Fridays. Put a “University of Houston Alumni” license plate holder or sticker on your car. The ultimate show of pride is to become a Life Member of your Alumni Association.

But most importantly, congratulations! We are proud of your accomplishments as a student at this outstanding university. We look forward to continuing your relationship with UH for many years to come as alumni.

True we’ll ever be and Go Coogs!

Brent Chinn (FS ’82)
President
University of Houston Alumni Association Foundation Board