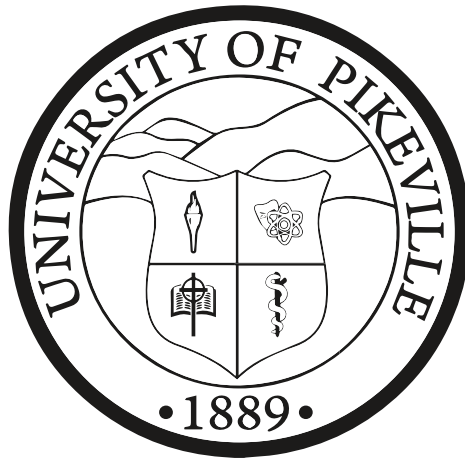


Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine

# White Coat Ceremony



October 10, 2020

10 a.m.

# About KYCOM

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## Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine

**Mission.** The mission of the Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine (KYCOM) is to provide men and women with an osteopathic medical education that emphasizes primary care, encourages research, promotes lifelong scholarly activity and produces graduates who are committed to serving the health care needs of communities in rural Kentucky and other Appalachian regions.

**History.** In September 1993, Chad Perry, a prominent attorney from Paintsville, and his wife, Judy Perry, conceived the idea of creating an osteopathic medical school in the Appalachian region of Eastern Kentucky. Together with a group of visionary leaders that included former Kentucky governor, the Honorable Paul Patton, and local businessman, Burlin Coleman, they began to investigate the possibility of a school in Eastern Kentucky. These leaders believed that creation of an osteopathic medical school was the best way to help alleviate the shortage of primary care physicians in rural Eastern Kentucky. According to Chad Perry, his support of the development of an osteopathic medical school for this region arose from the fact that osteopathic physicians “tend to stay in rural areas and in family practice.”

**White Coat Ceremony.** It is now common practice among most U.S. medical schools to conduct a white coat ceremony to initiate medical students into the medical profession. White represents purity, healing and the professional ideals of the medical profession that focus on compassionate caregiving. The long white coat is the quintessential symbol of a physician and conveys to patients and the public the wearer’s identity as a physician. The short white coat indicates the wearer’s status as a medical student or student doctor. The white coat ceremony tradition among medical schools was led by the Arnold P. Gold Foundation in 1993 to promote humanism in medicine. The Gold Foundation provides a gold pin to our student doctors to wear on their white coats to symbolize commitment to providing compassionate and competent patient care. As a further initiation into the osteopathic medical profession, the KYCOM White Coat Ceremony traditionally includes recitation of its version of the osteopathic medical profession’s Pledge of Commitment.

# Ceremony Program

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Invocation .....	Caitlyn Hunt President, Christian Medical Association Class of 2023
Welcome & Greetings from the University.....	Burton J. Webb, Ph.D. President, University of Pikeville
Remarks & Introduction of Keynote Speaker ....	Dana C. Shaffer, D.O., FACOFP <i>dist.</i> , FAOGME Dean, KYCOM
Keynote Address.....	Donovan Blackburn Chief Executive Officer, Pikeville Medical Center
Greetings from the Student Body.....	Cindy Lin President, KYCOM Student Government Association Class of 2023
White Coat Presentation .....	Joe Kingery, D.O., MBA, FACOFP, FAAFP Associate Dean for Osteopathic Medical Education Associate Professor & Chair, Department of Family Medicine
Greetings from Kentucky Osteopathic Medical Association .....	Vishnukant Joshi, D.O. President, Kentucky Osteopathic Medical Association
Greetings from KYCOM Alumni Association .....	Sonbol Shahid-Salles, D.O. President, KYCOM Alumni Association Class of 2010
Pledge of Commitment .....	Laura Griffin, D.O., FAAO Associate Dean for Osteopathic Principles and Practices (OPP) Integration Professor and Chair, Department of Osteopathic Principles and Practices
Closing Remarks .....	Dr. Shaffer

# Donovan Blackburn

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Donovan's business career started in 1982 while working as the automotive merchandising manager with Kmart. Later he went to work as an area manager for a national hardware company. Soon after, he was offered a job by Lowe's Home Center, a company with long-term career opportunities.

He accepted an entry-level position with Lowe's in April of 1986. In less than two years, he was promoted to the position of store manager in Glasgow, Ky. By the age of 29, he was named to the position of district manager. He managed the Central Kentucky area in this capacity. He directed 12 stores with the combined sales of \$240,000,000, while supervising over 1,600 employees. After many accomplished years of service and a 16-year career, he resigned in January of 2002.

In February of 2002, he accepted a position with a marketing company as the regional market manager over Kentucky and parts of West Virginia. In August of 2002, he was approached and offered the position of district manager with Ferrellgas, a national propane sales and distribution company. He went from managing one district to four districts within eight months, earning several awards and creating record sales. A year after employment, he was promoted to the position of regional operations manager over 26 plants in four states.

In January of 2004, he left Ferrellgas to accept the position of city manager for the city of Pikeville in Kentucky. Pikeville has become one of the most progressive rural communities in the state of Kentucky. As city manager, Donovan received several accolades and awards. These included being named the 2010 "City Official of the Year" by the Kentucky League of Cities; the 2011 "Eastern Kentucky Leadership Public Official of the Year" by the East Kentucky Leadership Foundation; and the 2014 "Excellent in Leadership" by both the Southeast Kentucky Chamber of Commerce and Pikeville Main Street Program.

In June of 2017, he accepted the position of assistant chief executive officer for Pikeville Medical Center. A few short months later he also accepted the position as the chief operating officer. In January of 2018, Donovan was offered the position of chief executive officer by the Pikeville Medical Center Board of Directors, which he respectfully accepted. Donovan also has served on numerous board and committees on local, state and national levels in various leadership positions.

# KYCOM Class of 2024

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Morteda Alaamiri  
*Dearborn, Michigan*

Akhilesh Alexander  
*Mesquite, Texas*

Ahmad Ali  
*Cleveland, Ohio*

Colton Amberger  
*Fairfield, Pennsylvania*

Kum-Jung Amrine  
*Silver Spring, Maryland*

Nicola Armour-Smith  
*Glasgow, United Kingdom*

Maegan Arnold  
*Louisville, Kentucky*

Hamza Ashfaq  
*Lexington, Kentucky*

Simon Bactawar  
*Queens, New York*

Aisha Baggia  
*Chicago, Illinois*

Hayley Baker  
*Lancaster, Kentucky*

Rylan Banks  
*Middletown, Ohio*

Erika Bell  
*Prospect, Kentucky*

Oleg Belyshev  
*North Woodstock,  
New Hampshire*

Brooke Benjamin  
*Cincinnati, Ohio*

Andrew Bixler  
*Dayton, Ohio*

Brendan Black  
*Champaign, Illinois*

Montana Blair  
*Whitesburg, Kentucky*

Caleb Bowen  
*Vaughan, Mississippi*

Fisnik Cake  
*Pogradec, Albania*

Althea Campbell  
*Atlanta, Georgia*

Savannah Carty  
*Salyersville, Kentucky*

Megan Carugati  
*Denton, Texas*

Callie Catto  
*Whitesburg, Kentucky*

Rachel Chauvin  
*Cerritos, California*

Victor Chew  
*San Francisco, California*

Bharath Chithrala  
*Lexington, Kentucky*

Marco Ciavaglia  
*Northville, Michigan*

Zachary Combs  
*Hazard, Kentucky*

Emily Culp  
*Westfield, Indiana*

Deea Das  
*Potsdam, New York*

Richaela Denlinger  
*Chambersburg,  
Pennsylvania*

Lilly Do  
*Middlesboro, Kentucky*

Dakota Eble  
*Booneville, Indiana*

Nathan Egler  
*Evansville, Indiana*

Benjamin Elliott  
*Fishers, Indiana*

Austin Elswick  
*Virgie, Kentucky*

Mark Faller  
*Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania*

Ryan Fitzpatrick  
*Florence, Kentucky*

Jonathon Foley  
*Paris, Kentucky*

Jerin George  
*Harrisburg, Pennsylvania*

Andrew Geurts  
*Randolph, Wisconsin*

Andrew Giles  
*Elizabethtown, Kentucky*

Daniel Goodman  
*LaPorte, Indiana*

Olivia-Marie Groves  
*Powell, Ohio*

Gillian Gurney  
*Cincinnati, Ohio*

Joseph Hackworth  
*LaGrange, Kentucky*

Anna Hargrave  
*Lewiston, New York*

# KYCOM Class of 2024

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Mohamed Hashem  
*Najaf, Iraq*

Amani Hasona  
*Gainesville, Florida*

Colin Hathorn  
*Burlington, Kentucky*

Bailey Helbert  
*Coeburn, Virginia*

Megan Hennon  
*St. Louis, Missouri*

Fernando Hernandez  
*Jacksonville, Florida*

Kristine Herrera  
*Elizabethtown, Kentucky*

Abdu Hijazi  
*Dearborn, Michigan*

Emily Holdren  
*Lancaster, Kentucky*

Mason Holt  
*Granville, Ohio*

Lily Hoover  
*Lexington, Kentucky*

Alexandra Houston  
*Fort Thomas, Kentucky*

Mahnoor Humayun  
*Columbus, Ohio*

Naushair Hussain  
*Chambersburg, Pennsylvania*

Adaku Ikoh  
*Denton, Texas*

Cayla Imbarlina  
*Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania*

Tiffany Isaacs  
*Hurricane, West Virginia*

Samantha Josselyn  
*Lakeside Park, Kentucky*

Jessica Jurak  
*Morris, Illinois*

Pranuthi Kanneganti  
*Santa Clara, California*

Matthew Kaufmann  
*Indian River, Michigan*

Nathan Kaufmann  
*Indian River, Michigan*

Faiha Khan  
*Monroeville, Pennsylvania*

Rachel Koch  
*Pickerington, Ohio*

Jennifer Kor  
*Rochester, Minnesota*

Arthi Krishna  
*Troy, Michigan*

Jowon Lee  
*Kokomo, Indiana*

Eric Ligotski  
*Hanover Township, Pennsylvania*

Brian Long  
*Breckinridge, Kentucky*

Chase Lowrie  
*Williamsburg, Kentucky*

Vy Luong  
*Lafayette, Louisiana*

Maximillian Ly  
*Dallas, Texas*

Robert Mannatt  
*Independence, California*

Keeliann Mark  
*Aurora, Nebraska*

Jessika Meadows  
*Spencer, Indiana*

Raven Melson  
*Richmond, Kentucky*

Caroline Mifsud  
*Kimbolton, Ohio*

Jacob Miller  
*Peoria, Illinois*

Shreyas Modi  
*Greenwood, South Carolina*

Aayah Mohamed-Osman  
*Columbus, Ohio*

Paige Moscoe  
*Lexington, Kentucky*

Chelsea Myers  
*Wapakoneta, Ohio*

Mohammed Areeb Narvel  
*Dublin, Ohio*

Sophie Nguyen  
*Novato, California*

Taylor Nguyen  
*King of Prussia, Pennsylvania*

McKenzie Nickles  
*Neon, Kentucky*

Elizabeth O'Connor  
*Cleona, Pennsylvania*

# KYCOM Class of 2024

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William Olson  
*Eveleth, Minnesota*

Daniel Oxnard  
*Culvertown, Kentucky*

John Page  
*Chillicothe, Ohio*

Kelsey Parker  
*Union City, Tennessee*

Jay Patel  
*Cincinnati, Ohio*

Adreian Paul  
*Toronto, Canada*

Austin Phippen  
*Eau Claire, Wisconsin*

David Pohlman  
*Rochester, Michigan*

Colton Putnam  
*Richmond, Kentucky*

Andrea Quach  
*Columbus, Ohio*

Steven Ramsey  
*Caneyville, Kentucky*

Kurtis Rapier  
*Corbin, Kentucky*

Monisha Rekhraj  
*Lexington, Kentucky*

Jercell Respicio  
*Cincinnati, Ohio*

Cody Rice  
*Dublin, Ohio*

Hunter Ricketts  
*Bowling Green, Kentucky*

James Roberson  
*Phelps, Kentucky*

Sara Roberts  
*Olympia, Kentucky*

Rea Rupani  
*Tampa, Florida*

Abigail Ruwe  
*Cincinnati, Ohio*

Kenneth Saillant  
*Fort Wayne, Indiana*

William Salisbury  
*Ivel, Kentucky*

Montana Schemanski  
*Harrodsburg, Kentucky*

Diana Schweitzer  
*Shelbyville, Kentucky*

Malavika Seetha  
*Northville, Michigan*

Srijoni Sengupta  
*Herndon, Virginia*

Namra Shafi  
*Schaumburg, Illinois*

James Shaughnessy  
*Chattanooga, Tennessee*

Saif Siddiqui  
*Orlando, Florida*

Hannah Skaggs  
*Salyersville, Kentucky*

Michelle Slattery  
*Mount Sinai, New York*

Joshua Smith  
*Boonville, Indiana*

Katherine Steelman  
*Okeana, Ohio*

Jason Chieh Sheng Tey  
*Sandy, Utah*

Micha Thomas  
*Glasgow, Kentucky*

Emily Tishkoff  
*Mesa, Arizona*

Khoa Tran  
*Chesterfield, Virginia*

Melinda Trimmer-Taylor  
*Beloit, Ohio*

Kody Trude  
*Morrisdale, Pennsylvania*

Carter Waugh  
*Grayson, Kentucky*

Jordan Williams  
*Cincinnati, Ohio*

Damian Williamson  
*Greenwich, Connecticut*

Daniel Wilson  
*Childress, Texas*

Benjamin Wolf  
*Hamilton, Ohio*

Quintin Wotring  
*Kingsport, Tennessee*

Jonathan Yelda  
*Shelby Township, Michigan*

# Pledge of Commitment

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As I embark upon the study of medicine at the Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine, I will:

Enter into a relationship of mutual respect with my teachers and my colleagues to enhance the learning environment and gain the knowledge, skills and attitudes of a competent osteopathic physician.

Accept responsibility only for those matters for which I am competent, maintain the trust expected of an osteopathic physician and never take advantage of the patient-doctor relationship.

Show compassion and respect for all others.

Set worthy examples in the application of humanistic principles in my relationships with patients and others within the Appalachian medical community.

Work toward improving my sensitivity and skills in human interaction, understanding and respecting the differences among my patients and colleagues.

Value the knowledge and wisdom of the physicians who have preceded me in the profession and endeavor to contribute to the osteopathic tradition.

Recognize my weaknesses and strengths and strive to develop those qualities that will earn the respect of my patients, my colleagues, my family and myself.

Continue learning throughout all the days of my life.